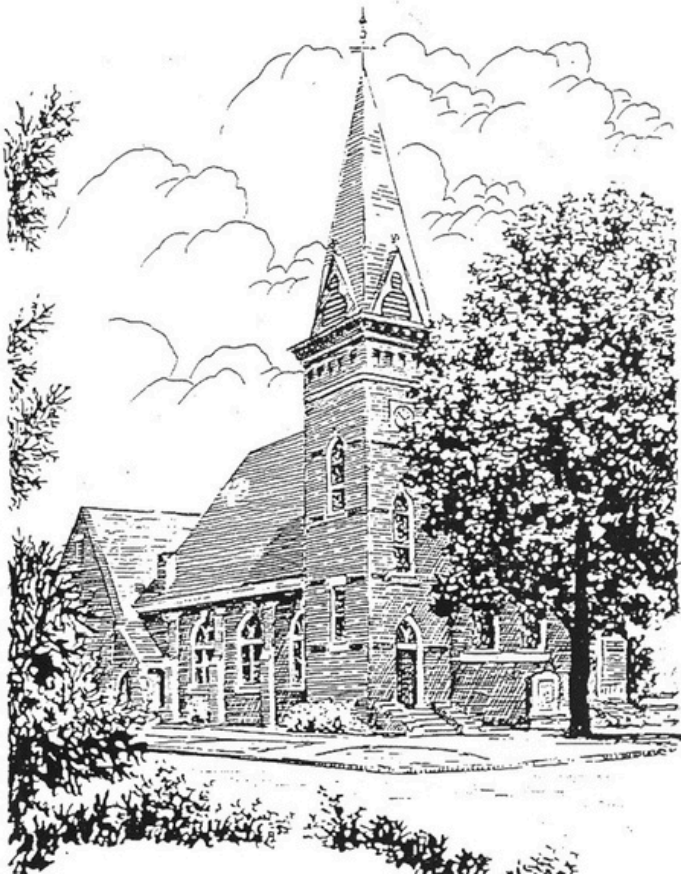
First Presbyterian Church of Martinsville



November 15, 2026

Worship 10:00 am

www.fpcmartinsville.org

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

The Worship of God
Twenty-Fifth 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 *At Morning Light* Thomas Tallis

Preparing to Hear the Word

Welcome Rev. John Erickson

Remembering Our Baptisms

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship Suzi Horan

This is the day the Lord has made!
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
God has filled our lives with gifts beyond measure, with opportunities to love, to serve, and to grow.
Let us receive those gifts with gratitude and use them with joy!
We are called to live with courage, to act with generosity, and to trust in the abundance of God's grace.
We will not let fear, bury our hope or hide our gifts!
Come, then, people of God! There is work to be done, love to be shared, and a world waiting for good news!
With grateful hearts and willing hands, let us worship God!

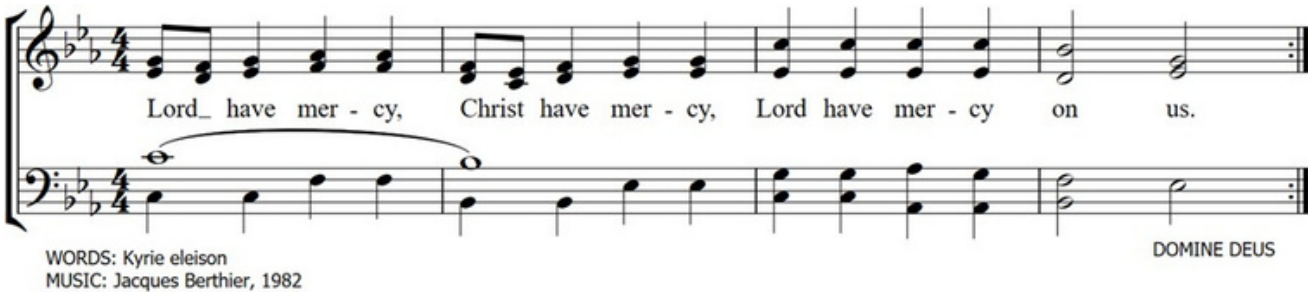
♦ **Hymn** *Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above* 483

