

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SYMPATHY

Sympathy is extended to Cynthia and Mark Lawrence on the death of Cynthia's father, James Dillon, on Saturday, February 15, 2025.

Our sympathies extend to the family and loved ones of Martha Clay Martin, who died on Sunday, February 16, 2025. Our prayers are with her son and daughter-in-law, Bob and Cheryl Martin and their family, as well as Martha's siblings, Charles Lunsford (wife, Linda) and Julianne Hollingsworth. A memorial service in celebration of Martha's life and Christian witness will be held on Sunday, February 23 at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary and via live stream. A reception will follow in Fellowship Hall.

Sympathy is extended to Beth Vaught Jenkins and family on the death of her father, William Vaught of Florida, on Thursday, February 20, 2025.

Sympathy is extended to Rita and Joe Matthews on the death of Rita's mother, Bessie Blake Whitt of Cedar Bluff, VA, on Thursday, February 20, 2025.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY | THURSDAYS | 10:30-11:30 A.M. | SESSION ROOM: Think, pray, and reflect through the stories of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. The church has always known, intuitively even, that the best way for us to be shaped into the people God wants us to be—the people whose difference from the world around is vital to our witness—is to think and pray slowly and carefully through the stories of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. In *From Wilderness to Glory*, beloved author N. T. Wright encourages readers to do just that throughout the seasons of Lent and Easter. The books the church had in stock have been purchased. You can order your own copy from the [PC\(USA\) Store](#). **Schedule:** Thursdays, Feb 27–April 17* (*March 6—NO MEETING).

THE BIBLE IN BLACK & WHITE "WHAT ARE THEY DOING HERE?" | WEDNESDAYS IN MARCH | NOON | FELLOWSHIP HALL: Some books in the Bible are about a specific person. What makes these stories so compelling is that they often center on individuals who live on the margins—people whose lives seem insignificant in the eyes of the powerful, yet matter deeply to God. These are the stories of God's powerful work among the powerless. During the noon hour on March Wednesdays, *The Bible in Black & White* class will explore four of these narratives, seeking to understand what God sees in these individuals—and in all of us. Drs. Bill Lee and George Anderson, along with ministers from other sponsoring churches, will guide the discussion. **Schedule:** Mar. 5: Ruth, Mar. 12: Esther, Mar. 19: Daniel, Mar. 26: Philemon. Learn more at www.spres.org.

WISDOM | LENTEN SERMON SERIES: Wisdom is something to strive for. Yet, biblically, true wisdom is a gift best received with humility. Why? First, the wise are wary of certainty and know they do not have final answers. Second, deep wisdom that protects and builds a life worth living comes from the search and struggle of generations. For the Sundays of Lent, your pastors will offer a sermon series exploring what scripture and tradition can teach us about seeking and receiving wisdom—wisdom that both keeps us grounded and helps us adapt to life's changing circumstances.

Ash Wednesday, March 5

- 7:30-9:30 a.m. "Ashes and Prayer To-Go," Mountain Ave Parking Lot
- 6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Evening Worship, Kirk Hall

PRESCHOOL HIRING INFANT TEACHERS: The preschool is hiring for Infant Lead and Assistant Teacher positions. Applicants should have experience working with babies and toddlers. Please reach out to Director Alice Light, alight@spres.org, with interest.

POP-UP SUNDAY SCHOOL | APRIL 6 | CHAPEL: The March 2 Pop-Up Sunday School class has been postponed until April 6. There will not be a Pop-Up class for March. Join us April 6 at 9:45 a.m. in the chapel where we will welcome Davey Stewards of Star City Compost as our guest speaker for this engaging class, hosted by the 2PC Green Team.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Today, February 23

- Two Cents a Meal
- Scout Sunday
- 8:45 am: Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 9:45 am: Cancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
- 9:45 am: Sunday School
- 11:00 am: Worship Service and Scout Sunday, Sanctuary/ Live Stream
- 2:00 pm: Memorial Service for Martha Clay Martin, Sanctuary with Reception in Fellowship Hall
- 5:00 pm: Kids' Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
- 5:00 pm: Youth Group

Monday, February 24

- 6:30 pm: Al Anon & Alateen, Trent Classroom, Reading Room, Library
- 6:30 pm: Cub Scouts, Cafe
- 6:45 pm: Scouts

Tuesday, February 25

- 9:30 am: Staff Meeting

Wednesday, February 26

- 12:00 pm: Bulletin Article Deadline
- 4:00 pm: Nominating Committee Meeting, Trent Room
- 5:15 pm: Session Meeting, Session Room/Zoom

Thursday, February 27

- 7:15 am: Men's Bible Study, Reading Room/Zoom
- 10:30 pm: Women's Bible Study, Session Room
- 12:15 pm: Board of Directors PCC, Session Room

Friday, February 28

Saturday, March 1

LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE 2025:

Ash Wednesday, March 5

- 7:30-9:30 a.m. "Ashes and Prayer To-Go," Mountain Ave Parking Lot
- 6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Evening Worship, Kirk Hall

Kairos Weekly Reflections

- Mar 12-Apr 16 (Wednesdays): Weekly Kairos Video Reflections via YouTube and Facebook, featuring Second Presbyterian members sharing the important and spiritual gift of wisdom

Maundy Thursday, April 17

- 6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Evening Worship, Kirk Hall

OPEN FLOWER DATES: The following dates are available for anyone who would like to sponsor flowers in the sanctuary: May 18; June 1. Please contact Denise Revercomb to see if the dates are still open (588-5111; revercomb@cox.net).



Staff

- Administrator*
Nathan Anderson
- Choir Director*
Dr. Jeffrey Sandborg
- Organist*
Marianne Sandborg
- Engagement Coordinator*
Connie Polly
- Children's Ministry Coordinator*
Maria Blackshaw
- Parish Associate for Visitation*
Nancy O. Gray
- Pastors' Assistant*
Meredith Koliba
- Secretary*
Stacy Moore
- Church Accountant*
Libby Smith
- Media and Communications Specialist*
Andrea Boone
- Media Assistant*
Erin Mucha
- Church Sexton*
John Brady Anderson

Trustees

- Ron Ayers
- Lauren Ellerman
- George A. McLean, Jr.

Clerk of Session

- Bill Durham
- Ken Lyons (Asst. Clerk)

Treasurers

- Joe Miller
- Bob Martin (Vice Treasurer)

Missionaries

- National:*
Beth-El Farmworker Ministry; Wimauma, FL
- Local:*
Presbyterian Community Center, Roanoke, VA

Preschool

- Alice Light, *Director*
- Lori Privott, *Asst. Director*
- 540.342.6405
- www.sprespreschool.com

For a list of church Committee Chairs, visit: www.spres.org/about/leadership/

For upcoming events, a library of sermons (audio & text), and more, visit our website:

www.spres.org

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN

Finding direction by following Jesus.

214 Mountain Avenue, SW
Roanoke, VA 24016
540-343-3659 • info@spres.org
• www.spres.org •

Sunday Morning Worship

Early and Late Services

February 23, 2025



PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. George C. Anderson, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Elizabeth N.H. Link, Executive Pastor
The Rev. Benjamin S. Brannan, Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults

Large-print copies of services may be requested from an usher.

MEMBERS OF THE SESSION OF SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Elders - Class of 2024

- Maria Blackshaw
- Pattie Clevenger
- Nancy Gray
- Robin Hobbs
- Alice Holman
- Kenneth Laughon
- Betsy Prillaman
- Chrissy Underwood

Elders - Class of 2025

- Ginger Avis
- Susan Carter
- John Caudill
- Kandy Elliott
- Lucinda Hancock
- Mark Lawrence
- Megan Moore
- Darin Pearson

Elders - Class of 2026

- Mary Airheart
- Margaret Ashburn
- Chasity Fitzpatrick
- Barry Green
- Sally I'Anson
- Drew Kepley
- Randy Rhea
- Ken Sizemore

FEBRUARY 23, 2025

WORSHIP AT 8:45 A.M. AND ON SITE & ONLINE AT 11:00 A.M.
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Gathering Music¹ *Prelude on "Middlebury"* Peter Pindar Stearns

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer* Dale Wood

*Call to Worship

In this sacred space,
trust in the Holy Spirit.
On this sabbath day,
take delight in Jesus Christ.
Among the faithful,
commit your way to the Lord.
Let us worship the triune God with gladness!

