

A Service of Worship & Communion

World Communion Sunday

October 1, 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 *Selections from "Kum ba ya" Suite* arr. Raney
Baxter Jennings, organ; John Fulcher, piano

Welcome Rev. Dr. Libby Grammer

Call to Worship Dr. Grammer

Leader: Today we are invited to a joyful feast,
hosted by Jesus Christ.

**People: All who are hungry will find the
bread of life here.**

Leader: From down the street to across town,
from single households to apartment
dwellers to those without shelter,

**People: All who are thirsty will find a
fountain of grace here.**

Leader: From every class, every race, every status;
from little ones with sippy cups to elders
with overflowing hearts:

People: All who are lost will find safety here.

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 374 *Now Thank We All Our God*
NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Hearing the Scriptures

*Gospel Lesson Matthew 21:33-46 William Underwood
The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

*Stand as you are able

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 772 *For The Bread Which You Have Broken*
FOR THE BREAD

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 *One World, One Communion* Choplin
Martha Hayes, flute

Sermon *By Whose Authority?* Dr. Grammer

*Song of Response
Hymn 776 *Let Us Break Bread Together* LET US BREAK BREAD

Celebrating Communion

Communion Litany

Leader: We gather around the Table in places
far and near,

People (Piano): Eating sourdough, rye, tortillas,

People (Organ): Crackers, wafers, and Wonderbread,

All: The Body of Christ.

Leader: Drinking the wine or the juice,

**People (Piano): From handmade chalices and
silver goblets,**

People (Organ): Golden spoons and mini cups,

All: The Blood of Christ.

Leader: The bread and cup unite us with
all who would follow Jesus.

**People (Piano): This meal reaches back through
the centuries.**

**People (Organ): This table reaches around
the world.**

All: Let us eat and drink with joy.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*) Dr. Grammer

**God, we yearn to be a worldwide community of believers,
united in your Spirit. Yet we are fraught with divisions:
denominational, political, theological. We are weighed down
by tensions and things that break us apart. Forgive us, God,
when we fail to build a bigger table and instead erect walls to
keep us apart. Help us to reach out across our differences
and love this world as you love us. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Sharing the Bread and the Cup
German, Ukrainian, Spanish, & French

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*Unison*)

**Great God of the whole earth, we are thankful for your
abundant grace that washes over the whole of creation. We
praise you that we can be one in Spirit and Truth with other
believers in different places and cultures, speaking different
languages and eating different foods. You are truly the God
of all! Amen.**

Responding to God

*Response 708 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* DENNIS
Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Postlude *"Kum ba ya" Finale* arr. Raney

*Today is World Communion Sunday, which is observed annually on
the first Sunday in October. In a time when fear and violence divide
the people of God's earth, World Communion Sunday reminds us of
our unity through Christ. Christians in congregations around the
world are participating in communion today, and First Baptist Church
joins our brothers and sisters in all nations as we gather around the
table to remember Christ's sacrifice.*

The Bread on the Lord's Table today is bread from around the world,
symbolizing the many different forms communion takes around the
world. In Europe, the Americas, Africa, Asia and Australia, Christians
are gathering around a shared meal of bread and cup. We remember
Christ's love and sacrifice with our brothers and sisters in Christ
around the world today.

**Cover Art for Today's Bulletin is entitled, "The Best Supper,"
by Jan Richardson, an artist creating images for worship,
contemplation, and education. See more of her work on her
website at: janrichardsonimages.com. Used with permission.**

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: Alice Bowman, John Buck, John Burgess, Mary Clifton, Martha Crawley, 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

Funeral for Dr. H. Marvin Midkiff will be held on Saturday, October 14, 2023 here at First Baptist. The visitation is at 10:00 a.m. followed by the funeral at 11:00 a.m.

October Birthdays: 2 Ron Austin, 4 Ronnie Garren, Morton Lester, Joe Prince, Adalyn White, 8 Linda Penta, 13 Kaylee White, 17 David Collins, 23 Erica James, 28 Charlotte James, 31 Mary Frances Gibbs

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

Grace Network Oct.-Dec. 2023 Food Assignment:
Canned Fruit
Please drop the food off in the Missions Room at the church.

