

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Third Sunday of Easter
April 19, 2026

<https://www.facebook.com/FPCMartinsvilleVA>

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



*The road to Emmaus was the
road back to Hope.*

Sermon based upon Luke 24:13-35 and Psalm 34:1-10

Our Mission

"Share God's love, embrace our neighbors, nurture each other."

The Service for the Lord's Day
Third Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

Come, Christians, Join to Sing
Sanctuary Ringers

arr. Kevin McChesney

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

One: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

One: Sisters and brothers, let us gather together with glad and generous hearts.

All: For many signs and wonders are being done among us.

One: Let us share our lives in common.

**All: Let us give what we can to all who have needs so that all people,
no matter who they are, may regard us with good will.**

One: Let us devote ourselves to our prayers and to the gospel.

All: For in this way God will add to our numbers every day.

*OPENING HYMN

Day of Arising

GTG 252

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Sung to tune of Morning Has Broken

Day of arising, Christ on the roadway,
unknown companion walks with his own.

When they invite him, as fades the first day,
and bread is broken, Christ is made known.

When we are walking, doubtful and dreading,
blinded by sadness, slowness of heart,
yet Christ walks with us, ever awaiting
our invitation: Stay, do not part.

Lo, I am with you, Jesus has spoken.
This is Christ's promise, this is Christ's sign:
when the church gathers, when bread is broken,
there Christ is with us, in bread and wine.

Christ, our companion, hope for the journey,
bread of compassion, open our eyes.
Grant us your vision, set all hearts burning,
that all creation with you may rise.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor

Almighty God,

in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

Silent prayers of confession may be offered.

CONFSSIONAL RESPONSE

Kyrie

PH 572

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus be with you all.

All: And also with you.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

We Are Forgiven

GTG 447

We are forgiven. We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. (x2)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading:

Liturgist

Psalm 34:1-10

(OT pg. 508)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

Pastor

ANTHEM

O God, Our Help in Ages Past
Sanctuary Ringers

arr. Kevin McChesney

Second Reading:

Pastor

Luke 24:13-35

(NT pg. 90)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Pastor

**Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation;
in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible.
All things have been created through him and for him.
He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
He is head of the body, the church;
he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead,
so that he might come to have first place in everything.
For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.**

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

*What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine
(Leaning on the Everlasting Arms)*

GTG 837

Public Domain

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:

*Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms. [Refrain]

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms. [Refrain].

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

| | | |
|--|---|-----------|
| OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES | | Liturgist |
| Call to Offering | | |
| Offertory | <i>Reflection</i> | A. Boely |
| *The Doxology | | GTG 606 |
| Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; | | |
| Praise Him all creatures here below; | | |
| Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; | | |
| Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. -Amen- | | |
| Prayer of Dedication | | Liturgist |
| | | |
| *SENDING HYMN | <i>Lord, I Want to Be a Christian</i> Public Domain | GTG 729 |
| Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart; | | |
| Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart. | | |
| In my heart, (In my heart,) in my heart (in my heart,) | | |
| Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart. | | |
| | | |
| Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart; | | |
| Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart. | | |
| In my heart, (In my heart,) in my heart (in my heart,) | | |
| Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart. | | |
| | | |
| Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart; | | |
| Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart. | | |
| In my heart, (In my heart,) in my heart (in my heart,) | | |
| Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart. | | |
| | | |
| Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart; | | |
| Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart. | | |
| In my heart, (In my heart,) in my heart (in my heart,) | | |
| Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart. | | |
| | | |
| *CHARGE AND BENEDICTION | | Pastor |
| | | |
| BENEDICTION RESPONSE | God with Us, Lord | GTG 748 |
| | <small>Music: Public Domain, Text: © 1990 Hope Publishing. Used by permission CCLI License #2244459</small> | |
| | | |
| POSTLUDE | <i>The Rhythmic Trumpet</i> | G. Young |

*Please rise in body or in spirit

Welcome to our visitors today!

We are glad you are here and we hope you will join us for worship again. If you are interested in joining our church, there are three ways you may do so. They are letter of transfer from your church of previous membership, reaffirmation of faith if you have already been baptized; and baptism and affirmation of faith if you have not been baptized. If you are interested in joining, please ask our pastor, or one of our elders, for more details.

Need help hearing the service? Receivers connected to the sound system are available in the Narthex. Just ask an usher.

Please use the friendship register located in the pew to indicate your presence in worship. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please include your address, telephone number, and e-mail.

