

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 22, 2026

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



Sermon based upon John 11:1-45 and Psalm 130

Our Mission

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

The Service for the Lord's Day
Fifth Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE *Healer of Our Every Ill* setting Franklin D. Ashdown

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor

MINUTE FOR MISSION Billy Kirby, Administration

*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

One: O people, hope in the Lord.

All: **With the Lord there is steadfast love and great power to redeem.
We worship the One who saves us all!**

*OPENING HYMN *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* GTG 435
Public Domain

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's word;
And our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Pastor

God of mercy,

You sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves as pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth.

Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Silent prayers of confession may be offered.

CONFESSIOAL 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. (x2)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Liturgist

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: Liturgist

Psalm 130 (OT pg. 573)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES Pastor

CHOIR ANTHEM *There is a Balm in Gilead* Arr. Robert Lau
Chancel Choir

Second Reading: Pastor

John 11:1-45 (NT pg. 104)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Pastor

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast; that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE *If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee* GTG 816
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If thou but trust in God to guide thee, with hopeful heart through all thy ways,
God will give strength, whate'er betide thee, to bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love builds on the rock that nought can move.

Only be still, and wait God's leisure in cheerful hope, with heart content
to take whate'er thy Keeper's pleasure and all-discerning love hath sent.
No doubt our inmost wants are clear to One who holds us always dear.

Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways, but do thine own part faithfully.
Trust the rich promises of grace; so shall they be fulfilled in thee.
God never yet forsook at need the soul secured by trust indeed.

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

Choral Dorien

J. Alain

***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**

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

GTG 418

Public Domain

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me.

See, on the portals he's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me.

Refrain:

"Come home, come home!

You who are weary, come home."

*Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, "O sinner, come home!"*

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me?

Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me? [Refrain]

O for the wonderful love he has promised, promised for you and for me!

Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me. [Refrain]

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Pastor

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Awake O Sleeper Rise from Death

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POSTLUDE

O Love, How Deep

arr. Kristina Langlois

*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



2¢'s a Meal Offering will be taken today. Your gift helps to alleviate hunger and poverty locally and around the world. Please use the provided envelopes. Thanks for your offering.



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 Lone and Mary Linker. We look forward to seeing you there.

Please join us for the final *Community Lenten Lunch* on **March 26th at noon** at Chatham Heights Baptist Church (1235 Chatham Heights Road). A light meal will be served followed by a short devotional.



Church Clean-Up Day, Saturday, March 28th beginning at 8:00 AM. All able-bodied folk, any age, are invited to come help spruce up the church before Easter Sunday. Come when you can, for as long as you can. Reach out to Johnny Pinkard, David Price, or Dru Rothrock for more information.

Brushstrokes and Fellowship~ On Saturday, March 28th at 10:00 AM local artist, Karen Conner, will guide you step by step in painting a beautiful Bunny Rabbit. No experience needed. The cost is \$25 and includes all supplies. Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be provided. **Space is limited** so reserve your spot now by contacting Susan Pilson (276-340-7288 or susanpilson@gmail.com)



Palm Sunday Service in the Park - March 29th at 9:00 AM at J. Frank Wilson Memorial Park (E Church St Ext.) A potluck brunch will follow the service in our fellowship hall. In the event of rain, the park service will move to the FPC sanctuary.



Our Maundy Thursday/Tenebrae Service is Thursday, April 2nd and will begin with a potluck dinner at 6:00 PM. At 7:00 PM we will move to the sanctuary for the service.

When you do your grocery shopping be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (various household items and toiletries) and **Grace Network (Creamed Corn – 15 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

William W. Regen Family, Barbara Adams (Patsy Stanley) 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.

CHURCH CALENDAR

<p>Sunday, March 22 9:00 AM 10:00 AM</p> <p>Monday –Friday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM</p> <p>Monday, March 23 4:00 PM</p> <p>Wednesday, March 25 5:30 PM 6:30 PM</p> <p>Thursday, March 26 NOON</p> <p>Saturday, March 28 8:00 AM 10:00 AM</p> <p>Sunday, March 29 9:00 AM</p>	<p>5th Sunday in Lent Sunday School Worship in Sanctuary ~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Weekday School School in Session Lunch Buddies</p> <p>Session Meeting</p> <p>Handbell Rehearsal Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>Lenten Lunch @ Chatham Heights Baptist (1235 Chatham Hts. Rd)</p> <p>Church Workday/Clean-up for Easter Paint Class in Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Palm Sunday Service at J. Frank Wilson Memorial Park (inclement weather location is FPC sanctuary) ~Pot-luck Brunch in Fellowship Hall</p>
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DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS	2ND CUP
March 22	Sharon Kirby	Joe and Jerri DeVault	Ione and Mary Linker
March 29	Palm Sunday in Park	Bob Wuetefeld, Barbara Duncan	No 2nd Cup
April 5 Easter	Taylor Shank	Duke and Liz Ferrell	Joe and Susan Smith
April 12	Joe DeVault	Randy and Martha Rollins	Joe and Brenda Williams
April 19	Barbara Duncan	Billy and Sharon Kirby	Ione and Mary Linker
April 26	Martha Rollins	Monty and Joan Montgomery	Gale and Christy Buck

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

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