

A Service of Worship

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 23, 2025

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

Welcome and Invocation Rev. Steve Zimmerman

Prelude *Praise, My soul, the King of Heaven* arr. Haan
Baxter Jennings, organ

Call to Worship Rev. Caroline Taminger

Leader: Return to the Lord your God,

People: For God is gracious.

Leader: Confess to the Lord your God,

People: For God is merciful.

Leader: Repent to the Lord your God,

People: For God is slow to anger.

Leader: Praise the Lord your God,

People: For God abounds in steadfast love.

Leader: Worship the Lord your God.

All: Together, let us worship God!

*Hymn 2 *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty* NICEA

Hearing the Scriptures

Old Testament Lesson Psalm 37:1-12 Roslyn Wingett
The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God.**

*Hymn 538 *I Need Thee Every Hour* NEED

*Gospel Lesson Luke 6:37-38 Roslyn Wingett
The Gospel of our Lord; **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

Children's Worship Pastor Caroline
*After children's worship, elementary aged children are invited to
join our volunteers for age-appropriate children's church*

Committing Our Lives

*Hymn 530 *Be Still, My Soul* FINLANDIA

*Please stand as you are able

Prayer of Commitment & Lord's Prayer Rev. David Cameron

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.

+*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 *Prayer* Price/Besig

Sermon *Starting Off on the Right Foot* Rev. Zimmerman
Nehemiah 2:1-9, 17-18

Responding to God

*Song of Response

Hymn 561 *Just A Closer Walk with Thee* CLOSER WALK

Postlude *Allegro maestoso* Mendelssohn
Join us as we reflect on our worship of God today.

*Benediction Rev. Zimmerman

***Today is the Seventh Sunday After Epiphany in the Christian
year. Epiphany (January 6) celebrates the manifestation of God in
Jesus Christ. The Season of Epiphany continues this emphasis,
calling attention to the words and deeds of Jesus' earthly ministry.
The liturgical color for the season is green, representing new life and
growth***

Flowers in the Sanctuary are in honor of Betty Minter's 103rd
Birthday, given by Baxter Jennings.

+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.

Nursery & Children's Chapel Schedule

Our nursery is available for children four and under.

Chapel-Pastor Caroline and Nursery Workers

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.

Our 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 #, #

Reminders

February Birthdays: 23 Ann Grogan, Linda Moore, 25 Betty Minter,
28 Jack Johnston

Prayers for our Church Family: Alice Bowman, John Burgess,
Mary Clifton, Martha Crawley, Martha Drane, Judy Epperly,
Ann Grogan, Armand Harrell, Betsy Miers, Betty Minter,
Betty Prillaman, Shirley Reeves, Shirley Roark, Shirley Stone, Benny
Shires, Yvonne Turner

Deacon of the Month: Ruth Anne Collins

Deacon of the month assists other deacons with visitation
as needed.

Announcements

Anniversary

Congratulations to Ronnie and Marsha Garren on their 50th
Wedding Anniversary, February 15, 2025!

Pregnancy Care Center

WMU is sponsoring a church wide collection of **diapers size 3 and
up and baby wipes for the month of February**. Please place all
items in the container labeled Pregnancy Care Center donations in
the Narthex.

Covered Dish Lunch and Business Meeting TODAY after Worship

Before the Business Meeting we will share a meal and fellowship.
Bring your favorite side dish and/or salad and join us. The church
will provide chicken tenders, ham biscuits, dessert, and drinks.
Following lunch we will have our regular monthly business
meeting.

Church Business Agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes, 2. Financial Report, 3. Committee
Reports.

Dinner Church Encounter: A Food to Faith Initiative

Have you ever considered the power of a shared meal? Have you
ever wondered how a dinner table could reconnect you to your
neighbors and friends who may never attend a Sunday morning
church experience?

