

*The Service for the Lord's Day
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 10, 2021*

PRELUDE

GATHERING SONG

Thy Word

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way,
Still, You're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear as long as You are near.
Please be near me to the end.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

I will not forget Your love for me, and yet
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side;
I will love You to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elder Monica Stevens

*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

Leader: We offer our lives to you, Lord.
**People: Make your ways known to us, Lord;
teach us your paths.**

Leader: Lead us in your truth—teach it to us—
because you are the God who saves us.
**People: Lord, all of your paths are loving and faithful
for those who keep your commandments.**

Leader: Let us worship the Lord, our God.

*CONGREGATIONAL OPENING HYMN

Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord PH#392

Take Thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray,
Give us the mind of Christ each passing day;
Teach us to know the truth that sets us free;
Grant us in all our thoughts to honor Thee.

Take Thou our hearts, O Christ, they are Thine own;
Come Thou within our souls and claim Thy throne;
Help us to shed abroad Thy deathless love;
Use us to make the earth like heaven above.

Take Thou our wills, Most High! Hold Thou full sway;
Have in our inmost souls Thy perfect way;
Guard Thou each sacred hour from selfish ease;
Guide Thou our ordered lives as Thou dost please.

Take Thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will;
Through our surrendered souls Thy plans fulfill.
We yield ourselves to Thee—time, talents, all;
We hear, and henceforth heed, Thy sovereign call.

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION Elder Monica Stevens

Merciful and loving Lord, you have called us to be your children, and through your Son, Jesus, heirs to your grace. We want to respond to your goodness, but too often we get caught up in the demands and distractions of our lives and we forget to place our devotion to you above all else. We are proud to call ourselves followers of the Christ, but we often act as if our discipleship is a garment that we can put on or remove as it is convenient for us. Forgive our fickle faith, and by your Holy Spirit, strengthen us so that we may walk in your ways and follow the path that you have set for us. In Jesus' name we pray. -Amen-

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Elder Monica Stevens

Leader: Hear the good news: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone, a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Liturgist

*SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament Reading: Liturgist
Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (Pew Bible pg.163)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES Sam Smith

New Testament Reading: Elder Monica Stevens
Acts 2:42-47 (Pew Bible pg.120)
Colossians 3:12-17 (Pew Bible pg.201)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Elder Monica Stevens

"Daring Discipleship"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on the earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN OF RESPONSE

Christ of the Upward Way PH#344

Christ of the upward way, my Guide divine,
Where you have set your feet, may I place mine;
And move and march wherever you have trod,
Keeping face forward up the hill of God.

Give me the heart to hear your voice and will,
That without fault or fear I may fulfill
Your purpose with a glad and holy zest,
Like one who would not bring less than the best.

Christ of the upward way, my Guide divine,
Where you have set your feet, may I place mine;
And when Your last call comes, serene and clear,
Calm may my answer be, "Lord, I am here."

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. -Amen-

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Elder Monica Stevens

POSTLUDE

Cynthia Dobrinski, organ
Deborah Burgess, keyboard/vocals
Briana Tatum, vocals

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Gene Stanley, Carl and Georgette Bishop, Ernest and Marilyn Bremner (S. Ford), Catherine Bridges, Jim Brunt (N. Davis' brother), Tommy Cobb (M. Dunn), Sandra and Mark Dobrinski (brother and sister in-law of Cynthia), Judy Epperly (Nancy Baker), Daniel Handy, Leonard Kelley (Monica Stevens' brother), Betty Carol Lamm, Eddie Levi, Mary Manning, Laura Stevens Milton, Reed Stone Moore, Brenda Pendelton (A. Pinkard), Anne Peterson, Scott Stevens (M. Stevens), Bruce Thomas (M. Stevens), Tammy Tucker Wardinski (Susan Pilson), persecuted Christians and all troops in defense of freedom throughout the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to family of Gene Stanley who went to be with the Lord Friday, October 1, 2021 in Martinsville, VA. The white rose at the lectern is in loving memory of Gene.

Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Archie Viperman by his family.

A drive-thru Trunk-Or-Treat is being considered to take place on Sunday October 31 (tentatively 2-4:00 p.m.). In order for this to be feasible, we need a minimum of 12 trunks. If you are interested in participating in this, please contact Brooke Cundiff or Sam Smith no later than October 18.

The Community Breakfast is October 16 and we need your help! Volunteers are needed to cook and prepare from 7-8:30 a.m. and to serve and clean up from 8:30-10:00 a.m. The breakfast will remain in a drive-thru format until further notice. Contact Brooke Cundiff if you are available to help (276-340-6124 or bchnfamily@gmail.com)

Family and Friends "Get Together" remembering Doc Altizer is Saturday, October 16, 2021 at 12:00 Noon at the Rocky Knob Picnic Area on the Blue Ridge (1670 Blue Ridge Parkway, Floyd, Virginia 24091, located near Mile Post 169). Due to COVID, we recommend that you bring your own lunch, a chair and plan a relaxing afternoon visiting with Sarah, Sallie, Becca, and their families. After lunch, those wishing to walk off their meals are welcome to join a group hike on the Black Ridge Trail. Others may choose to relax at the picnic area with Sarah. Should you have any questions, feel free to call or text Johnny Pinkard @ (276)952-5826.

Pumpkins are here for the annual Grace Network Pumpkin Patch. Grace relies on the community to man the patch and it's a great way for our church to serve. Volunteers are needed for October 16 from 11:00 am to 1:00 p.m. Contact Brooke Cundiff if you are available to help (276-340-6124 or bchnfamily@gmail.com)

The safety of our congregation and community are our highest priority. In light of increasing infections due to the Delta variant and in order to follow state and local guidelines and CDC recommendations, we strongly recommend that everyone, **regardless of vaccination status, wear a face covering that covers your nose and mouth while anywhere inside the church and sanctuary.**

Be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (various household items and toiletries) and GRACE NETWORK (canned soup – no tomato please). (Optional needs are toilet paper, deodorant, bath soap, toothpaste, feminine products, dish and laundry detergent) when you do your grocery shopping. Both agencies depend on us for assistance.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, October 10

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship in Person and on Facebook Live

Monday –Friday

9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. School in Session
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Lunch Buddies in FH

Monday, October 11

3:00 p.m. Earth Care Meeting on Zoom

Saturday, October 16

8:00. -10:30 a.m. Community Breakfast
11:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Grace Network Pumpkin Patch
12 Noon Doc Altizer Memorial "Get Together"

Sunday, October 17

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship in Person and on Facebook Live

	USHERS/GREETERS
Oct 10	Milt Davis, Nancy Davis
Oct 17	Johnny Pinkard, Ashby Pinkard
Oct 24	Ron Rebman, Nancy Baker
Oct 31	Rob King, Monty Montgomery

If you cannot serve on the Sunday scheduled, please find a substitute.
If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the church office.

REMINDER

The church office will open for limited appointments. Please call to schedule. Regardless of vaccination status, please wear a face mask. Thanks for your cooperation and understanding. Please enter at the narthex for Sunday worship and during the week use the back door at the portico.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 10, 2021

10:00 a.m. Live on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/FPCMartinsvilleVA>

We are an Earth Care Congregation



We are a Matthew 25 Congregation



"Daring Discipleship"

Based upon Acts 2:42-47; Colossians 3:12-17
and Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Our Mission

"Share God's love, embrace our neighbors, nurture each other."