

First Presbyterian Church of Martinsville



November 10, 2024


Worship 10:00 am

www.fpcmartinsville.org



The Worship of God

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost



Gathering

The Call of the Carillon

May the carillon bells call us to gather in the sanctuary, entering into a time of silent preparation to encounter the Living God.

Prelude

Preparing to Hear the Word

Welcome

Rev. John Erickson

Remembering our Baptisms

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Eric Hooker

Can you imagine unfettered love?

Free and bold, wild and true, the kind of love that changes you?

Can you imagine a home—safe and bright,

With impromptu dancing, meals around table, and laughter late into the night?

Can you imagine faith like a compass

That guides the way you shop and vote, the way you love and hope;

That asks questions and yet still believes, even despite uncertainty?

Can you imagine a world where trees, bees, and all living things grow wild and free?

Where peace is the narrative and hope the currency?

A world where news stories are testimonies and funerals are far between?

Can you imagine?

Yes, we can imagine.

Today in worship, dare to dream. Dare to imagine what could be.

And pay attention, for God is here, in wandering thoughts, hopes, and prayers.

Let us worship holy God, that great unfettered love.

♦ **Hymn**

Come Christians, Join to Sing

150

Prayer of Confession

God of Grace,

You invite us to dream of a better world,

But instead we bury our heads in the sand.

We are afraid to recognize how much must change.

We are afraid, because if we know the truth, then don't we have a job to do?



So instead, more often than not, we maintain the status quo.

We passively allow things to stay the same.

We don't speak out; we don't imagine a new day.

We don't dream of a world without racism, sexism, bigotry, or shame.

Instead we allow ourselves to believe that some things will never change.

Forgive us. Show us the way. Teach us to dream.

Teach us to imagine again.

Humbly 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

♦ 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

Eric Hooker

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 66: 17-24

Pew Bible: OT p. 655

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

Special Music

God So Loved the World

John Stainer

Cecelia Fornuto, Kathleen Simunek, Asher Ramaly, and Ethan Sanchez

Second Scripture Reading

Mark 12: 38-44

Pew Bible: NT p. 46

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

Children's Message

Lynette Liberge

Sermon

Rev. John Erickson

Responding to the Word

♦ Hymn *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* 281

♦ Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God the Creator,
who, like a painter with a canvas,
imagined creation and breathed it into being.

We believe in Jesus,
who many years later,
walked this hurting world and showed us a new way to love.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who prods us and pulls us,
leads us and guides us, carries us and loves us into new life, day after day.

And we believe in the power of imagination,
a gift from God that allows us to dream dreams,
create anew, start over, try again, and live lives of hope.

So in response, together, as God's church,
We dare to dream.

We strive to love.

We try to imagine a new day.

And we walk together,

All with God's help.

Amen.

Call for the 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.

592

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Sending

♦ Hymn *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love* 367

Benediction

Benediction Response

Lead Me Lord

insert

Postlude

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

♦ *All who are able, please stand*

Rev. John Erickson, Pastor
Betsy Baugh, Pianist
Steve Ward, Media Director