

First Presbyterian Church of Martinsville



September 20, 2026

Worship 10:00 am

www.fpcmartinsville.org



The Worship of God

Seventeenth 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

Prélude Op. 31, No. 5

Louis Vierne

Preparing to Hear the Word

Welcome

Rev. John Erickson

Remembering Our Baptisms

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Doug Bryant

Come, for the Lord is good, and mercy is never in short supply.

For the Lord gives bread from heaven, enough for all who gather.

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Come, then, let us give thanks for what God has given and worship the Lord whose generosity has no measure.

♦ Hymn

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

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Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

We confess that we are often more concerned with what others receive than with what you have given us.

We grumble when your mercy reaches people we think have not earned it.

We keep score when you give without counting.

We complain about the manna in our hands because someone else has received the same portion.

Forgive us when we forget that your gifts are not wages to be measured, but grace to be received.

Forgive our envy, our resentment, and our desire to decide who is worthy of your kindness. When we are like Jonah, angry that you have shown mercy, or like the workers who resent the generosity of the landowner, turn our hearts again to ward your abundance.

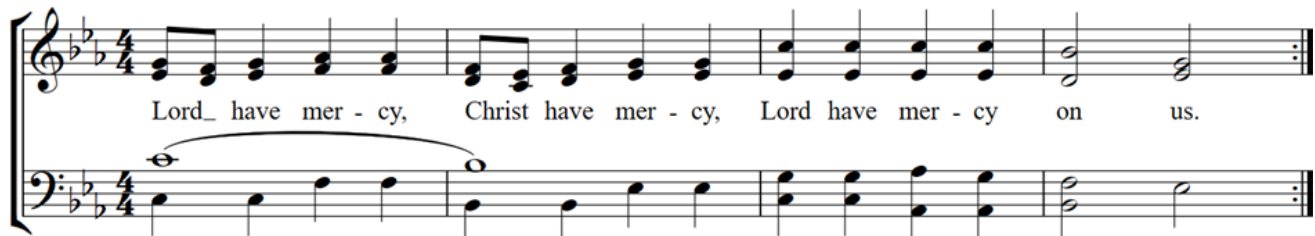
Teach us to trust that there is enough: enough bread for today, enough mercy for every sinner, enough love for every neighbor, and enough grace even for those we would rather leave outside.

We ask this through Christ, whose grace is given freely and whose table has room for all.

In your loving name we pray. 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:

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The God who gave manna in the wilderness, who spared Nineveh, and who paid the last worker the same generous wage as the first does not give grace according to our generosity.

God's mercy is greater than our deserving and there is enough grace for all.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free to live lives of love.

Thanks be to God.

- ♦ **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

Doug Bryant

First Scripture Reading

Psalms 145:1-9

Pew Bible: OT p.548

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

Special Music

Jesus, Priceless Treasure
(The text is that of hymn 365)

Johann Sebastian Bach

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 20:1-15

Pew Bible: NT p.20

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

Children's Message

Sermon

Rev. John Erickson



Responding to the Word

♦ Hymn

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

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♦ Affirmation of Faith

We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.

We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of
God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
-Romans 8

Gathering of Tithes and Offering

Offertory

♦ Doxology

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*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

Be Thou My Vision

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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

Unter der Linden grüne

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

(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