Let the children come to me: Children & Youth of all ages are welcomed and encouraged to actively participate in worship. For those desiring supportive materials, “sermon notes” for young children through older youth are available in the narthex. Clipboards and crayons are also available to take to your pew. Please return them to the narthex after the service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Sue Benfield who passed on Sunday, April 13th at King’s Grant in Martinsville, VA. Sue was a faithful member of FPC since January 5th, 1955. The white rose at the lectern is in loving memory of Sue.



Please join us for 2nd Cup in the fellowship hall immediately following the worship service. Come enjoy coffee, refreshments, and fellowship. Today’s 2nd Cup is hosted by Lone and Mary Linker.

The Session’s next meeting is Monday, April 27th at 4:00 PM in the session room.



2026 Graduates. If you have a child or grandchild that is graduating high school or college, we want to recognize them. Please send their information to the church office as soon as possible.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



ANNIVERSARY

The Smith River Singers invite you to their **Spring Concert ~ America the Beautiful: A Celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence**, Monday, May 11, 2026 at 7:00 PM at the Galilean House of Worship (2078 A. L. Philpott Highway, Martinsville). Doors will open at 6:15 PM.

When you do your grocery shopping be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (various household items and toiletries) and **Grace Network (GRITS)** Other needs: toothpaste, toothbrush (individually wrapped), dish and laundry detergent, toilet paper, deodorant, bath soap, and feminine products. Both agencies depend on us for assistance.

Spring Carnival and Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 25th (revised date) from 10:00 AM - Noon hosted by FPC and Grace PC. Reach out to Lone Linker (310-951-5138) or Taylor Shank (276-732-9525) for more information or to volunteer. **See below for more information.** ↓

Free Community Event

Presented by First Presbyterian Church of
Martinsville and Grace Presbyterian Church

SPRING CARNIVAL & EGG HUNT!!

Saturday, April 25th, 10 am - Noon

1901 PATRICK HENRY AVE, MARTINSVILLE, VA



Bounce House - Egg Hunt



Face Painting - Balloon Animals

Environmental Exploration Stations



Snacks and more!

Come join the fun!



PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Sue Benfield, Family of Ruby Buffkin Stewart (mother of Melissa Wingfield/sister of Bud Buffkin), Barbara Adams (Patsy Stanley) Bud Buffkin, Evelyn Cannaday, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Marge Dunn, Martin Ford, Marvin Hudson, Randy Lawson (P. Stanley). Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Leslie Naradikian (Marion Miller's daughter), Maggie Pilson, Johnny Pinkard, Rusty Reaser, Cecil Robbins, Susan Rosser, Becky Stone Sawyers (L. Pritchett), Dee Moore Smith, Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, Bruce Thomas, Tammy Tucker Wardinski, persecuted Christians, military service men and women, missionaries, refugees and immigrants forced to flee their countries, and families and areas devastated by severe weather.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, April 19

9:00 AM
10:00 AM

Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday School
Worship in Sanctuary
~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Monday –Friday

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Weekday School

School in Session
Lunch Buddies

Tuesday, April 21

5:30 PM

Facilities Meeting

Wednesday, April 22

6:30 PM

NO Handbell Rehearsal
Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, April 25

10:00 AM - Noon

Spring Carnival & Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 26

9:00 AM
10:00 AM

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday School
Worship in Sanctuary
~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Monday, April 27

4:00 PM

Session Meeting

Wednesday, April 29

5:30 PM
6:30 PM

Handbell Rehearsal
Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, May 3

9:00 AM
10:00 AM

Communion/Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday School
Worship in Sanctuary
~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

| DATE | LITURGIST | USHERS/GREETERS | 2ND CUP |
|----------|-----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| April 19 | Barbara Duncan | Monty and Joan Montgomery | Ione and Mary Linker |
| April 26 | Martha Rollins | Billy and Sharon Kirby | Gale and Christy Buck |
| May 3 | Nancy Moore | Johnny and Ashby Pinkard | Joe and Susan Smith |
| May 10 | Joan Montgomery | Ron Rebman, Judy King | No 2nd Cup |
| May 17 | Mary Linker | Bill and Suzan Kirby | Janet Fentress, Judy King |
| May 24 | Pearl Minter | Joe and Jerri DeVault | Joe and Brenda Williams |
| May 31 | Susan Pilson | Bob Wuetefeld, Barbara Duncan | Ione and Mary Linker |

If you cannot serve on the Sunday scheduled, please find a substitute.
If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the church office.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday – 9:30 – 2:00 PM

If pastoral care is needed, please call 276-734-8830