Worship Care Schedule
Sunday, October 1st – Crystal Darden
Sunday, October 8th – Marcia Collins

Blessing of the Animals-FBC Front Lawn
NEXT Sunday, October 8th at 2:00 p.m.
First Baptist will host a Blessing of the Animals service. We will gather next Sunday afternoon in the Sanctuary of Nature and honor the beauty of God's creation, recognize our mutual interdependence with all of God's creatures, and share in the love and care of the created world together. Everyone is invited to bring your pet for a short service to bless creation and our relationship to all creatures. Each pet will be individually blessed by our pastor and given a certificate of blessing.

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.



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

Rev. Dr. Libby Grammer
Senior Pastor

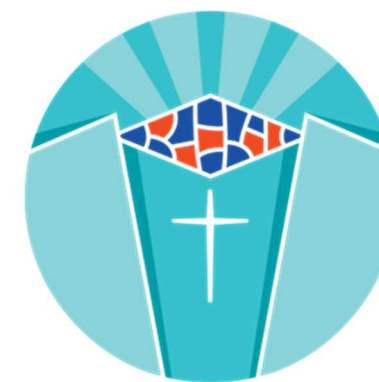
Caroline Tucker
Associate Pastor
for Families

Rev. David Cameron
Associate Pastor for
Music & Worship

Baxter Jennings
Organist

www.fbcmartinsville.com
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"Live Faith, Be Love, Speak Hope"



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MARTINSVILLE, VA

Live Faith, Be Love, Speak Hope



World Communion Sunday

*Hymn 374 *Now Thank We All Our God*
NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;
who, from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills of this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

*Hymn 772 *For The Bread Which You Have Broken*
FOR THE BREAD

For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.

By these pledges that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heaven above us,
consecrate our lives, O Lord.

In your service, Lord, defend us,
help us to obey your word;
in the world to which you send us
let your kingdom come, O Lord.

*Song of Response

Hymn 776 *Let Us Break Bread Together* LET US BREAK BREAD

Refrain

*When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.*

Let us break bread together on our knees;
Let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain

Let us drink wine together on our knees;
Let us drink wine together on our knees.

Refrain

Let us praise God together on our knees;
Let us praise God together on our knees.

Refrain

Opportunities for the Week

Sunday, October 1

8:45 a.m. Deacons Meeting-Fellowship Hall
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
12:00 p.m. Business & Finance Committee-Rm 105/Budget

Monday, October 2

10:00 a.m. WMU Meeting-Rm 105

Tuesday, October 3

4:15 p.m. Personnel Committee-Rm 105
5:45 p.m. Business & Finance Committee-Rm 105/Budget

Thursday, October 5

10:00 a.m. Bible Study-Deuteronomy-Rm 105/Zoom
12:15 p.m. Children & Youth Committee-Rm.105
5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room
5:30 p.m. Kid's Church-Rm. 101

Saturday, October 7

11:00 a.m. FBC's Booth at Oktoberfest-Uptown

MISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Oktoberfest Uptown-THIS Saturday, October 7th

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Volunteers Needed!

Oktoberfest in Uptown Martinsville is a family-friendly event with music, craft and food vendors, and children's activities. First Baptist Church will be hosting a booth at the Oktoberfest in Uptown Martinsville. Volunteers are need to help set up, take a two-hour shift at the booth and then a cleanup/take down at 4:00 p.m. Please call or email the church office to volunteer.

Patrick Henry Elementary Food Pantry

The Missions Committee invites the church to serve children in our community through food donation. Patrick Henry Elementary school is providing food bags for students who need extra food over the weekends. If you would like to participate, you are asked to place any of the following items in the box marked "PHE" in Room 103, the Missions Room:

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| single serve cereal | applesauce | pancake mix (eggless) |
| instant oatmeal | dried fruit | macaroni & cheese |
| granola bars | crackers | soup |
| canned or packet meats | juice | canned pasta w/ sauce |

God's Pit Crew Children's Play Pails

We are excited to share a mission project the WMU is sponsoring this month. 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. Buckets are in the Narthex and the items below are needed for each bucket:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Rolled Fleece Blanket | Travel size toothpaste |
| Coloring book/crayons | 8 inch or smaller stuffed animal |
| Children's shampoo | Children's soap Baby wipes |
| Children's toothbrush | Baby Wipes |