

First Presbyterian Church of Martinsville



August 30, 2026

Worship 10:00 am

www.fpcmartinsville.org



The Worship of God
Fourteenth 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

Fugue No. 2 in G major, Op. 37

Felix Mendelssohn

Preparing to Hear the Word

Welcome

Rev. John Erickson

Remembering Our Baptisms

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Susie Goldsboro

Come, let us worship the God whose grace has called us into new life.

We come with grateful hearts, trusting in the grace of God.

Come, let us practice the way of Christ—a way of love, mercy, forgiveness, and peace.

Teach us to love genuinely, to honor one another, and to serve our neighbors.

Come, even when the way is difficult. Come, even when our hearts are uncertain. Come, even when we have failed.

We come because God's grace meets us where we are and calls us to begin again.

Let us worship the God who does not give up on us, but patiently forms us in the way of love.

With open hearts and willing spirits, we come to worship. Amen.

♦ Hymn

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

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Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

you have called us to a way of love,
but we confess that we often choose the easier way.

We love when it is convenient.

We forgive when we think someone deserves it.

We welcome those who are like us

and sometimes turn away from those who are different.

We repay hurt with hurt,

hold tightly to our resentments,

and allow the actions of others to determine the people we become.

Forgive us, O God.

Teach us again the way of Christ.

Give us courage to love our enemies,

patience to bear with one another,

generosity toward those in need,

and compassion for those who are hurting.

When we fail, remind us that your grace has not failed.

Help us to practice the way of love,

not to earn your grace,

but because your grace has already found us.

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 grace is not something we earn through perfect discipleship. It is a gift freely given, and it meets us even in our failures.

In Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and invited to begin again.

So let us not be overcome by our failures, but return again to the way of Christ—trusting the grace of God and practicing the way of 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

Susie Goldsboro

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 27:1-5, 13-14
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Pew Bible: OT p.476

Special Music

God, Our Help and Constant Refuge
(The text is that of that of hymn 192)

Herbert Howells

Second Scripture Reading

Romans 12:9-21
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Pew Bible: NT p.151

Children's Message

Eric Hooker

Sermon

Rev. John Erickson



Responding to the Word

♦ Hymn

Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace

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♦ Affirmation of Faith

As citizens we acknowledge
the Spirit's work in human government
for the welfare of the people,
for justice among the poor,
for mercy toward the prisoner,
against inhuman oppression of humanity.
We must obey God above all rulers,
waiting upon the Spirit,
filled with the patience of Christ.
We pray for the fruits of the Spirit of Christ
who works for peace on earth,
commands us to love our enemies,
and calls for patience among the nations.

We give thanks for God's work among governments,
seeking to resolve disputes by means other than war,
placing human kindness above national pride,
replacing the curse of war with international self-control.
We hear the Spirit's call to love one another
opposing discrimination of race or sex,
inviting us to accept one another,
and to share at every level
in work and play,
in church and state,
in marriage and family,
and so fulfill the love of Christ.

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

Song of Hope

432

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.

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

LEAD ME, LORD

Postlude

Fugue in F major, BuxWV 157

Dieterich Buxtehude

(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