

A Service of Worship

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023

11:00 a.m.

As we enter sacred space for worship, quiet your heart and mind, centering your thoughts on God's presence among us.

Gathering for Worship

Prelude *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* arr. Diemer
Baxter Jennings, organ

Welcome Rev. Dr. Libby Grammer

Gideon Presentation Jerry Perdue

Special Recognition Dr. Grammer
Marsha Frith, Personnel Co-Chair

Choral Call to Worship Sanctuary Choir
Let Us, with a Gladsome Mind Milton/Wilkes

Invocation & Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

*Hymn 492 *I Will Sing of My Redeemer* HYFRYDOL

Hearing the Scriptures

Reader's Theatre Gospel Lesson Matthew 18:21-35
Bill Sapp, David Cameron, William Underwood

Children's Worship Pastor Caroline
*After children's worship, children age 5 and under are invited to
join our nursery workers for age-appropriate children's church.*

Committing Our Lives

*Hymn 507 *I Then Shall Live* FINLANDIA

*Please stand as you are able

Prayer of Commitment

Dr. Grammer

*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**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. Amen.**

Engaging the Scriptures

Anthem *A Jubilant Song* Pote

Sermon *The Measure of Forgiveness* Dr. Grammer

Responding to God

*Song of Response
Hymn 593 *The Gift of Love* GIFT OF LOVE

*Benediction Dr. Grammer

*Response *Grace, Love, and Peace Abide* Brown/Sims

Postlude *Ode to Joy* arr. Hegarty

***This is the season after Pentecost in the Christian year.** Having celebrated the "birthday of the church" through the giving of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, we enter the Season after Pentecost for 24 weeks, to celebrate the existence of the church and recall her mission in the world. The liturgical color for the season is green, symbolic of the church's growth and mission.*

Worship is Live Streamed on Facebook and YouTube each Sunday morning at the worship hour and a video recording is posted on the church website/YouTube page within 24-48 hours. To listen by phone during the worship hour: **Zoom Call-in Number:** 1-833-548-0276; Meeting ID: 276 632 6336 #, #

Children's Worship Bags for all ages are in the Narthex (foyer at the back of the Sanctuary). These bags are intended to help children process what they are hearing and seeing as they worship with their families. Please return the bags after worship so they can be used in our next service.

Giving in Worship at First Baptist – We welcome your gifts to support the mission and ministry of First Baptist Church. You can give in worship by dropping your offering (check/cash) in our offering plate in the Narthex, or you can give online anytime at fbcmartinsville.com/give.

Prayer Reminder

Church Family: John Abbott, Alice Bowman, John Buck, John Burgess, Mary Clifton, Martha Crawley, Linda Dorr, Martha Drane, Nita Gauldin, Ann Grogan, Armand Harrell, George Lester, Betsy Miers, Betty Minter, Betty Prillaman, Shirley Roark, Benny Shires, Shirley Stone, Yvonne Turner, Gayle Williams

September Birthdays: 12 Linda Read, 16 John Buck, 19 Jim Fetter, 20 Frank Taylor, 21 Mary Taylor, Elena Grammer-Underwood, 23 Charlie Miers, Margie Shytle, 24 Debby Simpson, 25 Martha Medley, Judy Bunin, 27 Melva Stultz, 29 Judy Epperly, 30 Mary Lewis Johnston

Deacons of the Month: Cliff Rood and John Fulcher
Deacons of the month assist your pastor and other deacons with visitation as needed.

Worship Care Schedule

Sunday, September 17th – Marcia Collins
Sunday, September 24th – Ruth Anne Collins

Grace Network July-Sept. 2023 Food Assignment:

Spaghetti Sauce (24 oz jar or can)
Please drop the food off in the Missions Room at the church.

Opportunities for the Week

Sunday, September 17

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School-Rm 105-107/Zoom
9:45 a.m. Journey Small Group-Rm 110/Zoom
9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School-Church Nursery
11:00 a.m. Worship-Sanctuary/Online
12:15 p.m. Covered Dish Luncheon-Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 18

7:00 p.m. Smith River Singers Rehearsal-Sanctuary

Tuesday, September 19

5:45 p.m. Business & Finance Committee-Rm.105

Wednesday, September 20

4:30 p.m. Midweek Check-in/Zoom

Thursday, September 21

10:00 a.m. Bible Study-Deuteronomy-Rm 105/Zoom

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room

5:30 p.m. Kid's Church-Sanctuary/Rm. 101

Friday, September 22

2:00 p.m. Building & Grounds Committee-Rm. 105

Saturday, September 23

9:00 a.m. Now What?! Conference-Sanctuary

Gratitude for Giving...

MISSION OPPORTUNITY: A gift has been given in memory of Marvin Midkiff by Helen Wright. CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: Gifts have been given in memory of Marvin Midkiff by Helen Wright and Bill & Susan Sapp. Gifts have been given in memory of Nancy Thomas by Harris, Harvey, Neal & Co. and Bill & Susan Sapp. GRACE NETWORK: A gift has been given in memory of Nicholas Haggas by Mary Frances Gibbs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY! Beth Kotchish's 46-Year Anniversary

Sunday, September 17th at 12:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to celebrate with a covered dish lunch after worship today.

