

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue  
Martinsville, Virginia

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*  
*Communion Sunday*  
May 3, 2026

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation



**Sermon based upon John 14:1-14 and Psalm 119:9-32**

**Our Mission**

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

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

PRELUDE *Andante* Rheinberger

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

One: Christ is risen!

**All: Alleluia!**

One: Showing, our Way, our Truth, our Life:

**All: Such a Way, as gives us breath:**

One: Such a Truth, as ends all strife:

**All: Such a Life, as killeth death.**

\*OPENING HYMN *To God Be the Glory* GTG 634  
Public Domain

To God be the glory; great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Refrain:*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!*

*O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory: great things he has done!*

Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer and higher and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. *[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	<i>Kyrie</i>	PH 572
<p><b><i>Lord, have mercy upon us.</i></b>  <b><i>Christ, have mercy upon us.</i></b>  <b><i>Lord, have mercy upon us.</i></b></p>		
ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS		Pastor
*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE		Pastor
<p>One: The peace of our Lord Jesus be with you all.  <b><i>All: And also with you.</i></b></p>		
*RESPONSE OF PRAISE	<i>We Are Forgiven</i>	GTG 447
<p><b><i>We are forgiven. We are forgiven.</i></b>  <b><i>Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.</i></b>  <i>(repeat once)</i></p>		
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION		Liturgist
SCRIPTURE READINGS		
	First Reading:	Liturgist
	<i>Psalm 119:9-32</i>	(OT pg.566)
TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES		Pastor
CHOIR ANTHEM	<i>With All My Heart</i> Chancel Choir	Joel Raney
	Second Reading:	Pastor
	<i>John 14:1-14</i>	(NT pg.108)
<p>One: This is the Word of the Lord.  <b><i>All: Thanks be to God.</i></b></p>		
SERMON		Rev. Dr. Bea Miller
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH		Pastor
<p><b>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.</b></p>		

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.  
 She is his new creation by water and the word.  
 From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride.  
 With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
 her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.  
 One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
 and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,  
 by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
 yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
 And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
 she waits the consummation of peace forevermore:  
 till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
 and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,  
 and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:  
 O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
 like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

## OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS &amp; OURSELVES

Liturgist

Call to Offering

Offertory

*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

arr. M. Burkhardt

**\*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-***

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Pastor

Invitation to the Table

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Christ is risen from the dead! He has burst forth from the tomb to break the tangles of despair and death.

**Love is come again.**

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the eternal rejoicing chorus who forever sing:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power, Giver of life, heaven and earth declare your splendor. Praise, glory, and love are yours.**

We give thanks for Jesus, the risen Lord of life, who rose victorious from the grave and made the whole creation new.

He broke bread with sinners, fed the hungry, and healed the oppressed, then he poured out his life in death that we might live in love.

**Christ is risen from the dead. Love is come again.**

Remembering his life, death, and glorious resurrection, we offer you these gifts of bread and wine.

**We also offer our lives in thanks and praise.**

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be for us the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

**Breath your Spirit upon the whole earth, that we may proclaim good news to all the world and rise together as children of your new creation.**

Then bring us to that new heaven here on earth, O God, where death and pain are no more and you dwell with us forever.

**Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you eternally in songs of pure unbounded praise. Amen.**

Words of Institution

Serving of the Great Feast

Prayer after communion

Almighty God, in Christ you have shown us the way, revealed to us your truth, and offered to us everlasting life.

**Keep our eyes upon him, that we may see your path more clearly, know your truth more fully, and receive your life more abundantly.**

We pray as Jesus taught us to pray:

**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.**

In remembrance of me, eat this bread.  
In remembrance of me, drink this wine.  
In remembrance of me, pray for the time when God's own will is done

In remembrance of me, heal the sick  
In remembrance of me, feed the poor  
In remembrance of me, open the door and let your neighbors in, let them in.

Take, eat, and be comforted; drink and remember too,  
that this is my body and precious blood shed for you, shed for you.

In remembrance of me, search for truth.  
In remembrance of me, always love.  
In remembrance of me, don't look above, but in your heart look for God  
Do this in remembrance of Me.

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*New Testament Benediction*

Christian Gregor

POSTLUDE

*Trumpet Gavot*

arr. Wolff

\*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

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Rusty Reaser who passed Tuesday evening. Arrangements are incomplete at this time.



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.

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 who 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 11th.** Graduates will be recognized in June.



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 11th, 2026 at 7:00 PM** at the Galilean House of Worship (2078 A. L. Philpott Highway, Martinsville). Doors will open at 6:15 PM.



The **Weekday School's Pre-K Graduation** will take place on **Thursday, May 14th at 6:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall.

**Patrick Henry Elementary School** has asked to use our parking lot on **Friday, May 15th**. Staff and parents will be parking at FPC to allow Field Day activities for their students.

**Our next community breakfast is on Saturday, May 16th.** 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).



**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.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Rusty Reaser, Family of Steve Fitzgerald, 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, 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><b>Sunday, May 3</b> 9:00 AM 10:00 AM</p> <p><b>Monday –Friday</b> 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM</p> <p><b>Monday, May 4</b> 11:00 AM</p> <p><b>Wednesday, May 6</b> 5:30 PM 6:30 PM</p> <p><b>Thursday, May 7</b> 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>Sunday, May 10</b> 9:00 AM 10:00 AM</p> <p><b>Monday, May 11</b> 1:00 AM</p> <p><b>Tuesday, May 12</b> 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>Wednesday, May 13</b> 5:30 PM 6:30 PM</p> <p><b>Thursday, May 14</b> 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>Saturday, May 16</b> 8:00-9:30 AM</p> <p><b>Sunday, May 17</b> 9:00 AM 10:00 AM</p>	<p><b>Communion/Fifth Sunday of Easter</b> Sunday School Worship in Sanctuary ~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall</p> <p><b>Weekday School</b> School in Session Lunch Buddies</p> <p>PW Circle Meeting at King’s Grant</p> <p>Handbell Rehearsal Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>Weekday School Art Show</p> <p><b>Mother’s Day</b> Sunday School Worship in Sanctuary ~Lemonade on the Lawn</p> <p>Visioning</p> <p>Cooks Who Care</p> <p>Handbell Rehearsal Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>Weekday School Graduation</p> <p>Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM)</p> <p>Sunday School Worship in Sanctuary ~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall</p>
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DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS	2ND CUP
<b>May 3</b>	Nancy Moore	Johnny and Ashby Pinkard	Joe and Susan Smith
<b>May 10</b>	Joan Montgomery	Ron Rebman, Judy King	No 2nd Cup
<b>May 17</b>	Mary Linker	Bill and Suzan Kirby	Janet Fentress, Judy King
<b>May 24</b>	Pearl Minter	Joe and Jerri DeVault	Joe and Brenda Williams
<b>May 31</b>	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.

### 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