

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Resurrection of the Lord/Easter Sunday
April 5, 2026

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



Sermon based upon Matthew 28:1-10 and Colossians 3:1-4

Our Mission

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

*The Service for the Lord's Day
Resurrection of the Lord/Easter Day*

*EASTER PROCLAMATION

Pastor

Procession of the Light with handbells

*OPENING HYMN

*Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness
(Christ, Be Our Light)*

GTG 314

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Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

*Refrain: Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many
despair. Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice. [Refrain]

Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. [Refrain]

Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are
cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. [Refrain]

Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come. [Refrain]

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor

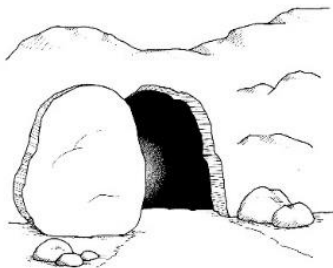
Leader: The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

People: **Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

PRELUDE

I Will Sing Praise
Chancel Choir

Joseph M. Martin



OPENING PRAYER

Liturgist

WELCOME

Pastor

LITANY FOR EASTER

Liturgist

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

This is the good news we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

That Christ died for our sins, and was buried,
and rose again on the third day.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

He appeared to Peter, and to the twelve, and to many faithful witnesses.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

At last he came to us, that we might come to believe
and proclaim this good news to the world.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption,
and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death.
Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may live with him in the joy of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*PRAISE HYMN

Jesus Christ is Risen Today
Public Domain

GTG 232

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured. Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

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

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus be with you all.
People: And also with you.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*Gloria Patri*)

PH 579

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading:

Liturgist

Colossians 3:1-4

(NT pg.201)

ANTHEM

Crown Him Lord This Easter Day
Chancel Choir

Don Besig/Nancy Price

Second Reading:

Pastor

Matthew 28:1-10

(NT pg.33)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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.



*RESPONSE HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns

GTG 268

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Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time;
creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Liturgist

Call to Offering

Offertory

That Easter Day with Joy was Bright

arr. Dale Wood

***The Doxology**

GTG 609

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Pastor

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.

At your word the earth was made and spun on its course among the planets.

Your hand formed us from the dust of the earth and set us among all your creatures to love and serve you. When we were unfaithful to you you kept faith with us.

When we were slaves in Egypt, you broke the bonds of our oppression, brought us through the sea to freedom, and made covenant to be our God. By a pillar of fire, you led us through the desert to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. You spoke of love and justice in the prophets, and in the Word made flesh you lived among us, manifesting your glory. Christ died that we might live, and is risen to raise us to new life.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

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.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, whom you sent to save us. He came with healing in his touch, and was wounded for our sins. He came with mercy in his voice, and was mocked as one despised. He came with peace in his heart, and was met with violence and death. By your power he broke free from the prison of the tomb, and at his command the gates of hell were opened. The one who was dead now lives. The one who humbled himself is raised to rule over all creation, the Lamb upon the throne. The one ascended on high is with us always, as he promised.

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

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

Gracious God,

pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Nourished at this table, O God, may we know Christ's redemptive love and live a new life in him. Give us who are fed at his hand, grace to share our bread with the hungry and with the hungry of heart. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever. **Amen**

Words of Institution

Serving of the Feast

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.

*CLOSING HYMN

The Day of Resurrection!

GTG 233

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The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light,
and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,
his own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin;
the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein.
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor

BENEDICTION RESPONSE Come, Christians, Join to Sing (vs. 1)

GTG 267

Christian H. Bateman (1843), Tune: MADRID; Public Domain

Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice; Alleluia! Amen!

POSTLUDE

Voluntary

John Stanley

organ duet featuring Taylor Shank on trumpet

*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



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 Joe and Susan Smith. We look forward to seeing you there.

Pastor Bea will away on vacation the week of April 6th and will return to email and the office on Monday, April 13th. **Dr. Denny Casey will be with us Sunday morning, April 12th.** If you need pastoral care please the cell phone, 276-734-8830 to reach an elder or call Rita at the church office.

The Church office will be closed Monday, April 6th for Easter. The Weekday School will be on Spring break this week, April 6th-10th and will resume class on Monday, April 13th.



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.

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).



Spring Carnival and Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 18th from 10:00 AM - Noon hosted by FPC and Grace PC. Fun activities in addition to an egg hunt include a bounce house, environmental exploration stations, face painting and more. This is a community outreach event and we expect to have lots of families and children. Reach out to lone Linker (310-951-5138) or Taylor Shank (276-732-9525) for more information or to volunteer.

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.

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

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.

CHURCH CALENDAR

<p>Sunday, April 5 9:00 AM 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Resurrection Sunday/Communion Sunday School Worship in Sanctuary ~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall</p>
<p>Monday, April 6</p>	<p>Easter Monday Office Closed</p>
<p>Wednesday, April 8 10:00 AM 2:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>COW Meeting Worship Meeting Handbell Rehearsal Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p>Sunday, April 12 9:00 AM 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Sunday School Worship in Sanctuary ~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall</p>
<p>Monday, April 13 10:00 AM 11:00 AM</p>	<p>Stewardship/Communication Meeting PW Circle Meeting at King's Grant</p>
<p>Tuesday, April 14 9:00 AM</p>	<p>Cooks Who Care</p>
<p>Wednesday, April 15 5:30 PM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Handbell Rehearsal Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p>Saturday, April 18 8:00-9:30 AM 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM) Egg Hunt and Spring Carnival</p>
<p>Sunday, April 19 9:00 AM 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Sunday School Worship in Sanctuary ~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall</p>
<p>Tuesday, April 21 5:30 PM</p>	<p>Facilities Meeting</p>
<p>Sunday, April 26 9:00 AM 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Sunday School Worship in Sanctuary ~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall</p>
<p>Monday, April 27 4:00 PM</p>	<p>Session Meeting</p>

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS	2ND CUP
April 5 Easter	Taylor Shank	Randy and Martha Rollins	Joe and Susan Smith
April 12	Joe DeVault	Duke and Liz Ferrell	Joe and Brenda Williams
April 19	Barbara Duncan	Billy and Sharon Kirby	Ione and Mary Linker
April 26	Martha Rollins	Monty and Joan Montgomery	Gale and Christy Buck

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