Gideon Sunday, TODAY, September 17th

If you believe as the Gideon's do that the world needs to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ more than ever before, Sunday, September 17th, you will have the opportunity to contribute to the Gideon World Wide Bible placement plan. Jerry Perdue is presenting a short message on behalf of the Gideons International.

Donations may be made in-person today during worship, online at fbcmartinsville.com/give (memo Gideons), or by mail. Many thanks in advance for your generous donations!

Now What?! Conference- Saturday, September 23, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church, Martinsville

Sign Up Now!

Our church will be hosting Now What?!, a conference to help churches learn more about how to best be the church in our changing world, especially as we face challenges in our communities.

Childcare provided - please let us know when you sign up the names and ages of your children. Lunch cost: \$12 per person.

Contact the church office to register and pay for lunch (if financial assistance is needed, please let the church office know - scholarships available!).

Business Meeting Agenda, September 24th at 12:15 p.m.

1. Approval of the Minutes, 2. Financial Report, 3. Committee Reports. 4. Vote on the creation of an FBC Endowment Fund.

MISSIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions

Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) invites you to join in giving to the Alma Hunt State Mission Offering. First Baptist's goal is to raise \$2,222. Help us reach and exceed this goal by designating an offering to "Alma Hunt Offering" on your check memo line or online at fbcmartinsville.com/give (memo Alma Hunt).

Patrick Henry Elementary Food Pantry

This is an ongoing missions opportunity and if you would like to participate, you are asked to place your items in the box marked "PHE" in Room 103, the Missions Room. See the bulletin board or your e-newsletter for items needed.

God's Pit Crew Children's Play Pails Coming in October!

We are excited to share a new mission project the WMU is sponsoring this fall. We will be collecting items for "Children's Play Pail" buckets. These buckets will be distributed by God's Pit Crew to children who have lost everything in a disaster situation. See the bulletin board or your e-newsletter for items needed.

Welcome to First Baptist Church!

We are #yourcitychurch in Martinsville...

A diverse community of believers coming from many Christian traditions to worship, learn, and grow together as followers of Jesus.

Serving God in our church, our community, and the world by investing our energy and resources to living like Jesus called us to live — in service to God and neighbor.

Growing and changing our ministries to include more variety in our vision so as to meet the needs of our community. Come GROW with us!

If you do not have a church home, you are welcome here.

Come and see what God is doing among us as we worship and serve in Christ's name.

Want to know more? Contact our Pastor: libby@fbcmartinsville.com or 276-632-6336.

Open Invitation

Our congregation wishes to partner with you and your family on a shared journey of faith. Whatever your background, we would love to explore with you how to join with us as we minister to this community together.

Please contact our pastor if you are interested in wanting to know more about following Jesus, how to join this church as an active participant, or if you'd like to recommit yourself to this church and its ministry.

Our doors are always open.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MARTINSVILLE, VA

Live Faith, Be Love, Speak Hope



23 Starling Avenue
Martinsville, VA 24112
(276) 632-6336

Rev. Dr. Libby Grammer
Senior Pastor

Rev. David Cameron
Associate Pastor for
Music & Worship

Caroline Tucker
Associate Pastor
for Families

Baxter Jennings
Organist

www.fbcmartinsville.com
facebook.com/FirstBaptistMartinsville/

"Live Faith, Be Love, Speak Hope"

Season after Pentecost

*Hymn 492 *I Will Sing of My Redeemer* HYFRYDOL

I will sing of my Redeemer and his wondrous love to me;
on the cruel cross he suffered, from the curse to set me free.

Refrain

*Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with his blood he purchased me;
on the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.*

I will tell the wondrous story, how my lost estate to save,
in his boundless love and mercy, he the ransom freely gave.

Refrain

I will praise my dear Redeemer, his triumphant power I'll tell:
how the victory he giveth me over sin and death and hell.

Refrain

I will sing of my Redeemer and his heavenly love for me;
he from death to life hath brought me, Son of God, with him to be.

Refrain

*Hymn 507 *I Then Shall Live* FINLANDIA

I then shall live as one who's been forgiven;
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid.
I know my name is clear before my Father;
I am his child, and I am not afraid.
So greatly pardoned, I'll forgive another;
the law of love I gladly will obey.

I then shall live as one who's learned compassion;
I've been so loved that I'll risk loving too.
I know how fear builds walls instead of bridges;
I dare to see another's point of view.
And when relationships demand commitment,
then I'll be there to care and follow through.

Your kingdom come around and through and in me,
your power and glory, let them shine through me;
your hallowed name, O may I bear with honor,
and may your living Kingdom come in me.
the Bread of Life, O may I share with honor,
and may you feed a hungry world through me.

*Song of Response

Hymn 593 *The Gift of Love* GIFT OF LOVE

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift of all inspire,
and have not love: my words are vain;
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed