

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



*“I am the true vine,
and my Father is
the vinegrower.”*

- John 15:1

Sermon based upon John 15:1-8 and Psalm 80:8-19

Our Mission

“Share God’s love, embrace our neighbors, nurture each other.”

*The Service for the Lord's Day
Fifth Sunday of Easter*

PRELUDE

Morning Prayer

Mercy Bartlett

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Leader: We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,

People: for we are the church of Jesus Christ!

Leader: We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,

All: opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!

*OPENING HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth
Public Domain

GTG#14

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor

Loving Lord,

our hearts are restless until they find their home in you. Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you. We pursue success, realizing it will never be enough. We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty. We turn toward the world and hope we will find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it. Forgive us, we pray, and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone.

I need thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
no tender voice like thine can peace afford.
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.
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; teach me thy will,
and thy rich promises in me fulfill.
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, Most Holy One;
O make me thine indeed, thou blessed Son.
I need thee, O I need thee, every hour I need thee!
O bless me now, my Savior— I come to thee!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor

***O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.
O Lord, hear my prayer: Come and listen to me.***

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

***The Doxology**

GTG#607PH#592

***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

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; earth's joys grow dim; its lories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see. O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour; what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like myself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless; ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes; shine through the gloom and point me to the
skies. Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; in life, in death,
O Lord, abide with me.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

The God of Hope Be with You

POSTLUDE

*Please stand as you are able

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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

We thank Dr. Denny Casey for being with us today while Pastor Bea is away.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Lang Mauck by Mr. and Mrs. William Huston Rawls of Beverly, Massachusetts and by Susan Richman Caraviello, Barbara Ann Richman Sachs, Mary Jane Richman Gillum, and Helen Richman Rathbun.

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.

Pastor Bea will be away April 15th - May 3rd on her pilgrimage in Ireland and Iona in Scotland. While she is away, elders of our church will be on call if pastoral care is needed. Call 276-734-8830 and leave a message or text. You may also leave a message on the church office phone.

Thursday, May 2nd is National Day of Prayer. A service will be held at Jack Dalton Park (130 Jack Dalton Road, Martinsville) from 6-7:00 PM. There will be music by a local praise band and food will be available for purchase from food trucks. Bring the entire family and join the Body of Christ in one voice to worship and pray for our community and our county.

The next Presbytery Meeting is Saturday, May 4th at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, 21206 Timberlake Rd., Lynchburg, VA and will be in-person. Follow this link for more information and the register: <https://www.peakspresbytery.org/new-presbytery-meeting-information/>

The FPC Women's Circle Meeting is Monday, May 6th at King's Grant at 11:00 AM in the multi-purpose room (across from the private dining room). We will meet. Martha Rollins will be leading lesson 9. 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 year is coming to a close soon. They will have their annual art show on Thursday, May 9th at 6:00 PM in the fellowship hall. Their graduation ceremony takes place on Thursday, May 16th at 6:00 PM, also in the fellowship hall, and the last day of school is May 17th.

There is no session meeting this month since Pastor Bea is away. There is a **Called Session meeting** for all elders and trustees on **Monday, May 13th at 5:30 PM.**

Be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (various household items and toiletries) and **Grace Network (Potato products** (boxed mashed, scalloped) (Other needs: toilet paper, deodorant, bath soap, toothpaste, feminine products, dish and laundry detergent) when you do your grocery shopping. Both agencies depend on us for assistance.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Langhorne Mauck, Family of Nanette Smith, Family of George Townsend, Sue Benfield, Jerry Bishop, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Marilyn & Ernest Bremner, Evelyn Cannaday, Cathie Carter (B. Tatum), Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Steve Edgerton, Marge Dunn, Neill Ferrill (S. Ford), Gary Francisco (Shanna King's Father), Juanita Griffin (J & B Williams), Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, Betty Carol and Harold Lamm, Mary Manning, Maggie Pilson, Susan Rosser, Becky Stone Sawyers (L. Pritchett), Dee Moore Smith, Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, Barbara Tatum, Bruce Thomas, Nathan Toms (A. Madonia), Carl Utley, Tammy Tucker Wardinski, persecuted Christians, military service men and women, missionaries, and all refugees and immigrants forced to flee their countries.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, April 28 **2 Cents a Meal Offering**
 9:00 AM Sunday School
 10:00 AM Worship in Sanctuary

Monday – Friday Weekday School
 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM School in Session
 12:00 AM - 2:00 PM Lunch Buddies in FH

Thursday, May 2
 6:00 PM National Day of Prayer Service at Jack Dalton Park

Saturday, May 4
 9:00 AM Presbytery Meeting at St. Andrew PC in Lynchburg

Sunday May 5 **Communion Sunday**
 9:00 AM Sunday School
 10:00 AM Worship in Sanctuary

Monday, May 6
 11:00 AM PW Circle Meeting at King's Grant

Thursday, May 9
 6:00 PM Weekday School Art Show in Fellowship Hall

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS
April 28	Joan Montgomery	Billy and Sharon Kirby
May 5	Monty Montgomery	Johnny and Ashby Pinkard
May 12	Nancy Moore	Monty Montgomery, Betty Hudson
May 19	Ashby Pinkard	Ron Rebman, Nancy Baker
May 28	Lynn Pritchett	Neil Tatum, Monty Montgomery

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