

First Presbyterian Church
of Martinsville



March 15, 2026

Worship 10:00 am

www.fpcmartinsville.org



The Worship of God

Fourth Sunday in Lent



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

Out From the Depths I Cry to You

Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

Preparing to Hear the Word

Welcome

Rev. John Erickson

Remembering the Saints

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Mary Sipla

Come, all who thirst, come to the Living water. Drink and be filled.

We come seeking the presence of Christ whose word fills us with light and life.

Come, all who long for healing, hope, and new life.

We come longing to hear the word of our Lord and to follow where leads.

Jesus speaks life where there is fear and hope where there is despair.

For the light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot over come it.

Let us worship the One whose word brings life.

Let us worship God.

◆ Hymn

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

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Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

You speak words of life and promise,
yet we confess how often we struggle to trust you.

Like the crowds in Galilee,
we look for signs and proofs
before we are willing to believe.

We worry and strive to control what we cannot control.

We carry fear for ourselves and those we love.

Too often we trust our anxieties more than your grace.

Forgive us, O God.

Teach us to trust the life-giving word of Christ.

Help us walk forward in faith,

even when we cannot see where we are going.

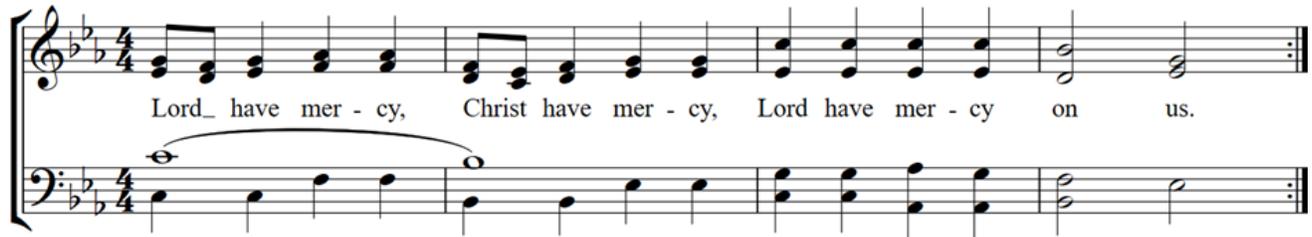
Strengthen our hearts to believe your promises,

and make our households places where faith, hope, and love grow.

We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Silent Prayer

Kyrie



WORDS: Kyrie eleison
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1982

DOMINE DEUS

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news:

God's grace is already at work before we even know or understand it.
In Jesus Christ, the word of life has been spoken over us.

Our sins are forgiven,
our hope is renewed,
and we are invited to walk forward in faith.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

◆ Gloria Patri

579

*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

Mary Sipla

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 23

Pew Bible: NT p.474

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

Special Music

Sentite de Domino

Carlotta Ferrari

Special Text: Sentite de Domino in bonitate, et in simplicitate cordis quærite illum.
("Think of the Lord in goodness, and seek him in simplicity of heart.")

Children's Message

Rev. John Erickson

Celebrating the Saints

Rev. John Erickson



Responding to the Word

◆ Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This

85

◆ 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

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

438

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

I Have Placed All My Affairs in God's Hands

Ernst Pepping

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

◆ All who are able, please stand



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