*Hymn No. 12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*
Two Cents-a-Meal
(8:45 A.M.) Crosby and Bauer Horn (parents, Whitney and Jason)
(11:00 A.M.) Cub Scout Pack 11

(11:00 A.M.) A Time for Children
*(Children, Worship, & Wonder participants (Pre-K-1st grade)
excused after Children's Time*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession²
**O Lord, you are our shepherd,
And yet we want.
We lie down when we could act,
We stir the pot when we could offer peace,
We wander tempting paths instead of following you.
We seek courage and comfort in earthly things rather than in you.
We hate our enemies and refuse to break bread with them,
We see scarcity even when you offer us abundance.
We pray for forgiveness, for your goodness and mercy,
So that we might dwell in You, in your grace, forever.**

In the silence of this moment, we open our hearts to you.

Assurance of Pardon

*Response of Praise No. 581 *Gloria Patri*

*Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the
Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he
rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the
right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to
judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy
catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer³ *Glory to God*, p. 35 (using debts, debtors)

(11:00 A.M.) Anthem *Gloria* Jeffrey Sandborg
Gloria in excelsis Deo (Glory to God in the highest)
Et in terra pax (And on earth peace)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Luke 6:27-38 New Testament p. 833
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon *Love as an Action Verb* Rev. Elizabeth N.H. Link

Call to Discipleship

Offering^{4**}
Offertory *My Faith Looks Up To Thee* Gordon Young
Ritual of Friendship
*(Please sign the Friendship Pad, pass it along to others
in your pew, then return it to center.)*

*Doxology (Hymn No. 606)

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn No. 295 *Go to the World!*

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Voluntary in D Minor* Charles Wesley

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

BULLETIN NOTES

¹ **CHRISTIANS MEET FOR WORSHIP ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK**, the day Christ Jesus rose from the dead. We gather to praise the triune God, confess our sin, and seek God's grace. We hear the good news of the gospel and celebrate the sacraments. We go forth to glorify God through the service of daily living.

² **PRAYER OF CONFESSION:** Based on Psalm 23 and written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission.

³ **WHEN PRESBYTERIANS PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER** we tend to use the words debts ("forgive us our debts") and debtors. Other Christian bodies use trespasses or sins. This is because the Lord's Prayer is found in both Matthew's and Luke's Gospels, and in the original Greek they used two different words that mean "to sin." In Matthew's version, the word used means "to owe a debt," but a debt of sin, not money. "Debt" implies an obligation to God, rather than a simple transgression.

⁴ **THE OUTREACH OFFERING** for February will support two projects for children: *Blessing Bags*—age appropriate bags made by church member Cole Hoff for children of Family Promise guests at Alexa House—and *Turn the Page*, a Roanoke-based 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to the mission of providing every child in the Roanoke Valley with a personal library in an effort to improve literacy and promote awareness to parents and caregivers of the benefits of reading at home. Founded in 2014, Turn the Page provides new hand-selected, age-appropriate books to local children, including newborns at Roanoke Carilion Hospital, at pediatric offices, and at several local elementary schools through their Books and Breakfast program in partnership with Roanoke City Public Schools. **As of Thursday, February 20, \$4,633.83 has been collected.**

Monthly Food Collection for PCC: The food items for the month of February are canned meats, tuna, chicken, and spam. A donation bin is in the coat closet (please check the expiration date before donating). As the PCC prepares to move into their new building this summer, they also appreciate donations of packing materials, boxes, packing tape, bubble wrap, etc. to assist with the move.

CCLI #2642604. | ONE LICENSE #A-742472.

THIS SUNDAY

We welcome Cub Scout Pack 11 as they join us and assist with the 11 o'clock worship service this morning.

Flowers: The flowers are from the wedding of Anne Dillon and Preston Martin, which took place in the sanctuary on Saturday, February 22, 2025. *Arranged by Denise Revercomb.*

Ushers: (8:45) Randy Rhea (Head Usher), Manly Aylor, Mia Copeland, Kipper Nottingham. (11:00) Drew Kepley (Head Usher), Katherine Ellett, Russ Ellett, Cole Kepley.

Greeters: (8:45) Monty Salyer. (11:00) Cub Scout Pack 11, Rick and Pam Murray.

AV Technicians: Miranda Moore, Doug Settles.

Children, Worship, & Wonder: "The Transfiguration of Jesus." Storyteller, Amanda Copeland. Program Coordinator, Rhesa Bailey.

