

A Service of Worship

Commitment Sunday

November 19, 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 *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* arr. Raney
Baxter Jennings, organ; John Fulcher, piano

Welcome Rev. Dr. Libby Grammer

Call to Worship Dr. Grammer

Leader: The time for harvest is close at hand.
What have you done with the gifts
God has given you?

People: We have brought our gifts to the house of the Lord.

Leader: Praise God for the gifts and for opportunities
for service that they represent.

People: We praise God for all the ways in which our lives have been blessed.

Leader: Generous God, accept our gifts and
Our lives this day.

People: Loving God, accept our praise and gratitude.

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 45 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* NETTLETON

Hearing the Scriptures

*Gospel Lesson Matthew 25:14-30 Marsha Frith
The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

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.

*Please stand as you are able

Committing Our Lives

*Hymn 578 *Come, All Christians, Be Committed* BEACH

Litany of Dedication Dr. Grammer

Leader: The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it.

People: It is in God that we live and move and have our being.

Leader: We now dedicate in worship our whole selves – our talents, our time, our resources. May all those who present their pledges of financial support to the ministries of this church and God's Kingdom work in this place now dedicate their whole selves along with these financial pledges.

People: Today we commit ourselves to walking together as beloved people of God. We seek to be a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. We are called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, loving and nurturing, challenging and growing.

Leader: And so, in this moment, may we offer our pledge to our God, the Maker of Heaven and Earth, our Savior and Redeemer, our Strength and Hope.

People: We promise to participate regularly, for our presence here matters. We promise to share in service to our community and our world, because the world needs a sign of God's hope. We promise to support this community of faith through gifts of time and money, because our gifts make a difference. We promise to love our neighbors even when we don't agree, because we all have a place at Christ's table.

Leader: May the Spirit guide and empower this church, and may God multiply our gifts. Let us join our voices with gratitude and praise!

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 *Bless The Lord, O My Soul* Nygard

Sermon *Risky Business* Dr. Grammer

Responding to God

*Song of Response
Hymn 702 *I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord* ST. THOMAS

*Benediction Dr. Grammer

*Response *May the Mind of Christ My Savior*
Wilkinson/Barham-Gould

Postlude *Praeludium in E* Lübeck

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.

Today is Commitment Sunday at First Baptist Church. During the service, in addition to blessing our tithes and offerings, our church family prayerfully presents their financial pledges to God and the ministries of this church for the coming year. (If you haven't had a chance to fill yours out yet, please make your heart dedication today and mail/email your pledge card this week to the church office).

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.

Gratitude for Giving

MISSION OPPORTUNITY: A gift has been given in memory of Marvin Midkiff, John Abbott, Anna Bowe Wells, and Howard Fringer by Linda and Richard Dorr.

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

November Birthdays: 1 David Lewis, 2 Jay Frith, Suzanne Martin, 4 Marcia Collins, 5 Julie Hall, 9 Cliff Rood, 15 Anne McDaniel, 15 David Cameron, 18 Chuck Martin, 21 Roslyn Wingett, 22 Joe Engle, 24 Helen Wright, 29 Libby Grammer

Deacons of the Month: Ross Gale and David Lewis
Deacons of the month assist your pastor and other deacons with visitation as needed.

Worship Care Schedule

Sunday, November 19th – Susan Sapp
Sunday, November 26th – Roslyn Wingett

Opportunities for the Week

Sunday, November 19

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
4:30 p.m. Children's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal-CHBC

Monday, November 20

6:00 p.m. Still Water Group Rehearsal-Choir Room
7:00 p.m. Smith River Singers Rehearsal-Sanctuary

Wednesday, November 22

12:00 p.m. "Equally Called" - Facebook Live on CHBC page

Thursday, November 23 & Friday, November 24

Office & ELC Closed for Thanksgiving-Happy Thanksgiving!

MISSIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Warming Center of Martinsville & Henry Co.

The Warming Center provides a safe, warm overnight stay when the temperatures are 40 degrees or below. The Center is now located at the Salvation Army, 603 Memorial Blvd. S, Martinsville, VA. To learn more about how you can volunteer, see your e-newsletter or the church bulletin board for a list of donations & volunteers needed.

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. A list of items can be found on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please place any of the needed items in the box marked "PHE" in Room 103, the Missions Room.

Grace Network Oct.- Dec. 2023 Food Assignment: Canned Fruit

Please drop the food off in the Missions Room at the church.

