

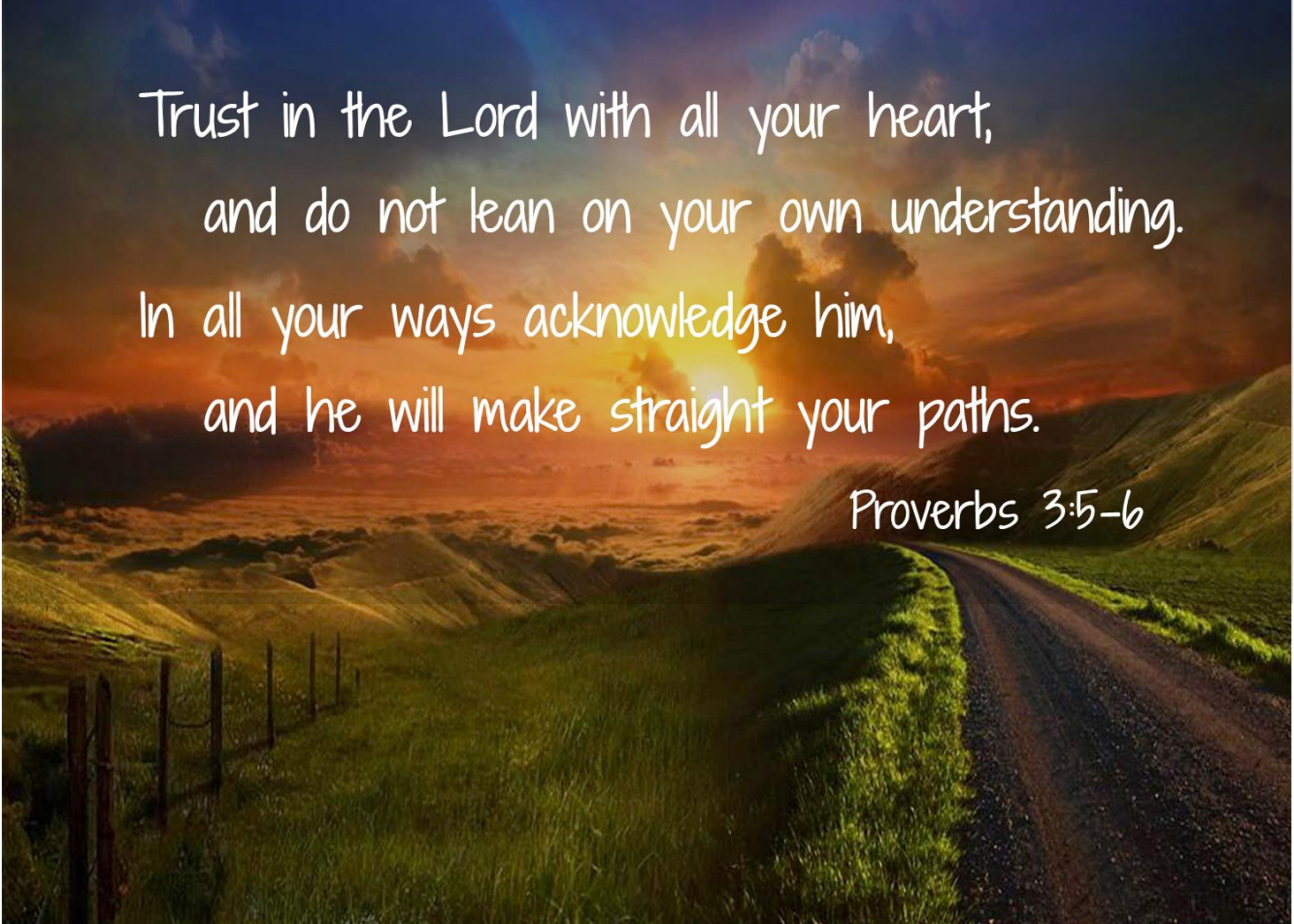
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 9, 2025

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Sermon based upon Proverbs 3:5-18; Matthew 25:14-30 and Psalm 138

Our Mission

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

*The Service for the Lord's Day
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*

PRELUDE

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above
Sanctuary Ringers

Michael R. Keller

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Anne Madonia, Think Tank

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Leader: In the sanctuary, God, the Holy One, whose glory fills the whole earth, calls us.

