

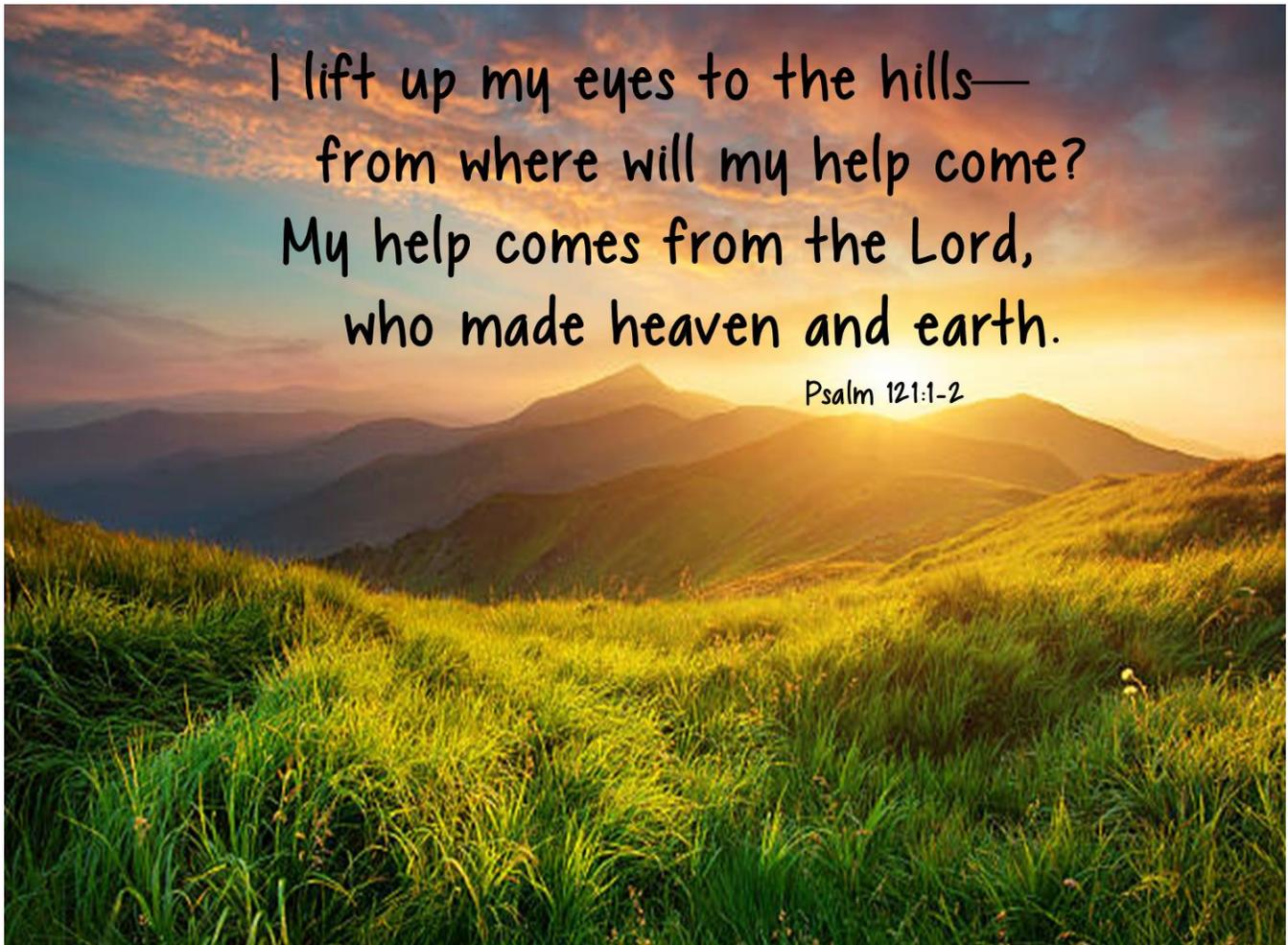
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Second Sunday in Lent
Communion Sunday
March 1, 2026

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation



I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:1-2

Sermon based upon Genesis 12:1-4 and Psalm 121

Our Mission

“Share God’s love, embrace our neighbors, nurture each other.”