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

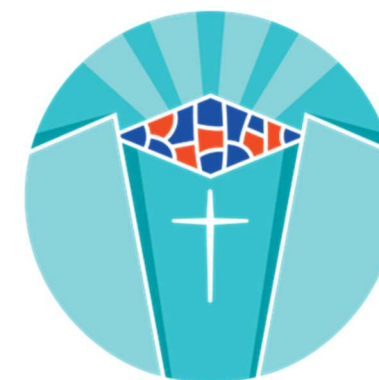
Rev. David Cameron
Associate Pastor for
Music & Worship

Caroline Tucker
Associate Pastor
for Families

Baxter Jennings
Organist

www.fbcmartinsville.com
facebook.com/FirstBaptistMartinsville/

"Live Faith, Be Love, Speak Hope"



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MARTINSVILLE, VA

Live Faith, Be Love, Speak Hope

A Breath of New Life...

*The Holy Spirit's Power
in our Generosity,
140 years in the making*

Commitment Sunday

*Hymn 45 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* NETTLETON

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; praise his name—I'm fixed upon it—name of God's redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I've come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he to rescue me from danger, bought me with his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

*Hymn 578 *Come, All Christians, Be Committed* BEACH

Come, all Christians, be committed to the service of the Lord; make your lives for him more fitted, tune your hearts with one accord.

Come into his courts with gladness, all your sacred vows renew, turn away from sin and sadness, be transformed with life anew.

Of your time and talents give ye, they are gifts from God above, to be used by Christians freely to proclaim his wonderous love. Come again to serve the Savior, tithes and offerings with you bring; in your work, with him find favor, and with joy his praises sing.

Come in praise and adoration, all who on Christ's name believe; worship him with consecration, grace and love will you receive. For his grace give him the glory, for the Spirit and the Word, and repeat the gospel story until all his name have heard.

*Song of Response

Hymn 702 *I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord* ST. THOMAS

I love thy kingdom, Lord, the house of thine abode, the church our blest Redeemer saved with his own precious blood.

I love thy church, O God! Her walls before thee stand, dear as the apple of thine eye, and graven on thy hand.

For her my tears shall fall, for her my prayers ascend; to her my cares and toils be given, till toils and cares shall end.

Beyond my highest joy I prize her heavenly ways, her sweet communion, solemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.

Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zion shall be given the brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heaven.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Equally Called: Celebrating Women's Leadership in the Church” Facebook Live on Chatham Heights Baptist Church Facebook Page Wednesday, November 22, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

Join Dr. Mike Hatfield and Dr. Libby Grammer as they continue their 4-session Facebook Live discussion about how to articulate the biblical and theological basis for affirming the calling of women into pastoral ministry and to nurture a culture that more fully welcomes women's leadership in churches.

Videos for the study will be posted to the church Facebook page (both FBC and CHBC) at the beginning of each week, with the discussions on Wednesdays on the CHBC Facebook page with our pastors.

Business Meeting Agenda, November 26th at 12:15 p.m.

1. Approval of the Minutes, 2. Financial Report, 3. Committee Reports, 4. Vote to approve Nominee for Deacon.

Piedmont Arts Christmas Tree Lighting in the Art Garden Thursday, November 30th at 4:00 p.m.

Piedmont Arts will kick off the holiday season with the annual lighting of the Art Garden Christmas tree. Enjoy holiday music, storytelling Santa, snacks, and crafts. The FBC Sanctuary Choir will be the featured carolers for this event!

Christmas Covered Dish Lunch and Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 3rd at 12:30 p.m.

CHBC Fellowship Hall

We hope that everyone will join us at our sister church, Chatham Heights Baptist in the Fellowship Hall for lunch and the Christmas story told by our children on Sunday, December 3rd. The lunch will begin at 12:30 p.m. and the Christmas Pageant will begin at 1:30 p.m. May we begin this Advent season remembering the truth of Christmas told by our children at First Baptist Church and Chatham Heights Baptist Church. **Please make your reservations through the church office by Thursday, November 30th if you plan on coming.**

“Barely Rehearsed” Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 3rd at 1:30 p.m.

CHBC Fellowship Hall

After our Christmas Lunch, the children of FBC and CHBC will perform their pageant. Rehearsals for all children and youth who want to participate are:

TODAY, November 19th at 4:30 p.m.

December 2nd at 10:00 a.m.

The McCabe Library Bake Sale

Sunday, December 10th at 12:00 p.m.

If you are interested in participating by donating your favorite baked dessert, sweet or savory snack, or a craft please bring your item either Saturday, December 9th or on Sunday morning.