

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2026

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



Sermon based upon John 14:15-21 and Acts 17:22-31

Our Mission

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

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

PRELUDE

Poeme

Z. Fibich

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

One: We gather to celebrate the God of wonder and majesty!

All: Awesome God, help us to worship you in spirit and in truth.

One: We gather to celebrate Jesus Christ, who was dead and buried,
and now risen indeed!

All: Jesus, renew our hope in your great power and love.

One: We gather to celebrate the Holy Spirit, our promised comforter and guide!

All: Come Holy Spirit! Fill us with your presence and peace.

One: We gather to celebrate the ancient hope of Christians:

All: God is with us and will never let us go.

*OPENING HYMN

I Sing the Mighty Power of God
Public Domain

GTG 32

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known.
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne,
while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor

Eternal God,

**In whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins,
and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our
offences, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and
humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace,
and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.**

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>Acts 17:22-31</i>	(NT pg. 137)
TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES		Pastor
ANTHEM	<i>I Love You, Lord/He Is Exalted</i> Chancel Choir	Klein/Paris
	Second Reading:	Pastor
	<i>John 14:15-21</i>	(NT pg. 109)
One: This is the Word of the Lord.		
All: Thanks be to God.		
SERMON		Rev. Dr. Bea Miller
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH		Pastor
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.		

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down,
 Fix in us Thy humble dwelling; all Thy faithful mercies crown!
 Jesus, Thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love Thou art;
 Visit us with Thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
 Let us all in Thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.
 Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
 End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all Thy life receive;
 Suddenly return, and never, never more Thy temples leave.
 Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
 Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
 Let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee:
 Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
 Till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

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

Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

W. Held

***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

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

*This is my story; this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story; this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]

Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. [Refrain]

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Spirit of the Living God

POSTLUDE

Prelude in F Major

Bach

*Please rise in body or in spirit

Happy Mother's Day to ALL women...

*who are moms, who are new moms, yearning to be moms, who have
lost children, who have never had a mom, who are fur moms, who
are bonus moms, who have lost their moms, who are mother figures.*

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

Join us for Lemonade on the Lawn immediately following today's worship service. Come enjoy refreshments and fellowship hosted by the Fellowship Committee.

Congratulations to Max Pinkston and Amy Lynn Powell, who were married on Saturday, May 2nd in Richmond, VA. Max is the son of Shane and Heidi Pinkston.

We also celebrate the birth of George William Edgerton, born on Saturday, April 18th to Patrick and Brannon Edgerton of Bluffton, SC. We extend our congratulations to grandparents Cindy and Steve Edgerton and great-grandparents Virginia and Mervyn King.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Catherine Bridges on the passing of her daughter, Susan (Susannah, Kitty) Bridges Smith on Friday, May 1st in Lynchburg, VA.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Rusty Reaser who passed Wednesday, April 29th in Mount Pleasant, SC. A celebration of Rusty's life will be held on Wednesday, May 13th at 2:00 PM in the FPC sanctuary.

Reception for Rusty Reaser Family. Rusty gave so much of himself in ministry and friendship, and it was a blessing to know him, to love him, and to serve God alongside him. We are requesting donations of finger sandwiches (chicken salad, pimento cheese, cucumber, etc.), vegetable tray, fruit, deviled eggs, and bite-size sweets to share with those who gather in remembrance. **If you are able to help by providing food or assistance, please contact Susan Pilson, 276-340-7288.** Thank you for your generosity and care as we come together to honor a truly faithful servant of God.

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 June 7th.



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



ANNIVERSARY

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.



Congratulations to our four-year-olds! The Weekday School's Pre-School Graduation will take place **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.

The Community Breakfast is 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).



The MHE Handbell Ensemble will perform "America – From Sea to Shining Sea!" on Sunday, May 17th, at 3:00 PM. The performance will be held at the First United Methodist Church, located at 146 East Main Street. Janet Fentress is a member of the ensemble.

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 Kitty Bridges Smith (Catherine Bridges' daughter), 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.

OFFICE HOURS**

Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Friday – 9:30 – 2:00 PM



****Summer office hours will begin Friday, May 22 (Memorial weekend)**

Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM and CLOSED on Friday

**If you need to conduct office business outside these hours,
please call to make an appointment.**

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, May 10

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

Mother's Day

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

~Lemonade on the Lawn

Monday –Thursday

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Weekday School

School in Session

Lunch Buddies

Monday, May 11

1:00 PM

7:00 PM

Visioning

Smith River Singers Concert

Tuesday, May 12

9:00 AM

2:00 PM

Cooks Who Care

Worship Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 13

2:00 PM

5:30 PM

6:30 PM

Rusty Reaser Service followed by reception

Handbell Rehearsal

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 14

6:00 PM

Weekday School Graduation

Saturday, May 16

8:00-9:30 AM

Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM)

Sunday, May 17

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

Sunday School

Worship in Sanctuary

~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall

MHE Handbell Concert at FUMC

3:00 PM

Monday, May 18

4:00 PM

Session Meeting

Thursday, May 21

9:00 AM

Presbytery Meeting at Blacksburg PC

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS	2ND CUP
May 10	Joan Montgomery	Ron Rebman, Judy King	No 2nd Cup
May 17	Mary Linker	Bill and Suzan Kirby	Janet Fentress, Judy King
May 24	Pearl Minter	Joe and Jerri DeVault	Joe and Brenda Williams
May 31	Susan Pilson	Bob Wuetefeld, Barbara Duncan	Ione and Mary Linker
June 7	Ashby Pinkard	Duke and Liz Ferrell	TBD
June 14 ***	****COMMUNITY	WORSHIP AT GRACE PC	*****
June 21	Ron Rebman	Billy and Sharon Kirby	TBD
June 28	Ione Linker	Monty and Joan Montgomery	TBD

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