People: Beside the sea, along ordinary paths, in our daily work, God calls us.

Leader: We respond with our whole heart, singing God's praise and giving thanks.

People: In steadfast love, God fulfills the divine purpose for our lives.

*OPENING HYMN

Morning Has Broken

GTG#664

Dale Grotenhuis | Eleanor Farjeon; Music: 1987 CRC Publications CCLI License #2244459

Morning has broken like the first morning;
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
Born of the one light, Eden saw play!
Praise with elation; praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor

O God,

Though we walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve and deliver us. Though our lips are not clean and our hearts are not pure, you call us. Forgive us, we pray, when we wander away from you, lost and at risk.

Forgive us when our lives do not reflect your glory and the purposes you intend. Help us to comprehend your ways in the world. We long to feel your grace and glory, for in you, Emmanuel, we can be healed and set free; in Jesus' name we pray.

Silent prayers of confession may be offered.

CONFSSIONAL RESPONSE	<i>Kyrie</i>	PH#572
<i>Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.</i>		
ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS		Pastor
*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE		Pastor
Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus be with you all. <i>People: And also with you.</i>		
*RESPONSE OF PRAISE	<i>(Gloria Patri)</i>	GTG#580/PH#579
<i>Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.</i>		
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION		Liturgist
SCRIPTURE READINGS		
	First Reading:	Liturgist
	<i>Psalm 138</i>	(OT pg.577)
TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES		Pastor
CHOIR ANTHEM	<i>The Fruit of the Spirit</i> Chancel Choir	Dan Forrest
	Second Reading:	Rev. Dr. Carl Utley
	<i>Proverbs 3:5-18</i>	(OT pg.586)
	<i>Matthew 25:14-30</i>	(NT pg.28)
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. <i>People: Thanks be to God.</i>		
SERMON	<i>Risky Business</i>	Rev. Dr. Carl Utley
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH		Pastor
We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.		

More love to thee, O Christ, more love to thee!
 Hear thou the prayer I make on bended knee.
 This is my earnest plea: more love, O Christ, to thee;
 More love to thee, more love to thee!

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest.
 Now thee alone I seek; give what is best.
 This all my prayer shall be: more love, O Christ, to thee;
 More love to thee, more love to thee!

Then shall my latest breath whisper thy praise;
 This be the parting cry my heart shall raise.
 This still its prayer shall be: more love, O Christ, to thee;
 More love to thee, more love to thee!

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

Brightly Sound the Chimes
 Sanctuary Ringers

Lynne Holländer

*The Doxology

GTG#607

**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

Live into Hope

GTG#772

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Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.
 The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!

Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity,
 Removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.

Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak the right to be,
 The right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.

Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.
 God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

The Star of Bethlehem: A Choral Benediction

Edward McGrath

POSTLUDE

How Firm A Foundation
Sanctuary Ringers

Sandra Eithun

*Please rise in body or in spirit

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

We welcome and thank Rev. Dr. Carl Utley, General Presbyter of the Peaks Presbytery, for being with us this morning.

The Presbyterian Women's Circle will be packing cookie boxes for our college kids today following the worship service. If you brought items please leave them in the session room.

Cooks Who Care will meet in The Marge Dunn Kitchen Tuesday, February 11th, to prepare delicious meals for our members in need. Please come join the fun at 9:00 AM to cook or 4:00 PM to pack the meals for delivery. If you can't attend either session but would like to deliver a meal or two, please contact Susan Pilson (276-340-7288) or Ashby Pinkard (276-952-5827). All volunteers are greatly appreciated!

The Community Breakfast is Saturday, February 15th with team leaders Nancy and Henry Moore. Cooking begins at 7:00 AM and breakfast is served from 8:00 - 9:30 AM. Reach out to Nancy (276-732-3400) if you are available to cook, serve, or clean.

