

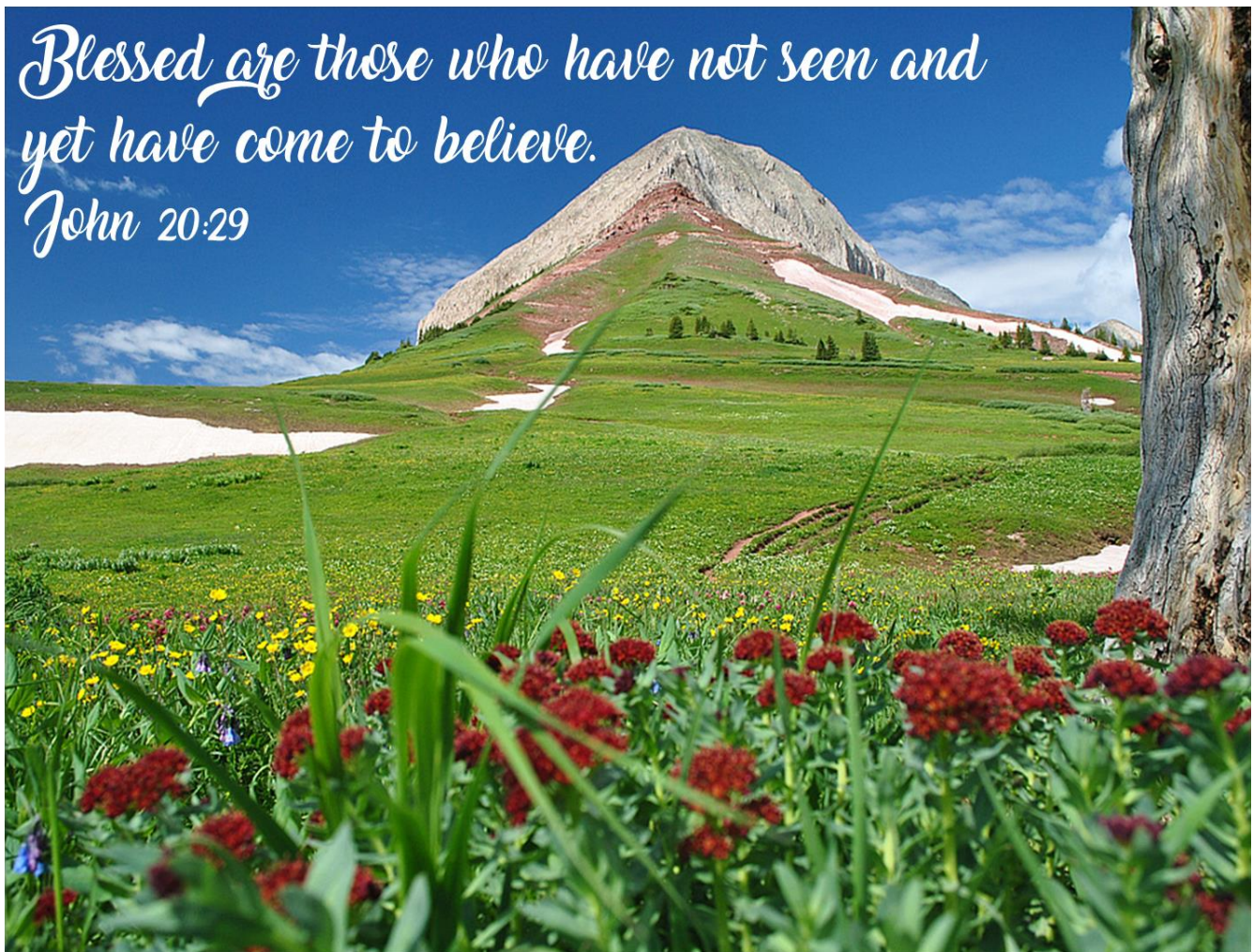
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Second Sunday of Easter
April 12, 2026

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



Sermon based upon John 20:19–31 and 1 Peter 1:3-9

Our Mission

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

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

PRELUDE

My Heart Ever Faithful
Flute and piano duet with flautist Lynn Pritchett

arr. Jack Schrader

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Leader: Great is the mystery of the faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Leader: Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

People: The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

Leader: But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

*OPENING HYMN

Christ Is Alive

GTG 246

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Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
But saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
And find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
Till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor

Eternal God, your Word teaches us that whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. Forgive us for forgetting your gracious promise of life. We live in fear, thinking death has the final say. We follow our own ways rather than your life-giving path in Jesus Christ. Help us put our trust in you, our God who has the power of life over death. We believe, Lord; help our unbelief. In the name of Jesus Christ, risen from the dead never to die again, we pray.

