

First Presbyterian Church of Martinsville



August 16, 2026

Worship 10:00 am

www.fpcmartinsville.org



The Worship of God
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



Gathering

The Call of the Carillon

Let the carillon bells invite us into the sanctuary, where we prepare our hearts in silence to worship the Living God.

Prelude

Fancy

Thomas Tomkins

Preparing to Hear the Word

Welcome

Rev. John Erickson

Remembering Our Baptisms

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Margie Porter

Come, let us worship the God whose mercy is wider than our understanding.

We come with open hearts, ready to receive the grace of God.

Come, let us worship the God who hears the cries of those who are often overlooked.

We come to listen for the voices we have too often failed to hear.

Come, let us worship the Christ who calls us beyond the boundaries we have drawn.

We come ready to have our hearts enlarged and our faith transformed.

Come, let us worship the God whose love welcomes us all.

With humility, hope, and gratitude, we come to worship.

♦ **Hymn**

Here in This Place

(see insert) 401

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

we confess that we too often decide who belongs
and who does not.

**We draw lines between “us” and “them,”
between those we understand and those we fear,
between those we think deserve your grace
and those we would rather keep at a distance.**

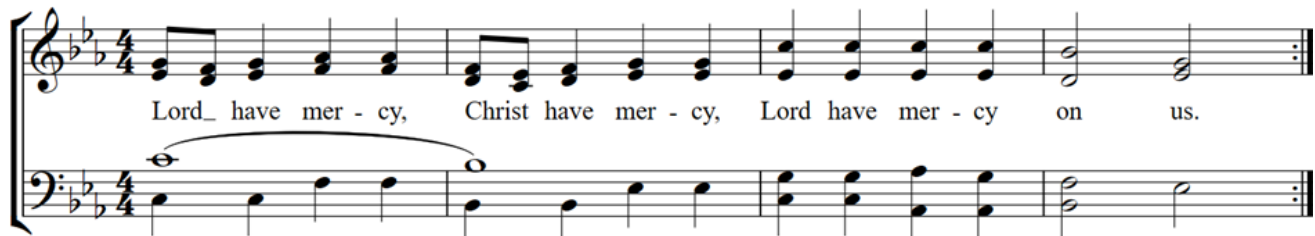
Forgive us when our hearts become narrow
and our compassion grows small.

**Give us the humility to listen,
the courage to be changed,
and the grace to see your image
in every person you place before us.**

**Teach us to trust that your mercy
is greater than our boundaries
and your love wider than our understanding.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Slent Prayer

Kyrie



Lord_ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy on us.

WORDS: Kyrie eleison
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1982

DOMINE DEUS

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news:

God's mercy is not limited by the boundaries we create.
God's grace reaches farther than our understanding, and
God's love is offered freely to all.

We receive that grace with humble and grateful hearts.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and welcomed into the fullness of God's love.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

- ♦ **Gloria Patri** *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;* 579
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

The Word

Prayer for Illumination

Margie Porter

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 130
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Pew Bible: OT p.542

Special Music

O God Beyond All Praising

Gustav Holst

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 15:21-28
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Pew Bible: NT p.16

Children's Message

Lynette Liberge

Sermon

Rev. John Erickson



Responding to the Word

♦ Hymn

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

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♦ Affirmation of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.

Gathering of Tithes and Offering

Offertory

♦ Doxology

*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

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Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Sending

♦ Hymn

In Christ There Is No East or West

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Benediction

Benediction Response

Lead Me Lord

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy right-eous-ness, make Thy way plain be - fore my face.

For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord, On - ly that mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Lead Me Lord'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system has the lyrics 'Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy right-eous-ness, make Thy way plain be - fore my face.' The second system has the lyrics 'For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord, On - ly that mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.' The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system begins with a fermata over the first measure.

WORDS: Psalms 5:8, 4:8
MUSIC: Samuel S. Wesley, 1861

LEAD ME, LORD

Postlude

Fugue in D minor, BWV 554, ii

Johann Sebastian Bach

(During the postlude, you are invited to remain seated.)

♦ All who are able, please stand



The Rev. John Erickson, Pastor
Elijah Buerk Music Director / Organist
Anderson Hartman / Media Director