The next Presbytery Meeting is Thursday, February 20th in person at Blacksburg Presbyterian Church (701 Church St SE, Blacksburg). It will be a full day (8:30 AM-3:00 PM) and includes lunch. Registration opens February 10th.

Handbell and Choir rehearsals are each Wednesday (unless otherwise noted on the calendar). If you are interested in joining, **handbells begin rehearsal at 5:30 PM** in the session room and the **choir meets at 6:30 PM** in the sanctuary. New folks are always welcome! Talk with Spencer if you have any questions. *If inclement weather, Spencer will reach out to members concerning rehearsals.*

Be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (various household items and toiletries) and **Grace Network (juice 40-64 oz)** (Other needs: 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.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday – 9:30 – 2:00 PM

PRAYER CONCERNS

Nathan Toms Family, Martha Ingram Family (Amy Mason's mother, Michael & Matthew's grandmother), Anne Abercrombie, Sue Benfield, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Bud Buffkin, Evelyn Cannaday, Bob Chapman, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Jerri, DeVault, Marge Dunn, Martin Ford, Doug Goldstein, Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, Jamelle Waid Linker (Ed Linker's daughter-in-law), Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Maggie Pilson, Rusty Reaser, Susan Rosser, Becky Stone Sawyers (L. Pritchett), Dee Moore Smith, Betty Stanley, Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, C.J. Swinney (great-grandson of P. Minter), Bruce Thomas, Carl Utley, Lil Wall, Tammy Tucker Wardinski, Jodi White (sister of P. Marshall/G. Chaney), persecuted Christians, military service men and women, missionaries, and all refugees and immigrants forced to flee their countries. Areas and families affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton and wildfires in California.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2025

RISE AGAINST HUNGER EVENT

at

First Presbyterian Church

1901 Patrick Henry Ave., Martinsville, VA 24112

in the Fellowship Hall

10 AM to NOON

Please complete a RAH Registration form TODAY to guarantee your participation.

After today, it will be based on space availability.

We don't want empty spaces so we will be expanding our recruiting area.

If you have questions, reach out to Ron Rebman.



**Come and help pack 12-14,000 meals.
*Let's help give children hope.***

CHURCH CALENDAR

<p>Sunday, February 9 9:00 AM 10:00 AM</p> <p>Monday –Friday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM</p> <p>Wednesday, February 12 5:30 PM 6:30 PM</p> <p>Saturday, February 15 8:00-9:30 AM</p> <p>Sunday, February 16 9:00 AM 10:00 AM</p> <p>Wednesday, February 19 5:30 PM 6:30 PM</p> <p>Thursday, February 20 8:30 AM-3:00 PM</p> <p>Sunday, February 23 9:00 AM 10:00 AM</p> <p>Monday, February 24 4:00 PM</p> <p>Wednesday, February 26 5:30 PM 6:30 PM</p> <p>Saturday, March 1 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Deadline to register for Rise Against Hunger Event Sunday School Worship in Sanctuary Packing Cookies for College Students in Session Room</p> <p>Weekday School School in Session Lunch Buddies</p> <p>Handbell Rehearsal ~ Session Room Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary</p> <p>Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM)</p> <p>Sunday School Worship in Sanctuary</p> <p>Handbell Rehearsal ~ Session Room Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary</p> <p>Presbytery Meeting at Blacksburg PC (in person) 2 Cents a Meal Offering Sunday School Worship in Sanctuary</p> <p>Session Meeting</p> <p>Handbell Rehearsal ~ Session Room Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary</p> <p>Rise Against Hunger Event</p>
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DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS
February 9	Ashby Pinkard	Monty Montgomery, Betty Hudson
February 16	Billy Kirby	Bob Wuesterfeld, Barbara Duncan
February 23	Ione Linker	Billy and Sharon Kirby
March 2	Pearl Minter	Johnny and Ashby Pinkard
March 9	Mary Linker	Joe and Jerri DeVault
March 16	Joan Montgomery	Ron Rebman, Judy King
March 23	Nancy Moore	Monty and Joan Montgomery
March 30	Ashby Pinkard	Bill and Susan Kirby

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