

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints' Day
November 1, 2026

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation



See what great love
The father has
lavished on us.

1 John 3:1 (NIV)

Sermon based upon 1 John 3:1-3 and Psalm 34:1-10, 22

Our Mission

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

*The Service for the Lord's Day
Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints' Day*

*Please stand as you are able

PRELUDE *Erhalt uns, Herr* A.W. Leupold

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor

*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

One: Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,

**All: They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.**

*OPENING HYMN *For All the Saints* GTG 326
Public Domain

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; Yet all are one in Thee,
For all are Thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Alleluia! Alleluia!

ROLL CALL OF REMEMBRANCE Lynn Pritchett
Janet Fentress, bell ringer

MEMBERS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Kathryn Myers Judson	January 11, 2026
Sue Mauney Benfield	April 13, 2026
Stephen Berkley Fitzgerald	April 25, 2026
Rev. Dr. Clarence "Rusty" Reaser	April 29, 2026
Sarah Persinger Altizer	May 18, 2026
Isla Indigo King	July 15, 2026
Laura Louise Stevens	September 1, 2026

EXTENDED FAMILY

Edward "Hank" Childress (brother of Ford Childress)	October 16, 2025
John Mack Snow (brother of Jerri DeVault)	November 1, 2025
Erica Palmer Walker (niece of Janet Fentress)	November 27, 2025
John Taylor Peebles, Sr.	November 28, 2025
Paul Thomas Edgerton (father of Steve Edgerton)	December 2, 2025
Kathryn "Kitty" Campbell Tuggle	January 13, 2026
William Watson Regen	February 15, 2026
Ruby Buffkin Stewart (mother of Melissa Wingfield)	April 18, 2026
Susan Bridges Smith (daughter of Catherine Bridges)	May 1, 2026
Marvin Hudson (husband of Betty Hudson)	May 20, 2026
Pat Pearl Dole (former member of FPC)	May 23, 2026
John Roger Monroe (former Forest Hills pastor)	May 25, 2026
Debora Reutter Brown (former member of FPC)	June 21, 2026
Robert "Bobby" Davis (son of Milt Davis)	July 13, 2026
Stuart Pannill Ward	July 22, 2026

PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

Eternal God,

we bless you for the great company of all those who have kept the faith, finished their race, and who now rest from their labor. We praise you for those dear to us whom we have named and who we name in our hearts. Help us to believe where we have not seen, trusting you to lead us through our years. Bring us at the last with all your saints into the joy of your home, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*HYMN OF REFLECTION God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me (**vs. 1,2,4,5**) GTG 543

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan © 2002 This Here Music, Used by permission CCLI License # 2244459

God be the love to search and keep me; God be the prayer to move
my voice; God be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ surround me; O Christ surround me.

Bind to myself the Name of Holy; great cloud of witnesses enfold;
prophets, apostles, angels witness:
O Christ surround me; O Christ surround me.

Walking behind to hem my journey, going ahead to light my way,
and from beneath, above, and all ways:
O Christ surround me; O Christ surround me.

Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears who hear my voice,
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:
O Christ surround me; O Christ surround me.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor

One: Jesus said: Ask and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find;
knock, and it will be opened to you.

**All: For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds,
and to the one who knocks it will be opened.**

One: Friends in Christ, God knows our needs before we ask,
and in our asking prepares us to receive the gift of grace.

**All: We open our lives to God's healing presence,
forsaking all that separates us from God and neighbor.**

One: We confess to God whatever has wounded us or brought injury to others that we
may receive mercy and become for each other ministers of God's grace.
Lord in the silence hear the prayers of our hearts.

Eternal God,

**In whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our
sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our
offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and
humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace,
and finding in you our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.**

CONFESSATIONAL 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

Psalms 34:1-10, 22

(OT pg. 508)

CHOIR ANTHEM

Order My Steps
Chancel Choir

Jack Schrader

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

GTG 509

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All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering.
Here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming.
Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing.
Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES

Pastor

I appeal to you therefore, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

In the silence ponder all that has happened in recent years and offer anything you need to release to God.

One: God, our creator, your will for us and for all your people is
wholeness and salvation:

All: Have mercy on us.

One: Jesus Christ, Son of God, you came that we might have life
and have it in abundance:

All: Have mercy on us.

One: Holy Spirit, dwelling within us, you make us temples of your presence:

All: Have mercy on us.

God of compassion, you have given us Jesus Christ, the great physician, who makes the broken whole, and heals the sick. Touch our physical and emotional wounds, relieve our hurts, restore us to wholeness of life, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND ALL WE RELEASE TO GOD

Liturgist

Offertory

By All Your Saints Still Striving

R.V. Williams

Lynn Pritchett, flute

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Liturgist

***The Doxology**

PH#592

**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

Pastor

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God our Maker.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

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

Because you, gracious God, have been faithful to us, we will be faithful to Jesus.

He promised to be with those who meet in his name:

this we believe.

He promised to hear the prayers of faithful people:

this we believe.

He said that in the communion of bread and wine he would be present to us
as we remember him:

this we celebrate.

So, send now your Spirit among us and upon this bread and wine, that we may taste and see your goodness, be embraced by your love, and be engaged in your service. **Amen.**

As Jesus did, so we do...

We believe that he who lived, died and rose again for us will meet us here.

Graciously nourish us, O Christ, so that we who try to follow you may receive food for the journey and be bound in solidarity with all who walk in your way. Amen

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, give us your peace.

One: Give thanks for all God's goodness:

All: God's love shall last forever.

