

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2026

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



Musicfest Service

Our Mission

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

The Service for the Lord's Day
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE

Battle Hymn of the Republic

arr. M. Kimm

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Praise the Lord!

All: Praise God in his sanctuary; praise God in his mighty firmament!

One: Praise God for his mighty deeds; praise God according to his
surpassing greatness!

All: Praise God with trumpet sound;

One: Praise God with tambourine and dance;

All: Praise God with strings and pipe!

One: Praise God with clanging cymbals!

All: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

*OPENING HYMN

God of the Ages. Whose Almighty Hand

GTG 331

Public Domain

with Janet Fentress, handbells

God of the ages, whose almighty hand
leads forth in beauty all the starry band
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past.
In this free land by thee our lot is cast.
Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay:
thy word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
be thy strong arm our ever sure defense.
Thy true religion in our hearts increase.
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh thy people on their toilsome way.
Lead us from night to never-ending day.
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine..

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor

One: Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weakness,
since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin.

**All: Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace,
that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in our time of need.**

One: We confess our sins against God and our neighbor:

**All: 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 offences, 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 strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.**

Silent prayers of confession may be offered.

CONFSSIONAL RESPONSE

Kyrie

PH 572

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor

One: Hear the good news!

**All: Hope does not disappoint us, for God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism.**

One: Believe this good news and give thanks:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*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. (x2)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading:

Liturgist

Psalms 33:8-15

(OT pg.507)

My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing:
land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride,
from every mountainside let freedom ring.

My native country, thee, land of the noble free, thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills;
my heart with rapture thrills like that above.

Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song.
Let mortal tongues awake; let all that breathe partake;
let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing.
Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;
protect us by thy might, great God, our King.

INTRO

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies
Virginia King, violin ~ Lynn Pritchett, flute

arr. Buryl Red

HYMN

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies
Public Domain

GTG 338

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw;
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! May God thy gold refine
till all success be nobleness and every gain divine!

Second Reading:

Pastor

Proverbs 14:33-34

(OT pg.597)

1 Timothy 2:1-5

(NT pg.208)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Eternal Father, Strong to Save
Public Domain

GTG 8

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Savior, whose almighty word the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid its rage did sleep:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who did brood upon the chaos wild and rude,
and bade its angry tumult cease, and gave, for fierce confusion, peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, all travelers guard in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoe'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee glad praise from air and land and sea.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Pastor

One: We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba Father.

**All: In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally
in God's image, male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.**

One: But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

**All: Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and
ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death
to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.**

One: Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

**All: In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to
bless all families of the earth.**

One: Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

All: Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

One: Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to
welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

**All: 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. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER **(responsively)**

Pastor

As God's people, called to love one another, we pray for the needs of the church, the whole human family, and all the world, saying: Hear our prayer.

That churches of all traditions, may discover their unity in Christ and exercise their gifts in service of all, we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**

That the earth may be freed from war, famine, and disease, and the air, soil, and waters cleansed of poison, we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**

That those who govern and maintain peace in every land may exercise their powers in obedience to your commands, we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**

That you will strengthen this nation to pursue just priorities so that the races may be reconciled; the young, educated; and the old, cared for; the hungry, filled; and the homeless, housed; and the sick, comforted and healed, we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**

That you will preserve all who live and work in Martinsville in peace and safety, we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**

That you will comfort and empower those who face any difficulty or trial: the sick, the disabled, the poor, the oppressed, those who grieve and those in prison, we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**

That you will accept our thanksgiving for all faithful servants of Christ now at rest, who, with us, await a new heaven and a new earth, your everlasting kingdom, we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, as a potter fashions a vessel from humble clay, you form us into a new creation. Shape us, day by day, through the cross of Christ your Son, until we pray as continually as we breathe and all our acts are prayers; through Jesus Christ and in the mystery of the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us to pray:

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

Pastor

Call to Offering **(responsively)**

One: All that we seek to accomplish, all that we strive to achieve, all that we claim to possess – all of this amounts to nothing without the grace of Christ.

All: **We offer our lives to the Lord.**

Offertory

Early American Style
with Lynn Pritchett on flute

L. Smith

***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 THANKSGIVING

Pastor

One: God of compassion, we praise you that you look upon our frail lives with love and understanding, and that you desire for us all new life in Jesus Christ.

