

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2025

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



Fifth Sunday Musicfest

Our Mission

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

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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may
flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be
filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has
chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall
brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor

God of the future,

You are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

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

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

People: And also with you.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (Gloria Patri)

GTG#580/PH#579

***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.***

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

Pastor

ANTHEM

In the Bleak Midwinter
Chancel Choir

Brad Printz

*HYMN

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus
Public Domain

GTG 82

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Liturgist

Call to Offering

Offertory

***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-**

LITANY FOR ADVENT

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation, you order all things with strength and gentleness: Come now and teach us the way to salvation

Come, Lord Jesus.

O Adonai, Ruler of the house of Israel, you appeared in the burning bush to Moses and gave him the law on Sinai: Come with outstretched arm to save us.

Come, Lord Jesus.

O Root of Jesse, rising as a sign for all the peoples, before you earthly rulers will keep silent, and nations give you honor: Come quickly to deliver us.

Come, Lord Jesus.

O Key of David, Scepter over the house of Israel, you open and no one can close, you close and no one can open: Come to set free the prisoners who live in darkness and the shadow of death.

Come, Lord Jesus.

O Ruler of the nations, Monarch for whom the people long, you are the Cornerstone uniting all humanity: Come, save us all, whom you formed out of clay.

Come, Lord Jesus.

O Immanuel, our Sovereign and Lawgiver, desire of the nations and Savior of all: Come and save us, O Lord our God.

Come, Lord Jesus.

God of grace, ever faithful to your promises, the earth rejoices in hope of our Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes, for he is Lord forever and ever. **Amen.**

MUSIC

Have Thine Own Way
Marion Miller, piano

Gary Prim

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor

Sisters and brothers in Christ, for the sake of the world that God so loves, we pray together.

We pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

We pray for peace in every nation – that people will turn their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks and study war no more.

We pray for the peace of the church.

We pray for peace in Christ's body – put an end to fear and fighting, and help us to proclaim in word and action the good news of salvation for all.

We pray for the peace of this community.

We pray for peace in this place – for safety in our homes and streets, for the prosperity of our neighbors, and for the health of family and friends.

God of the future, make us ready for the coming of your reign, when you will bring everlasting peace and renew the face of the earth.

We pray as Jesus taught us to pray. Our father.....

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.

MUSIC

Angels We Have Heard on High
Lynn Pritchett, flute / Beth Chapman, piano

French Carol

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily:
to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant us to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus

So that together we may, with one voice, glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

J. Rankin / W. Tomer

POSTLUDE

One The Wings of a Dove
Barbara Duncan, guitar

Ferlin Husky

*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

We welcome and thank Beth Chapman as our guest accompanist this morning.



Join us today for a 2nd Cup. Come enjoy coffee and refreshments after the worship service each week. If you would like to help, please reach out to Gale and Christy Buck.

The Martinsville Handbell Ensemble will perform a Christmas concert **Saturday, December 6th at 4:00 PM** at the First United Methodist Church (146 East Main Street, Martinsville). Janet Fentress is a member of the ensemble. Still Water, Smith River Singers small group, will also perform.



Movie Matinee! Join us on Sunday, December 7th at 1:00 PM in the fellowship hall for a heartwarming Christmas movie. Pastor Bea's daughter, Kara, made her acting debut in this festive Rom-Com. Oh, and popcorn will be available.

Chancel Choir and Sanctuary Ringers rehearsals are Wednesdays (unless otherwise noted) in the Music Workshop room. Join the **Sanctuary Ringers rehearsals at 5:30 PM**, and the **Chancel Choir for rehearsal 6:30 PM**. Reach out to our Interim Music Director, Craig Campeau, if you are interested in joining either, or both choirs.

Be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (various household items and toiletries) and **Grace Network (Pork & Beans 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.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Friday 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM

PRAYER CONCERNS

Sue Benfield, Bud Buffkin, Anna Beth Burton (L. & D. Ferrell), Evelyn Cannaday, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Marge Dunn, Martin Ford, Marvin Hudson, Jamelle Waid Linker (Ed Linker's daughter-in-law), Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Leslie Naradikian (Marion Miller's daughter), Maggie Pilson, Rusty Reaser, Richard Komorowski (M&N Davis), 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, Jodi White (sister of P. Marshall/G. Chaney), persecuted Christians, military service men and women, missionaries, refugees and immigrants forced to flee their countries, and families and areas devastated by severe weather.

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS
November 30 Musicfest	No liturgist needed	Bob Wuestefeld, Barbara Duncan
December 7	Lynn Pritchett	Duke and Liz Ferrell
December 14	Ron Rebman	Randy and Martha Rollins
December 21	Martha Rollins	Billy and Sharon Kirby
December 24 Christmas Eve	Sam Smith	TBD
December 28	Sam Smith	Monty and Joan Montgomery

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

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, November 30

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

1st Sunday of Advent/5th Sunday Musicfest

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 3

5:30 PM

6:30 PM

Handbell Rehearsal

Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 6

4:00 PM

MHE at First United Methodist (146 E. Main St.)

Sunday, December 7

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

Communion/2nd Sunday of Advent

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

1:00 PM

Movie Matinee in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 10

5:30 PM

6:30 PM

Handbell Rehearsal

Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 14

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

3rd Sunday of Advent

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 17

5:30 PM

6:30 PM

Handbell Rehearsal

Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 21

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 24

5:00 PM

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service