

First Presbyterian Church of Martinsville



December 28, 2025

Worship 10:00 am

www.fpcmartinsville.org



The Worship of God

First Sunday of Christmas



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

What Child Is This

arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

Preparing to Hear the Word

Welcome

Rev. Tim Jessen

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Addison Massey-Deckard

In the quiet days after Christmas,
when the songs fade and the decorations rest,

God is still with us—dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.

The Word has become flesh and made a home among ordinary people,
in families, in questions, in growth, and in daily life.

Come, all who seek wisdom,
all who wonder what it means to grow in faith,

**We come to worship the God who meets us where we are
and calls us still to become more.**

Let us worship God.

♦ Hymn

The First Nowell

(verses 3-6) 56

Prayer of Confession

God of light and truth,
you came among us in human form,
yet too often we fail to recognize you.

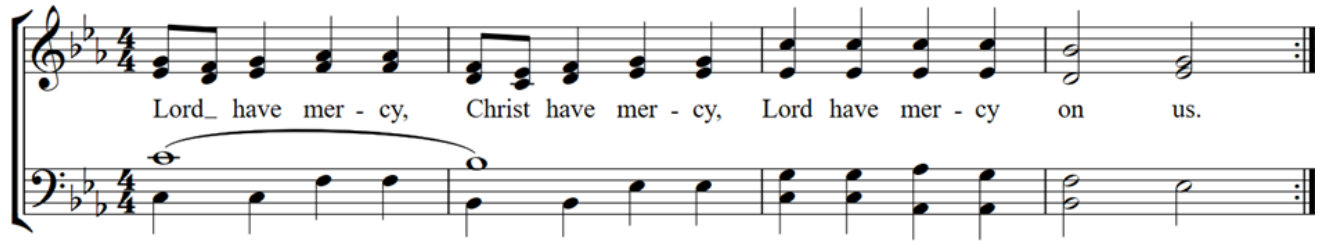
We confess that we rush past your presence
in the ordinary moments of our lives.
We cling to certainty when you invite us into trust.
We resist growth when it asks us to change.
We seek comfort more than compassion
and familiarity more than faithfulness.

Forgive us when we lose sight of your wisdom,
when we neglect the work of justice and mercy,
and when we forget that faith is something we must grow into.

Renew us by your grace,
and shape us again by the life of Christ,
in whose name we pray.
Amen.

Silent 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:
The Word became flesh and lived among us,
full of grace and truth.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and invited anew
into lives shaped by God's love.

Believe the good news.
In Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

♦ Gloria Patri

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*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
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

Addison Massey-Deckard

First Scripture Reading

Leviticus 19:33-34
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Pew Bible: OT p.103

Special Music

Maria Walks Amid The Thorn

arr. Robert J. Powell

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:7-23
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Pew Bible: NT p.2

Children's Message

Mike Marvel

Sermon

The Other Side of Christmas

Rev. Tim Jessen



Responding to the Word

♦ Hymn

Jesus Entered Egypt

(insert) 154

♦ The Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
and in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried;
He descended to the dead; On the third day he rose from the dead,
He ascended into heaven, where he is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty,
He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church,
The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

We Three Kings of Orient Are

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Benediction

Benediction Response

Lead Me Lord

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy right-ous-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.

LEAD ME, LORD

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

Postlude

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

O Come, All Ye Faithful

John F. Wade (arr. Ruth Elaine Schram)

♦ All who are able, please stand



Rev. John Erickson, Pastor
Elijah Buerk, Music Director / Organist
Steve Ward, Media Director