One: Generous and faithful God, you have fed us at your table. May the nourishment we have received enable us to enrich the lives of others wherever we may go from here. Whether the future be dark or bright, the road be smooth or rough, whether our cares be light or heavy, our song be strong or weak, keep our hearts warm and our hands open, our lives ever embracing and ever embraced by your love. **Amen.**

One: Into your hands, O God, we place ourselves

All: Holy God, be with us and heal us.

One: Lift us up on the wings of Your Spirit

All: Be with us and heal us.

One: Set us free by your peace and your power.

All: Be with us and heal us.

One: You are all the strength we need. You never leave nor forsake us

All: Be with us and heal us

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

Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons)

GTG 726

Graham Maule | John L. Bell © 1987 WGRG, c/o Iona Community, Glasgow, Scotland Used by Permission: CCLI License #2244459

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;

Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?

Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?

Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?

Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,

And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

(continued on next page)

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

BENEDICTION

Pastor

One: This day, and every day,
All: O taste and see that the Lord is good.
One: May the God of hope keep you
All: until Christ comes to take us all home.

POSTLUDE

Blest Are They

Hass

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Chancel Choir

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 hosts are Gale and Christy Buck.



Jack Kirby will be offering technical support in the coming weeks as part of his Sophomore service project. He is available to assist any church member needing help with smartphones, tablets, laptops, smartwatches, and other devices. He will be available by appointment and is able to make house calls. Please reach out to him directly by text at 276-734-7460 or email at

kirbyjack@carliseschool.org to schedule an appointment. When you contact him, please include a brief summary of the technical issue so he can come prepared.

The FPC Women's Circle Meeting is Monday, November 2nd at King's Grant at 11:00 AM. Our second lesson, **Freedom in Christ**, (1 Corinthians, chapters 5 & 6) will be led by Cindy Edgerton. If you are not a King's Grant resident, please sign in at the front desk and purchase your lunch ticket for \$12 upon arrival.



Call for Volunteers! The FPC Mission Committee is participating with Grace PC and other local churches to put on a Community Thanksgiving Meal. We need a lot of volunteers to sign-up and come to an organizing meeting on Sept. 21 at 6pm at Grace PC. The meal event will be on Wednesday, November 25th, 1-4 PM at Alber Harris Elementary School. ALL VOLUNTEERS must register, click this link: <https://theharvestfoundation.jotform.com/262773861253160> even if you registered with the Grace PC link. Questions, text lone (310) 951-5138.

When you do your grocery shopping be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (various household items and toiletries) and **Grace Network** (*Pancake Mix*). 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.



Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM

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

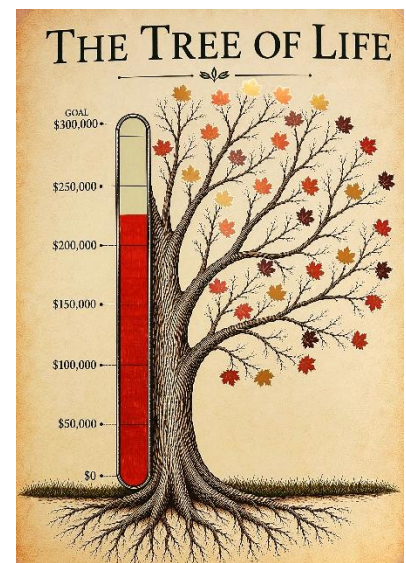
PRAYER CONCERNS

Barbara Adams (Patsy Stanley), Ernest Bremner, Evelyn Cannaday, Smith Chaney, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), Bob Davis, Nancy Davis, Marge Dunn, Sandra Ford, Besty Ham, Michelle Handy (Pearl Minter's daughter), Jennifer Holland (M & N Davis), Elizabeth Jackman (M. & D. Davis), Randy Lawson (P. Stanley), Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Marion Miller, Skyler Oaks (P. Minter), Maggie Pilon, Ann Reaser, Susan Rosser, Becky Stone Sawyers (L. Pritchett), Dee Moore Smith, Rebecca Smith (P. Stanley), 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.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As of October 29th, 34 pledge cards have been submitted totaling \$224,665.

On November 8th, Gale Buck will present an original story exploring the importance and meaning of the "Tree of Life," this year's Stewardship theme. A church is planted in the shadows of a revered Dogwood Tree and a protective Oak. As the church and community grow, which becomes their "Tree of Life"? An answer explored through a narrative during service.



CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, November 1	Communion/All Saints' Sunday
9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary ~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall
Monday –Friday	Weekday School
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	School in Session
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch Buddies
Monday, November 2	
11:00 AM	Presbyterian Women's Circle Meeting at KG
TBA	Session Training
Wednesday, November 4	
5:30 PM	Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, November 8	Stewardship Narrative
9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary ~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, November 10	
9:00 AM	Cooks Who Care
Wednesday, November 11	
2:00 PM	Worship Meeting in Session Room
5:30 PM	Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, November 15	Commitment Sunday
9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary ~Potluck Lunch/Advent Workshop
Monday, November 16	
TBA	Session Training
Wednesday, November 18	
5:30 PM	Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, November 21	
8:00-9:30 AM	Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM)

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS	2ND CUP
November 1	Joan Montgomery	Billy and Sharon Kirby	Gale and Christy Buck
November 8	Nancy Moore	Monty and Joan Montgomery	Joe and Brenda Williams
November 15	Lynn Pritchett	Bob Weutefeld, Barbara Duncan	Stewardship Luncheon
November 22	Martha Rollins	Johnny and Ashby Pinkard	Janet Fentress, Judy King
November 29	Ron Rebman	Bill and Susan Kirby	Joe and Jerri DeVault

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