

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Sixth Sunday of Easter
Communion Sunday
May 5, 2024

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



Sermon based upon John 13:31-35 and Acts 11:1-18

Our Mission

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

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

PRELUDE

Shall We Gather at The River
Sanctuary Ringers

Michael Helman

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Leader: Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God;

People: Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

Leader: God's love was revealed in this way: God sent God's only Son into the world
So that we might live through him.

People: Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

Leader: God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

People: We love because God first loved us.

*OPENING HYMN

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me
Public Domain

GTG#703

Jesus, thy boundless love to me no thought can reach, no tongue declare;
O knit my thankful heart to thee, and reign without a rival there!
Thine wholly, thine alone, I'd live; myself to thee entirely give.

O grant that nothing in my soul may dwell, but thy pure love alone;
O may thy love possess me whole, my joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove; may every act, word, thought be love.

O Love, how gracious is thy way! All fear before thy presence flies;
care, anguish, sorrow melt away where'er thy healing beams arise.
O Jesus, nothing may I see, nothing desire, or seek, but thee.

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 hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and we are indifferent to the calls for peace; we despise the weak, separate ourselves from those who differ from us, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of love and mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of abundant life given through the love of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Silent prayers of confession may be offered.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father (and the Son), who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

I Come with Joy

GTG#515

Brian Arthur Wren © 1968, 1971, 1995 Hope Publishing Company, CCLI License #2244459

I come with joy a to meet my Lord, forgiven loved and free,
In awe and wonder to recall, His life laid down for me,
His life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
The new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
In Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share each proud division ends,
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
And strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord, His presence, always near,
Is in such friendship better known; we see and praise Him here,
We see and praise Him here.

Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways,
And as His people in the world, we'll live and speak His praise,
We'll live and speak His praise.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Liturgist

Call to Offering

Offertory

Holy Is The Lord

Kevin McChesney

Sanctuary Ringers

*The Doxology

PH#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-***

Invitation to Table

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

In every time and every age, O God,
it is good and faithful that we give you thanks,
for your mercy is sure and your steadfast love endures forever.

In your compassion you gave us Christ Jesus,
who sets us free from death and leads us to life eternal.

And so, with all creation, with all the needy and hungry ones,
with all those who have enough and plenty,
with creatures large and small, with sun and moon and stars,

and with the saints of every age, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in
the highest.**

Blessed are you, O God, creator of all things.

By your power and love you continue to deliver your people from bondage,
thwart the designs of evil, show the way through the wilderness,
turn hardship into righteousness, and reveal your hand upholding the just.

Blessed are you, O Christ, servant of the universe.

You came among us to feed and heal and teach, to confound the haughty,
to confuse the deceivers, to challenge the wrong-hearted,
and, in all these things, to give hope to those who long for peace.

Remembering our Lord's self-giving love, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying, you destroyed our death; rising, you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life.

You give us words when we have none;

you fill us with vision when we have the most need;

you give us voice to proclaim our faith in every hour.

Be our guide and teacher, today and always.

Come now, O Prince of Peace,
Spirit of Love,
Breath of Life.
Bring to all this hurting world the joy that Mary knew,
and teach us to proclaim with her,
“I have seen the Lord!”
In the unity of the Holy Trinity,
in gratitude for this great day of resurrection,
we praise you, God of all that is,
now and forever. **Amen.**

Words of Institution

Serving of the Great Feast

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

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.

*SENDING HYMN

We Are One in the Spirit

GTG#300

Peter Scholtes Words: 1966 F.E.L. Publications. Assigned 1991 The Lorenz Corporation;
Music: 1966 F.E.L. Publications. Assigned 1991 The Lorenz Corporation CCLI License # 2244459

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

Chorus

*And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.*

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
And together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land:

We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
We will work with each other; we will work side by side,
And we’ll guard each man’s dignity and save each man’s pride:

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Grace Love and Fellowship

Tom Fettke

POSTLUDE

Peace I Leave with You
Sanctuary Ringers

Howard F. Starks

*Please stand as you are able

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 flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gene Stanley on his birthday by his family.

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). 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.

Called Session meeting for all elders and trustees is **Monday, May 13th at 5:30 PM.**

The Weekday School year is coming to a close soon. Their annual **art show is Thursday, May 9th** at 6:00 PM in the fellowship hall. A **graduation ceremony** will take place on **Thursday, May 16th** at 6:00 PM, also in the fellowship hall, and the last day of school is May 17th.

The Community Breakfast is Saturday, May 18th with team leaders Bill and Suzan Kirby. Cooking begins at 7:00 AM and breakfast is served from 8:00 - 9:30 AM. Please contact Suzan (276-358-0075) if you are available to cook, serve, or clean.

The Think Tank will meet **Monday, May 20th at 3:00 PM** in the session room.

The Session will meet **Monday, May 20th at 6:00 PM** in the session room.

Summer office hours will begin the week of May 20th. Office hours will be **10:00 AM to 3:30 PM Monday – Thursday. The office will be closed on Friday.** If you need to conduct office business outside these hours, please call to make an appointment (276-632-3431). Voicemail will be monitored.

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.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday 9:30 – 2:00 PM

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Langhorne Mauck, Anne Abercrombie, 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.

Join us again this summer for

COMMUNITY

WORSHIP

June 9 - Grace Presbyterian @ 11 am

218 Fayette Street, Martinsville, VA

July 14 - First Presbyterian Martinsville @ 10 am

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue, Martinsville, VA

August 11 - Forest Hills Presbyterian @ 11 am

725 Beechnut Lane, Martinsville, VA

September 8 - First Presbyterian Collinsville @ 11 am

4500 King's Mountain Road. Collinsville, VA

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Light refreshments will be served following
each service.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, May 5	Communion Sunday
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
Monday, May 6	
11:00 AM	PW Circle Meeting at King's Grant
Wednesday May 8	
5:30 p.m.	Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, May 9	
6:00 PM	WDS Art Show
Sunday, May 12	
9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary
Monday, May 13	
5:30 PM	Called Session Meeting
Wednesday May 15	
	NO Handbell OR Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, May 16	
6:00 PM	WDS Graduation Program
Saturday, May 18	
8:00-9:30 AM	Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM)
Sunday, May 19	Pentecost
9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary
Monday, May 20	
3:00 PM	Think Tank Meeting
6:00 PM	Session Meeting

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS
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
June 2	Ron Rebman	Joe and Jerri DeVault
June 9 *worship is at	Grace Presbyterian	Neil Tatum, Betty Hudson
June 18	Joe Williams	Milt and Nancy Davis
June 23	Gale Buck	Monty and Joan Montgomery
June 30	Milt Davis	Monty and Joan Montgomery

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