Silent prayers of confession may be offered.

CONFESSONAL RESPONSE	<i>Kyrie</i>	PH 572
<i>Lord, have mercy upon us.</i>		
<i>Christ, have mercy upon us.</i>		
<i>Lord, have mercy upon us.</i>		
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	<i>We Are Forgiven</i>	GTG 447
<i>We are forgiven. We are forgiven.</i>		
<i>Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. (x2)</i>		
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION		Liturgist
SCRIPTURE READINGS		
	First Reading:	Liturgist
	<i>1 Peter 1:3-9</i>	(NT pg. 232)
TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES		Pastor
SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>I Just Came to Praise the Lord</i>	arr. Jack Schrader
	Flute and piano duet with flautist Lynn Pritchett	
	Second Reading:	Pastor
	<i>John 20:19-31</i>	(NT pg. 115)
One: This is the Word of the Lord.		
All: Thanks be to God.		
SERMON		Dr. Denny Casey
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH		Pastor
<i>from A Brief Statement of Faith</i>		
We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted. Crucified, he suffered the depths of human pain and gave his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.		

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
 Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
 Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
 Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear.
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
 Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
 Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere.
 Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
 Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
 Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!

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

Adagio in A-flat

arr. Hopson

***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**

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight
 (sung to the tune of *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*)
 Public Domain

GTG 817

We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
 O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."

We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;
 but in your promise we rejoice and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
 to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.

And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light
 may we behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Go to the World

GTG 295

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Go to the World!

Go into all the earth.

**Go preach, the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.**

Alleluia. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE

Prelude in G Major

J.S. Bach

*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

We welcome and thank Dr. Denny Casey for being with us this morning in Pastor Bea's absence. We are always glad to see our dear friend, Denny, and we appreciate him sharing God's Word with us.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Melissa Wingfield and her family following the passing of her mother, Ruby Buffkin Stewart, on Wednesday, April 8th, in Eden, NC. Ruby was also the sister of Bud Buffkin and grandmother of Mattie Wingfield-Pierson.



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 Milt Davis.

The FPC Women's Circle Meeting is Monday, April 13th at King's Grant at 11:00 AM. Lynn Pritchett will be leading our lesson. 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.

Cooks Who Care will meet Tuesday, April 14th at 9:00 AM in the Marge Dunn Kitchen where they will prepare a delicious meal for our shut-ins.



Our next community breakfast is on Saturday, April 18th. Cooks arrive at 7 am, servers & others about 7:30. If you can help on Saturday, please contact Mary Linker at 919-548-2452 (text or call).



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.

When you do your grocery shopping be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (various household items and toiletries) and **Grace Network** (**Canned Beefaroni, Spag/meatballs, Ravioli, Chili.**) 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.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Ruby Buffkin Stewart (mother of Melissa Wingfield/sister of Bud Buffkin), Barbara Adams (Patsy Stanley) Sue Benfield, Bud Buffkin, Evelyn Cannaday, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Nancy Davis, Marge Dunn, Martin Ford, Marvin Hudson, Liz Jackman (daughter of Nancy Davis), 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.

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!

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS	2ND CUP
April 12	Joe DeVault	Duke and Liz Ferrell	Milt Davis
April 19	Barbara Duncan	Billy and Sharon Kirby	Lone and Mary Linker
April 26	Martha Rollins	Monty and Joan Montgomery	Gale and Christy Buck
May 3	Pearl Minter	Johnny and Ashby Pinkard	TBD
May 10	Joan Montgomery	Ron Rebman, Judy King	TBD
May 17	Mary Linker	Bill and Suzan Kirby	TBD
May 24	Nancy Moore	Joe and Jerri DeVault	TBD
May 31	Susan Pilson	Bob Wuetefeld, Barbara Duncan	TBD

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, April 12

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

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 13

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

Stewardship/Communication Meeting

PW Circle Meeting at King's Grant

Tuesday, April 14

9:00 AM

Cooks Who Care

Wednesday, April 15

5:30 PM

6:30 PM

Handbell Rehearsal

Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, April 18

8:00-9:30 AM

Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM)

Sunday, April 19

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, April 21

5:30 PM

Facilities Meeting

Wednesday, April 22

5:30 PM

6:30 PM

Handbell Rehearsal

Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, April 25

10:00 AM

Spring Carnival

Sunday, April 26

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

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

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