

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 16, 2026

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



Sermon based upon *Genesis 45:1-15* and *Psalms 133*

Our Mission

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

*Please rise in body or in spirit

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor

All: The Lords name be praised!

and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

One: Our God is ever more ready to forgive than we are to confess.
God hears us with a loving ear, ready to heal any brokenness within us
or between us, and so we pray:

Merciful God,

We confess that we have not followed your ways or trusted your promises. We love only those who love us; we show kindness only to those who are kind to us; we give only when we expect to receive. Forgive us, Lord. Fill our hearts with your selfless love. Change our lives by your matchless grace. These things we pray through Christ our Savior.

Silent prayers of confession may be offered.

CONFESSATIONAL RESPONSE

Kyrie

PH 572

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor

One: Jesus is Lord! God raised him from the dead
and we are saved through him.

**All: This is the good news we believe in our hearts
and confess with our mouths.**

One: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

All: This is the good news we will share with all people!

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus be with you all.

All: And also with you.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

We Are Forgiven

GTG 447

We are forgiven. We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. (x2)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading:

Liturgist

Psalms 133

(OT pg.575)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

Pastor

ANTHEM

Speak, O Lord
Chancel Choir

Townend/Getty arr. B. Harlan

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Pastor

One: We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba Father.

All: In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

One: But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

All: Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.

One: Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

All: In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.

One: Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

All: Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

One: Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

All: With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Where Charity and Love Prevail
(sung to O For a 1,000 Tongues to Sing)

GTG 316

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Music: public Domain (TUNE: AZMON)

Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.

Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ God's holy Son.
As members of each body joined, in Him we are made one.

Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease.
Be God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.

Let us forgive each other's faults as we our own confess,
that we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.

Love can exclude no race or creed if honored by God's name;
our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor

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.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Liturgist

Call to Offering

Offertory

Sweet Rivers of Redeeming Love

arr. D. Hustad

***The Doxology**

GTG 606

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. -Amen-***

Prayer of Dedication

Liturgist

***SENDING HYMN**

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

GTG 444

(sung to tune of *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*)

Text © 1969, 1983 Rosamond E. Herklots. (admin. Oxford University Press) Music Harm. © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc
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“Forgive our sins as we forgive,” you taught us, Lord, to pray,
but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?

In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew:
what trivial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls and bid resentment cease.
Then, by your mercy reconciled, our lives will spread your peace.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Pastor

One: By the power of the Holy Spirit go forth,

All: We go forth to serve our neighbor, love our enemy, and embody God's mercy.

One: May the steadfast love and faithfulness of God surround you;
the peace of Christ enfold you; and the Holy Spirit encourage you,
now and forever.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Lord, Let Us Now Depart in Peace

POSTLUDE

Love Lifted Me

James Rowe/Howard Smith

Barbara Duncan, guitar

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Welcome to our visitors today!

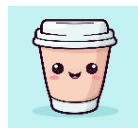
We are glad you are here and we hope you will join us for worship again. If you are interested in joining our church, there are three ways you may do so. They are letter of transfer from your church of previous membership, reaffirmation of faith if you have already been baptized; and baptism and affirmation of faith if you have not been baptized. If you are interested in joining, please ask our pastor, or one of our elders, for more details.

Need help hearing the service? Receivers connected to the sound system are available in the Narthex. Just ask an usher.

Please use the friendship register located in the pew to indicate your presence in worship. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please include your address, telephone number, and e-mail.

Let the children come to me: Children & Youth of all ages are welcomed and encouraged to actively participate in worship. For those desiring supportive materials, "sermon notes" for young children through older youth are available in the narthex. Clipboards and crayons are also available to take to your pew. Please return them to the narthex after the service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

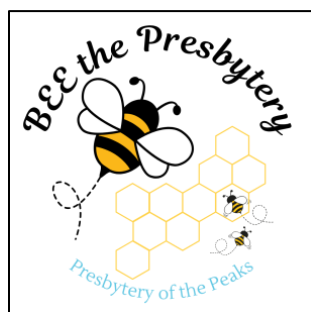


Please join us for 2nd Cup in the fellowship hall immediately following the worship service. Come enjoy coffee, refreshments, and fellowship. Today's 2nd Cup is hosted by Ione and Mary Linker.

There will be a Congregational Meeting immediately following worship TODAY for the purpose of electing a nominating committee who shall recruit elder candidates for the Class of 2029.



On behalf of Marge Dunn, we would like to express her sincere gratitude to everyone who sent a card, called, or visited her for her birthday. She was truly overjoyed by the love shown to her by her church family and friends. Thank you for making her birthday so special.



Day of Service and Learning Registration ~ The Coordinating Cabinet is inviting you to a Day of Service and Learning: **Saturday, August 22, 2026, 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM** at Forest Presbyterian Church, 1226 Two Church Lane, Forest, VA. Beloved Community is furthered by gathering together in fellowship, equipping the Saints through learning opportunities provided, and expanding the Kingdom through joint missional work to help alleviate hunger in the Presbytery and beyond.

When you do your grocery shopping be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (various household items and toiletries) and **Grace Network** (Juice 40-64 Oz). Other needs: toothpaste, toothbrush (individually wrapped), dish and laundry detergent, toilet paper, deodorant, bath soap, and feminine products. Both agencies depend on us for assistance.

SUMMER Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

CLOSED on Friday

**If you need to conduct office business outside these hours,
please call to make an appointment.**

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Danny Russell (Gavin Russell's father), Family of Stuart Pannill, Family of Isla King, Family of Bobby Davis (son of Milt Davis), Barbara Adams (Patsy Stanley), Ernest Bremner, Evelyn Cannaday, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), Bob Davis, Marge Dunn, Martin Ford, Michelle Handy (Pearl Minter's daughter), Randy Lawson (P. Stanley), Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Marion Miller, Maggie Pilson, Ann Reaser, Susan Rosser, Becky Stone Sawyers (L. Pritchett), Dee Moore Smith, Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, Bruce Thomas, Tammy Tucker Wardinski, persecuted Christians, military service men and women, missionaries, refugees and immigrants forced to flee their countries, and families and areas devastated by severe weather.

Summer Worship ~ August 9, 2026 Grace, Collinsville and Martinsville



CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, August 16

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

~Congregational Meeting in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Monday, August 17

12:00 PM

Visioning Meeting

Sunday, August 23

2-Cents a Meal Offering

9:00 AM

Sunday School

10:00 AM

Worship in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Monday, August 24

4:00 PM

Session Meeting

Sunday, August 30

Fifth Sunday Musicfest

9:00 AM

Sunday School

10:00 AM

Worship in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS	2ND CUP
August 16	Gale Buck	Bob Wuetefeld, Barbara Duncan	Ione and Mary Linker
August 23	Barbara Duncan	Randy and Martha Rollins	Joe and Susan Smith
August 30	Janet Fentress	Billy and Sharon Kirby	Gale and Christy Buck
September 6	Cindy Edgerton	Monty and Joan Montgomery	Joe and Brenda Williams
September 13	Duke Ferrell	Johnny and Ashby Pinkard	Janet Fentress, Judy King
September 20	Liz Ferrell	Ron Rebman, Judy King	<i>Lemonade on the Lawn</i>
September 27	Billy Kirby	Bob Wuetefeld, Barbara Duncan	Milt and Nancy Davis

If you cannot serve on the Sunday scheduled, please find a substitute.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the church office.