

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2026

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



Sermon based upon John 10:1-10 and Psalm 23

Our Mission

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

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

PRELUDE

O Perfect Love

arr. Hal Hopson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

One: The Lord is my shepherd;

All: God takes care of me.

One: I shall not want.

All: God supplies my needs.

One: He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:

All: To rest with God.

One: He leadeth me beside the still waters.

All: To be refreshed with God.

One: He restoreth my soul:

All: With God's healing Love.

One: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

All: I am guided by God, in all things, according to God's purpose.

One: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me;

**All: Within the deepest turmoil of my soul, I am always in God's safe,
protective care. God's faithfulness is forever.**

One: Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

All: God guides me to safety and to the comfort of home.

One: Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

All: God provides Peace and a path to reconciliation and wholeness.

One: Thou annointest my head with oil;

All: God blesses me.

One: My cup runneth over.

All: God blesses me, beyond my deserving and beyond my capacity to receive.

One: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

All: God's blessings and providential care are mine for all eternity.

*OPENING HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness

GTG 39

Public Domain

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.

Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.

As thou hast been thou forever wilt be. (cont'd on next page)

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning, new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

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.

CONFESSIOAL 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 23

(OT pg. 501)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

Pastor

ANTHEM

The King of Love My Shepherd Is
Chancel Choir

arr. John Rutter

Second Reading:
John 10:1-10

Pastor
(NT pg. 103)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

*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

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
Public Domain

GTG 187

Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us; for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.

We are yours: in love befriend us; be the guardian of our way.
Keep your flock: from sin defend us; seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.

You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.

Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will.
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still

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.

Call to Offering

Offertory

Andante Religioso

Henry Smith

***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**

Public Domain

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought! 338

From Psalm 23
Joseph H. Gilmore, 1862

HE LEADETH ME: L. M. with Refrain
William B. Bradbury, 1864

1. He lead-eth me: O bless-ed thought! O words with heaven-ly com-fort fraught!
2. Some-times 'mid scenes of deep-est gloom, Some-times where E - den's bow-ers bloom,
3. Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine, Nor ev - er mur - mur nor re-pine;
4. And when my task on earth is done, When, by Thy grace, the vic-tory's won,

What - e'er I do, wher - e'er I be, Still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.
By wa - ters calm, o'er trou-bled sea, Still 'tis His hand that lead - eth me.
Con - tent, what - ev - er lot I see, Since 'tis my God that lead - eth me.
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee, Since God through Jor-dan lead - eth me.

REFRAIN

He lead - eth me, He lead - eth me; By His own hand He lead - eth me:

His faith-ful fol-lower I would be, For by His hand He lead - eth me. A-MEN.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

GTG 542

Public Domain

POSTLUDE

Song of Triumph

James H. Rogers

*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

2¢'s a Meal Offering will be taken today. Your gift helps to alleviate hunger and poverty locally and around the world. Please use the provided envelopes. Thanks for your offering.



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 Gale and Christy Buck.

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

The FPC Women's Circle Meeting is Monday, May 4th at King's Grant at 11:00 AM. Cindy Edgerton will lead us in our final lesson, "Road to Emmaus". If you are not a King's Grant resident, please sign in at the front desk and purchase your lunch ticket for \$12 upon arrival.

The Weekday School's Art Show is Thursday, May 7th at 6:00 PM in the fellowship hall. Teachers will be busy setting up displays in the fellowship hall and hallway prior to that time. Stop by and see what the young Picassos have been creating during the school year.



2026 Graduates. If you have a child or grandchild that is graduating high school or college, we want to recognize them. We need information regarding their graduating school and any continuing education plans. **Please submit information**

to the office by May 10th. Graduates will be recognized in June.

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.

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

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Sue Benfield, Barbara Adams (Patsy Stanley), Ernest Bremner, 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, Marion Miller, 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 26

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

Fourth 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

Monday, April 27

4:00 PM

Session Meeting

Wednesday, April 29

5:30 PM

Handbell Rehearsal

6:30 PM

Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, May 3

9:00 AM

Communion/Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Monday, May 4

11:00 AM

PW Circle Meeting at King's Grant

Wednesday, May 6

5:30 PM

Handbell Rehearsal

6:30 PM

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 7

6:00 PM

Weekday School Art Show

Sunday, May 10

9:00 AM

Communion/Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

~Lemonade on the Lawn

Monday, May 11

1:00 AM

Visioning

Tuesday, May 12

9:00 AM

Cooks Who Care

Wednesday, May 13

5:30 PM

Handbell Rehearsal

6:30 PM

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 14

6:00 PM

Weekday School Graduation

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS	2ND CUP
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.