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and generous God,
You have entrusted us with gifts beyond measure: the gift of life, the gift of love, the gift of one another, and the countless opportunities to make your goodness known.
Yet too often we allow fear to guide our decisions. We cling to what we have rather than sharing it freely. We bury our gifts beneath doubt and uncertainty, afraid to take risks, afraid to fail, afraid that there will not be enough.
Forgive us when we mistake caution for faithfulness, when we choose comfort over compassion, and when we forget that everything we have comes from you.
Awaken in us the courage to live generously, the wisdom to use what you have entrusted to us, and the faith to trust in your abundant grace.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Kyrie



Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear the good news!
God's grace is not a treasure to be hoarded, nor is God's love a reward we must earn. In Jesus Christ, we are met with mercy, welcomed with joy, and given the freedom to begin again. So do not be afraid! Live boldly, love generously, and trust in the goodness of God.

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

♦ ***GloriaPatri*** *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. *579*

Passing of the Peace

The Word

Prayer for Illumination Suzi Horan

First Scripture Reading Psalm 34:1-8 Pew Bible: OT p.480
This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Special Music *Dear Lord and Father of mankind* C. Hubert H. Parry

Second Scripture Reading Matthew 25:14-30 Pew Bible: NT p.27
This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Children's Message Anita Wolfe

Sermon Rev. John Erickson

♦ **Hymn** *Here I Am, Lord* 525

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

The spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love
God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the church.
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.
In a broken and fearful world the Spirit
gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ
as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in church and
culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long
silenced,
and to work with others for justice,
freedom, and peace.

-A Brief Statement of Faith

Gathering of Tithes and Offering

Offertory

♦ Doxology 592

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.

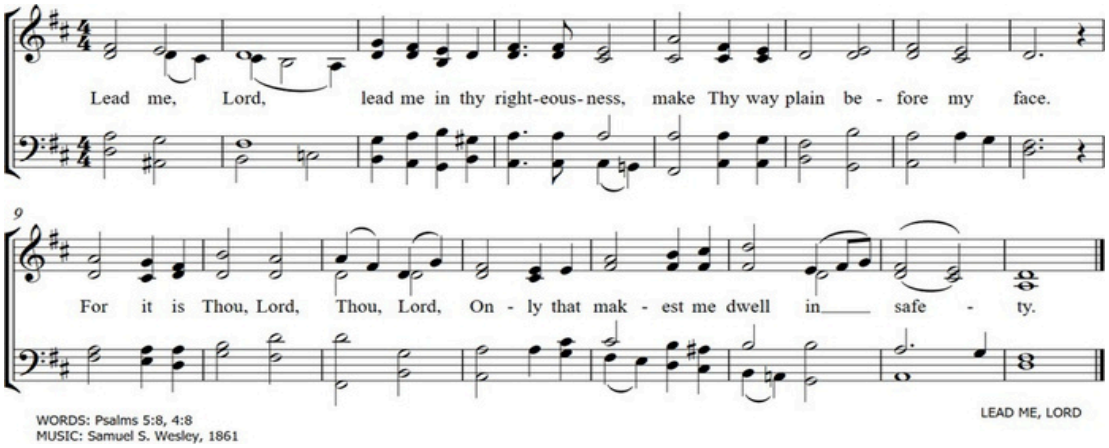
Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Sending

♦ **Hymn** *All Beautiful the March of Days* 292

Benediction

Benediction Response *Lead Me Lord*



Postlude *"Improvisation on All Beautiful the March of Days"*

(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



Special: Dear Lord and Father of mankind - C. Hubert H. Parry

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise;
in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word,
rise up and follow thee;
rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity
interpreted by love!
interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace;
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm;
O still, small voice of calm.