

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue  
Martinsville, Virginia

*Transfiguration of the Lord*  
February 15, 2026

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation



**Sermon based upon Matthew 4:12-23 and Isaiah 9:1-4**

## Our Mission

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

The Service for the Lord's Day  
*Transfiguration of the Lord*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

One: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
All: **The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**  
One: One thing I asked of the Lord, that I will seek after:  
All: **To live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

\*OPENING HYMN

*This Is My Father's World*

Public Domain

GTG 370

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,  
his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world. O, let me ne'er forget  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world. The battle is not done:  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,  
and earth and heaven be one.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor

**Holy One, in your presence we confess our captivity to sin and our resistance to your way. You have chosen what is foolish to shame the wisdom of this world, but we boast in our knowledge and ignore the insights of others. You have chosen what is weak to shame the powers of this world, but we boast in our own strength and refuse the gifts of others. You have chosen what is despised to shame the values of this world, but we boast in our merits and reject the worth of others. Forgive us, Holy One. Renew and reshape our lives with the message of the cross. Teach us to boast in nothing but the crucified and risen one: Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*Silent prayers of confession may be offered.*

CONFESSORIAL 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

*Isaiah 9:1-4* (OT pg. 638)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES Pastor

MEDITATIVE HYMN *Spirit of the Living God* GTG 288

Daniel Iverson © Words: 1935 CCLI License #2244459

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

*(repeat once)*

Second Reading: Pastor

*Matthew 4:12-23* (NT pg. 3)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All:** *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON Elder Monica Stevens

\*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 God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church.**

**The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.**

**In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

**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 be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE**

*Here in This Place (Gather Us In)*

**GTG 401**

Marty Haugen (1979) © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc.

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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.

**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.**

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Liturgist

Call to Offering

Offertory

\*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-

Prayer of Dedication

Liturgist

\*SENDING HYMN

*O for a World*

GTG 372

Text: Miriam T. Winter @ 1990 Medical Mission Sisters from the Presbyterian hymnal *Glory to God*; Music: Public Domain

O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,  
where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,  
where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice  
that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise.  
Tell all who mourn; outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,  
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor

POSTLUDE

\*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 a 2nd Cup.** Come enjoy coffee and refreshments in the fellowship hall after the worship service. Susan and Joe Smith will be keeping the coffee hot for you.



**The FPC Presbyterian Women** will be packing cookie boxes for college students after church **TODAY** in the session room.



**Ash Wednesday is February 18th.** We will have a service with the imposition of ashes at noon in the sanctuary followed by a light meal in the fellowship hall downstairs.



**The Community Breakfast is Saturday, February 21st,** serving from 8:00 - 9:30. Cooking begins promptly at 7:00. Please contact **Mary Linker** at **919-548-2352** (text or call) if you're interested in volunteering for Saturday or set-up on Friday.

**The next Presbytery meeting is Saturday, February 21st** on ZOOM. Registration opens at 8:30 AM. Meeting begins at 9:00 AM. Adjournment estimated as 11:00 AM. dependent upon completion of business before the body. Here's the link to register: <https://www.peakspresbytery.org/new-presbytery-meeting-information/>

**The Session will next meet on Monday, February 23rd** at 4:00 PM in the session room.

**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:

**February 26th** – Calvary Christian Church (515 Mulberry Road)

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

**March 12th** – First Presbyterian Church

**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!

Rise Against Hunger excitement is building, and we invite all of you to **register online** for this years' experience **on Saturday March 7, 2026.**

**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** (10-12), 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!**

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## PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Frances Bledsoe, 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.

## 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

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS	2ND CUP
February 15	Cindy Edgerton	Billy and Sharon Kirby	Susan and Joe Smith
February 22	Janet Fentress	Monty and Joan Montgomery	Ashby and Lynn Pritchett
March 1	Duke Ferrell	Johnny and Ashby Pinkard	Janet Fentress
March 8	Liz Ferrell	Ron Rebman, Judy King	Cindy and Steve Edgerton
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.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### **Sunday, February 15**

9:00 AM Sunday School  
10:00 AM Worship in Sanctuary  
~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

### **Monday –Friday**

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM School in Session  
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Lunch Buddies

### **Wednesday, February 18**

12 Noon Ash Wednesday Service  
~Lunch in Fellowship Hall

### **Saturday, February 21**

8:00-9:30 AM Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM)  
9:00 AM Presbytery Meeting on ZOOM

### **Sunday, February 22**

9:00 AM Sunday School  
10:00 AM Worship in Sanctuary  
~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

### **Monday, February 23**

4:00 PM Session Meeting

### **Wednesday, February 25**

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

### **Thursday, February 26**

NOON

### **Sunday, March 1**

9:00 AM Sunday School  
10:00 AM Worship in Sanctuary  
~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

### **Wednesday, March 4**

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

### **Thursday, March 5**

NOON

### **Saturday, March 7**

10:00 AM

### **Sunday, March 8**

9:00 AM Sunday School  
10:00 AM Worship in Sanctuary  
~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

### **Tuesday, March 10**

9:00 AM Cooks Who Care

### **Wednesday, March 11**

2:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting  
5:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal ~ Session Room  
6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary

### **Thursday, March 12**

NOON Lenten Lunch @ First Presbyterian Martinsville