**All: We are overwhelmed by your love, which goes to the cross for us,
endures the grave, and leads us to new life.**

One: By your Spirit, strengthen our souls to be brave and bold in Christ's service.

**All: Take our offerings, and use them and us for your purposes,
in the name of Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord. -Amen-**

***SENDING HYMN**

This is My Song

GTG 340

Text Sts. 1-2 © 1934, 1962 The Lorenz Corporation. St. 3 © 1964 The Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Music Arr. © 1933, ren. 1961 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education. Used by permission of Westminster John Knox Press
One License #2244459,

This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine:
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:
thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations:
myself I give thee; let they will be done.

BENEDICTION

Pastor

One: Because God cares for us,

All: We will care for each other.

One: Because we are part of God's creation,

All: We will care for the earth.

One: Because we are loved by God,

All: We will share God's love with everyone.

One: May the steadfast love of God, the abundant grace of Jesus Christ,
and the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **-Amen-**

O say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bomb bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

O thus be it ever when free men shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!
Blest with victory and peace may the heaven rescued land
Praise the power that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto - "In God is our trust,"
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.



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 is hosted by Gale and Christy Buck.

The FPC Women's Circle Meeting is Monday, September 14th at King’s Grant at 11:00 AM. Our first lesson is, Unity in Christ, Wisdom from God in our study book *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other*, will be led by Janet Fentress. 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.



On Saturday, September 19th at 4:00 PM, the **KYIV Symphony Orchestra & Chorus** will present the *Greater Love Tour* at First United Methodist Church (146 E. Main St., Martinsville). The program features a blend of sacred classical music and traditional Ukrainian folk songs and brings a message of beauty, faith, and unwavering courage from the heart of Ukraine. The KSOC was founded and began performing

sacred masterpieces of classical music in 1993. Sacred music pieces—including Handel’s Messiah, Brahms’ Requiem, and Mendelssohn’s Elijah—were banned under Communist rule. As the Iron Curtain lifted and this music became known to Ukrainian musicians, they described it as “an explosion of light.” The gospel lives and breathes in the powerful pieces of music they share. It is their greatest joy to proclaim its message of hope, peace, and salvation through their musicians to the world. Admission is free. A love offering will be taken as part of the concert.

When you do your grocery shopping be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (various household items and toiletries) and **Grace Network** (Juice 40-64 Oz). 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.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Barbara Adams (Patsy Stanley), Ernest Bremner, Evelyn Cannaday, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), Bob Davis, Marge Dunn, Sandra Ford, Michelle Handy (Pearl Minter’s daughter), Randy Lawson (P. Stanley), Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Marion Miller, Maggie Pilson, Ann Reaser, 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, August 30

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

Fifth Sunday Musicfest

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 6

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

Communion

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 7

Labor Day - Office closed

Tuesday, September 8

9:00 AM

Cooks Who Care

Tuesday –Friday

Weekday School

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

School in Session

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Lunch Buddies

Sunday, September 13

9:00 AM

Sunday School

10:00 AM

Worship in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 14

11:00 AM

Presbyterian Women's Circle Meeting at KG

Saturday, September 19

8:00-9:30 AM

Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM)

Sunday, September 20

9:00 AM

Sunday School

10:00 AM

Worship in Sanctuary

~Lemonade on the Lawn

Sunday, September 27

2-Cents a Meal Offering

9:00 AM

Sunday School

10:00 AM

Worship in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 28

4:00 PM

Session Meeting

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS	2ND CUP
August 30	Janet Fentress	Billy and Sharon Kirby	Gale and Christy Buck
September 6	Cindy Edgerton	Monty and Joan Montgomery	Joe and Brenda Williams
September 13	Duke Ferrell	Johnny and Ashby Pinkard	Janet Fentress, Judy King
September 20	Liz Ferrell	Ron Rebman, Judy King	<i>Lemonade on the Lawn</i>
September 27	Billy Kirby	Bob Wuetefeld, Barbara Duncan	Milt and Nancy Davis

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

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



Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

CLOSED on Friday

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