*The Service for the Lord's Day
Second Sunday in Lent
Communion Sunday*

PRELUDE *If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee* arr. Alice Jordan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor

*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

One: Beloved, we are God's children now;

All: What we will be has not yet been revealed.

One: What we do know is this:

All: When He is revealed, we will be like Him, for we will see Him as He is.

*OPENING HYMN *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* GTG 687
Public Domain

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Beneath the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Pastor

God of mercy,

You sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves as pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth.

Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Silent prayers of confession may be offered.

CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE *Kyrie* PH 572

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Pastor

*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.

(repeat once)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Liturgist

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: Liturgist

Psalm 121 (OT pg.571)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES Pastor

CHOIR ANTHEM *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* arr. Hal Hopson
Chancel Choir

Second Reading: Pastor

Genesis 12:1-4 (OT pg.10)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Pastor

from "A Brief Statement of Faith"

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life, and breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

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. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

*What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine
(Leaning on the Everlasting Arms)*

GTG 837

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What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:

*Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms. [Refrain]

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms. [Refrain].

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Liturgist

Call to Offering

Offertory

The Lord's My Shepherd

arr. Donald 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-***

Invitation to the Table

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, Eternal God.
You set the sun to brighten the day and the moon and stars to illumine the night.
You lead us by the light of your truth into the way of righteousness and peace.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son.

In his face, we glimpse your glory.

In his life, we see your love.

In his rising from the grave, we behold the promise of eternal life.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread
and wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising as we await the day of his coming.

**With thanksgiving we offer ourselves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated
to your service.**

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Illumine our lives, O God, with the radiance of Christ's love, that we may live for you and
love as he loved.

Give us strength to serve you faithfully until the promised day of resurrection, when with
the redeemed of all the ages we will feast with you at your table in glory.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are
your, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Words of Institution

Serving of the Great Feast

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.

*SENDING HYMN

Loves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken

GTG 498

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Loaves were broken, words were spoken by the Galilean shore.
Jesus, Bread of life from heaven, was their food forevermore.

Chorus

*By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.*

Loaves were broken, words were spoken in a quiet room one night,
In the bread and wine you gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light. [Chorus]

Loaves are broken, words are spoken, as in faith we gather here.
Jesus speaks across the ages: "I am with you; do not fear!". [Chorus]

By the loaves you break and give us, send us in your name to share
bread for which the millions hunger, words that tell your love and care. [Chorus]

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Abide with Me (stanza 5)
Public domain

GTG 836

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

POSTLUDE

The God of Abraham Praise

arr. Michael Burkhardt

*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



Join us for 2nd Cup. Come enjoy coffee and refreshments in the fellowship hall after the worship service **AND meet and greet our new Music Director, Whitney Melton.** Cindy and Steve Edgerton will keep the coffee hot for you.

We are all children of God, brothers and sisters with Jesus. And as we hold true to who we are, some of us are changing our place of worship. We are excited and blessed to be able to extend the right hand of Christian fellowship to the following as they join our worshipping community:

Bill Stone

Betsy Ham

Steve and Jane Fitzgerald

And there are others who are worshipping among us but have not yet transferred their membership.

And we are excited to acknowledge that **Ford Childress**, who was Baptized among us, is back. Actually, he and Felecia have been back for quite a while. We are grateful and blessed to have them with us in mission and ministry.



Lenten Lunch Volunteers and Soup Needed - Our Lenten Lunch will be held March 12th at 12:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We are currently seeking:

Greeters: To help direct guests to the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Judy King (276-340-8101) if you can help.

Soup Donations: If you have a favorite soup you would like to share, please contact Susan Pilson (276-340-7288) to coordinate.

Thank you for your generosity and service to our church family!

Community Lenten Lunches will be held on Thursdays at 12 Noon and will include a light meal and a short devotional. The schedule and locations are as follows:

March 5th – First Baptist Church East (1043 Church St.)