A Dinner Church Encounter is a one-day training event that will
give our church a vision and practical insights to host Dinner
Church meals within our community. A group from our church will
be attending this training on Saturday in Lynchburg. Your cost to
go is only \$15.00. If you are interested in going or need more
information, contact the church office this week. You must also
register online for this event at:
FreshExpressions.com/event/FoodtoFaithLynchburg.

Joint Ash Wednesday Service, March 5th at 6:00 p.m.

Starling Avenue Baptist Church Sanctuary

This will be a shared service with First Baptist, Chatham Heights Baptist and Starling Avenue Baptist Church. We will gather to begin the Season of Lent through the worship of God and imposition of ashes. Join us as we prepare our hearts to walk alongside Jesus in this season of growth as we take the road to the cross, and ultimately to the joy of Easter morning.

Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple

Starting on Wednesday, March 12, there will be a special six-week Lenten Bible study led by Rev. Zimmerman over the life of Peter who was a major character in the days leading up to Easter. By studying his life, we will come away with a better understanding of what we must do to be better disciples of Christ, too.

There will be two opportunities to join us. There will be a group meeting at King's Grant in the Pheasant Run Room (Card Room) at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays. The other group will convene at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings at the church.

A study book is also available but not required. You may go to <https://www.cokesbury.com/Simon-Peter> to order your book or you can contact the church office by February 26th. Come join us!

Opportunities for the Week

Sunday, February 23

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School-Rm 105-107/Zoom
11:00 a.m. Worship-Sanctuary/Online
12:00 p.m. Lunch & Business Meeting-Fellowship Hall

Monday, February 24

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

Tuesday, February 25

8:45 a.m. Children's Chapel-Classrooms
10:30 a.m. Administrative Planning Meeting-Rm 105

Wednesday, February 26

10:00 a.m. Library Committee-Library

Thursday, February 27

10:00 a.m. Bible Study-2 Samuel-Rm 105/Zoom
11:00 a.m. ELC Music Class-Music Room
4:15 p.m. School Age Chapel-Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room

Ongoing Missions Opportunities

Grace Network Jan-Mar. 2025 Food Assignment:

Pork & Beans (15 oz)

Please drop the food off in the Missions Room 103.

Patrick Henry Elementary Food Pantry

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.

The Warming Center of Martinsville & Henry Co.

Donations can be dropped off in the Missions Room 103.

Check the bulletin board, outside the office, for all needed items.

Welcome to First Baptist Church!

We are #yourcitychurch in Martinsville...

Coming together with 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.

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.

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, contact us at info.fbcmartinsville.com, (276) 632-6336, steve@fbcmartinsville.com or his cell (336) 214-3958.

Our doors are always open. Come see and serve what God is doing among us as we worship in Christ's name.



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

Rev. Steve Zimmerman
Interim Pastor

Rev. David Cameron
Associate Pastor for
Music & Worship

Rev. Caroline Taminger
Associate Pastor
for Families

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



Season of Epiphany

*Hymn 2 *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty*

NICEA

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful flesh thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth, and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

*Hymn 538 *I Need thee Every Hour*

NEED

I need thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
no tender voice like thine can peace afford.

Refrain

*I need thee, O I need thee, every hour I need thee;
O bless me now, my savior, I come to thee!*

I need thee every hour, stay thou near by;
temptations lose their power when thou art nigh.

Refrain

I need thee every hour in joy or pain;
come quickly and abide or life is vain.

Refrain

I need thee every hour, most Holy One;
O make me thine indeed, thou blessed Son!

Refrain

*Hymn 530 *Be Still, My Soul*

FINLANDIA

Be still, my soul! the Lord is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
leave to your God to order and provide;
in every change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul; your best, your heavenly Friend
thro' thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul! Your God will undertake
to guide the future as he has the past;
your hope, your confidence, let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul! The waves and winds still know
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul! The hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still my soul! When change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

*Song of Response

Hymn 561 *Just A Closer Walk with Thee* CLOSER WALK

I am weak, but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.

Refrain

*Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but
thee. *Refrain*

When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o'er to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore.

Refrain