

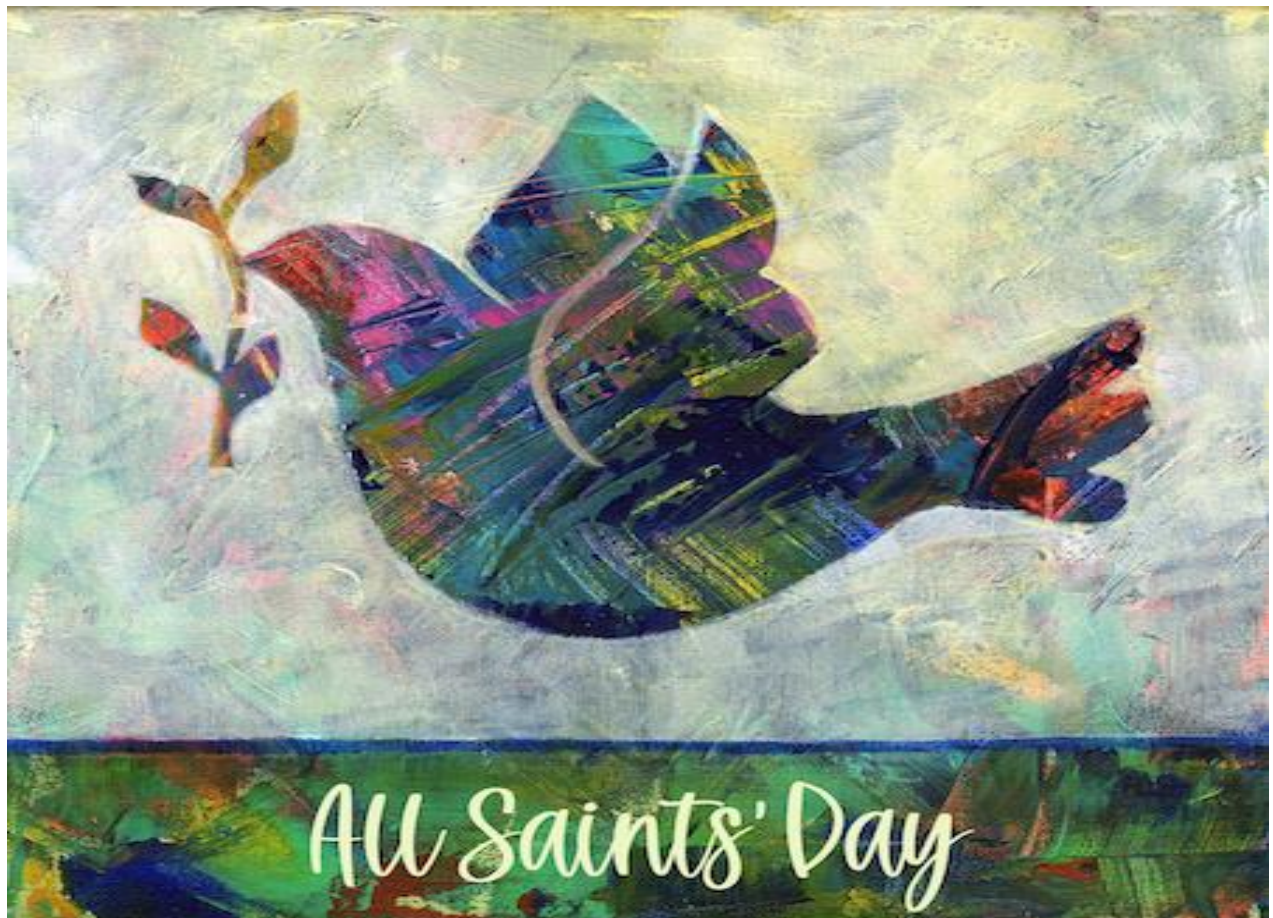
# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue  
Martinsville, Virginia

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
All Saints' Day  
November 3, 2024

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



**Sermon based upon Psalm 146**

**Our Mission**

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

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

PRELUDE *Near to the Heart of God* Paulette Fry

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

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

**People: 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 Liz Ferrell  
Janet Fentress, bell ringer

MEMBERS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Helen Heidgerken Flythe	February 8, 2024
George Wesley Townsend	March 5, 2024
Nanette Horton Smith	March 19, 2024
Langhorne Sydnor Mauck	April 5, 2024
Betty Carol Barnes Lamm	May 15, 2024
Stanley Harold Lamm	July 30, 2024

EXTENDED FAMILY

Leon Tysor Jordan, II (Christy Buck's father)	January 4, 2024
LaRue Leonard Cline (Nancy Baker's sister)	May 29, 2024
Drema Altizer Austin (former FPC bookkeeper)	September 18, 2024

PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

Liturgist

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

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.

Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight, flashing of lightning,  
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of planet:

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

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

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

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

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

Leader: 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.**

*A time for silent prayer*

CONFESSATIONAL RESPONSE	<i>"Kyrie"</i>	PH#572
	<b><i>Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.</i></b>	
ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS		Pastor
*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE		Pastor
	Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus be with you all. <b><i>People: And also with you.</i></b>	
*RESPONSE OF PRAISE	<i>We Are Forgiven</i>	GTG#447
	<b><i>We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. (repeat once)</i></b>	
CHOIR ANTHEM	<i>I Am the Alpha and the Omega</i> Chancel Choir	Michael D. Costello
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION		Liturgist
SCRIPTURE AND SERMON		Rev. Dr. Bea Miller
	<i>Psalm 146</i>	(OT pg.581)
*HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>Here in This Place</i>	GTG#401
	<small>Marty Haugen (1979) © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc. REPRINTED/STREAMED WITH PERMISSION UNDER ONE LICENSE ##741009-A</small>	

Here in this place new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now,  
and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face.  
We have been sung, throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth.  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters; call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away:  
here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in' all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

#### 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.*

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

**People: Have mercy on us.**

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

**People: Have mercy on us.**

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

**People: 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

Offertory

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-**

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 break this bread...

We share this wine...

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.**

Take this bread, share this wine.  
In these Christ comes to us with love from God.  
The gifts of God for the people of God.

Serving of the Great Feast

Leader: Give thanks for all God's goodness:

**People: God's love shall last forever.**

Leader: 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.**

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

**People: Holy God, be with us and heal us.**

Leader: Lift us up on the wings of Your Spirit

**People: Be with us and heal us.**

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

**People: Be with us and heal us.**

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

**People: 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

*Take, O Take Me as I Am*

GTG#698

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Take, O take me as I am;  
summon out what I shall be;  
set your seal upon my heart and live in me. (repeat 5 times)

## BENEDICTION

Pastor

## BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*Go With God*

## POSTLUDE

*I'll Fly Away*

Mark Hayes

\*Please stand as you are able

*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**

**Today is All Saints' Day** when we will call the roll of those who passed into God's gracious care during the last year.

**The FPC Women's Circle Meeting is Monday, November 4th at King's Grant at 11:00 AM.** Gael Chaney will be leading lesson 3. 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.

**Commitment Sunday is November 10th** when we offer our financial and discipleship gifts to God for the upcoming year.

**The Think Tank will meet Monday, November 11 at 2:00 PM** in the session room.

**Wanted: Faithful Elders to share our Lord's Supper** with members who are not able to attend services. This is an opportunity to visit and share with other members by extending our Lord's Supper to all who want to be served and you may serve them any day of communion week. Training is provided for anyone interested in serving as part of First Presbyterian's **Extended Table**. Reach out to Nancy Davis (276-634-1403 or [davistwo@comcast.net](mailto:davistwo@comcast.net)) for more information on how you can serve others through this vital ministry.

**Handbell and Choir rehearsals are each Wednesday.** 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.

**Be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center** (various household items and toiletries) and **Grace Network (canned fruit)** (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

Anne Abercrombie, Sue Benfield, Jerry Bishop, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Bud Buffkin, Evelyn Cannaday, Bob Chapman, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Steve Edgerton, Marge Dunn, Teri Ferguson, Neill Ferrill (S. Ford), Martin Ford, Gary Francisco (Shanna King's father), Juanita Griffin (J & B Williams), Daniel Handy, Jennifer Holland (N. Davis), Dr. Mervyn King, Marvin Hudson, Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Maggie Pilson, Rusty Reaser, Susan Rosser, Becky Stone Sawyers (L. Pritchett), Dee Moore Smith, Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, C.J. Swinney (great-grandson of Pearl Minter), Bruce Thomas, Nathan Toms (A. Madonia), Carl Utley, Tammy Tucker Wardinski, 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.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### **Sunday, November 3 Communion Sunday/All Saints' Day**

9:00 AM            Sunday School  
10:00 AM            Worship in Sanctuary

### **Monday, November 4**

11:00 AM            PW Circle Meeting at King's Grant

### **Wednesday, November 6**

5:30 PM            Handbell Rehearsal ~ Session Room  
6:30 PM            Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary

### **Sunday, November 10 Commitment Sunday**

9:00 AM            Sunday School  
10:00 AM            Worship in Sanctuary

### **Monday, November 11**

2:00 PM            Think Tank Meeting

### **Wednesday, November 13**

5:30 PM            Handbell Rehearsal ~ Session Room  
6:30 PM            Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary

### **Saturday, November 16**

8:00-9:30 AM        Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM)

### **Sunday, November 17**

9:00 AM            Sunday School  
10:00 AM            Worship in Sanctuary

### **Wednesday, November 20**

5:30 PM            Handbell Rehearsal ~ Session Room  
6:30 PM            Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary

<b>DATE</b>	<b>LITURGIST</b>	<b>USHERS/GREETERS</b>
<b>November 3</b>	Nancy Moore	Joe and Jerri DeVault
<b>November 10</b>	Ron Rebman	Judy King, Monty Montgomery
<b>November 17</b>	Lynn Pritchett	Ron Rebman, Nancy Baker
<b>November 24</b>	Monty Montgomery	Monty and Joan Montgomery
<b>December 1</b>	Martha Rollins	Randy and Martha Rollins
<b>December 8</b>	Joe Williams	Billy and Sharon Kirby
<b>December 15</b>	Gale Buck	Neil Tatum, Betty Hudson
<b>December 22</b>	Sam Smith	Johnny and Ashby Pinkard
<b>December 24</b>	TBA	TBA
<b>December 29</b>	Joe DeVault	Monty Montgomery, Betty Hudson

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