March 12th – First Presbyterian Church (1901 Patrick Henry Ave.)

March 19th – Starling Avenue Baptist Church (932 Starling Ave.)

March 26th – Chatham Heights Baptist Church (1235 Chatham Hts. Road)

Be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (various household items and toiletries) and **Grace Network (Creamed Corn 15 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.



Register TODAY!

We currently have 50 participants registered online.

Rise Against Hunger excitement is building, and we invite all of you to **register online** for this year's experience **on Saturday March 7, 2026. (NOTE: Donation is not required to register.)**

9-10 AM setup, and **10-12 Noon, meal packing!** We need your help again this year to help end World Hunger. And it's also a lot of fun!

Please register online here: <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/FPCMartinsville26>. On the linked online form, fill in your information, then the number of family members participating, **in addition** to yourself, in the indicated box.

You can check boxes at the bottom - for volunteering to help **set up** (9-10 am), or to **pack meals** (10 am-12 pm), or you can check **both**.

If you prefer to print out and fill in the paper form, then please mail it to: Ione Linker, RAH - 705 Prospect Hill Dr., Martinsville, VA 24112

FPC contacts for the event are Ione Linker (310) 951-5138 and Taylor Shank (276) 732-9525. Call or text with any questions!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Sue Benfield, Bud Buffkin, Evelyn Cannaday, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Marge Dunn, Martin Ford, Marvin Hudson, Liz Jackman (daughter of Nancy Davis), Randy Lawson (P. Stanley). Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Leslie Naradikian (Marion Miller's daughter), Maggie Pilson, Rusty Reaser, Cecil Robbins, Sandra Roberts (sister of Kat Walker), 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.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, March 1

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

Communion Sunday

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall/Meet Whitney

Monday –Friday

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Weekday School

School in Session

Lunch Buddies

Wednesday, March 4

10:30 AM

5:30 PM

6:30 PM

Christian Education Meeting in Session Room

Handbell Rehearsal

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 5

NOON

Lenten Lunch @ First Baptist Church East (1043 Church St.)

Saturday, March 7

10:00 AM

Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing (**set up begins at 9AM**)

Sunday, March 8

3rd Sunday in Lent/Daylight Savings ~ Spring Forward

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 10

9:00 AM

Cooks Who Care

Wednesday, March 11

2:00 PM

5:30 PM

6:30 PM

Worship Committee Meeting

Handbell Rehearsal

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 12

NOON

Lenten Lunch @ First Presbyterian Martinsville

Sunday, March 15

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

4th Sunday in Lent

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 18

9:00 AM

5:30 PM

6:30 PM

Garden Club in Fellowship Hall

Handbell Rehearsal

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 19

NOON

Lenten Lunch @ Starling Avenue Baptist (932 Starling Ave.)

Saturday, March 21

8:00-9:30 AM

Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM)

Sunday, March 22

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

5th Sunday in Lent

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Monday, March 23

4:00 PM

Session Meeting

Wednesday, March 25

5:30 PM

Handbell Rehearsal

6:30 PM

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 19

NOON

Lenten Lunch @ Chatham Heights Baptist (1235 Chatham Hts. Rd)

Sunday, March 29

9:00 AM

Palm Sunday

Service in the Park ~ J. Frank Wilson Memorial Park

~Potluck Brunch in Fellowship Hall

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS	2ND CUP
March 1	Duke Ferrell	Johnny and Ashby Pinkard	Cindy and Steve Edgerton
March 8	Liz Ferrell	Ron Rebman, Judy King	Janet Fentress, Judy King
March 15	Billy Kirby	Bill and Suzan Kirby	Joe and Susan Smith
March 22	Sharon Kirby	Joe and Jerri DeVault	Ashby and Lynn Pritchett
March 29 Palm Sunday	TBD	Bob Wuetefeld, Barbara Duncan	Cindy and Steve Edgerton

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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday – 9:30 – 2:00 PM

If pastoral care is needed, please call 276-734-8830

Thank you

for worshiping with us today.

Have a blessed week.