

# First Presbyterian Church of Martinsville



April 21, 2024

Worship 10:00 am

[www.fpcmartinsville.org](http://www.fpcmartinsville.org)



# The Worship of God

## Fourth Sunday of Easter



### Gathering

#### The Call of the Carillon

May the carillon bells call us to gather in the sanctuary, entering into a time of silent preparation to encounter the Living God.

#### Prelude

*Praeambulum Supra Christ Lag in Todesbanden, 4a*

Johann Ludwig Krebs

### Preparing to Hear the Word

#### Welcome

Rev. John Erickson

#### Opening Prayer

#### Remembering our Baptisms

#### Call to Worship

Eric Hooker

This is the good news—  
the grave is empty;  
Christ is risen.

**Hallelujah!**

This is the good news—  
the light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness can never put it out.

**Hallelujah!**

This is the good news—  
once we were no people;  
now we are God's people.

**Hallelujah!**

Christ is our peace,  
the indestructible peace  
we now share with each other.

**Hallelujah!**

#### ♦ Hymn of Praise

*God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*

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#### Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave,  
you shattered the power of sin and death.**

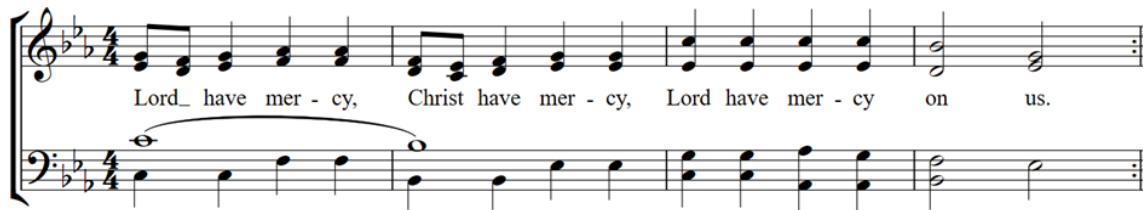
**We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,  
bound by the ways that lead to death.**

**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 ignore 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. Amen.**

**Silent Prayer**  
*Kyrie*



Lord\_ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy on us.

WORDS: Kyrie eleison  
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1982

DOMINE DEUS

**Assurance of Pardon** —1 Corinthians 15:20-22, NRSV

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.  
For since death came through a human being,  
the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being;  
for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

**Thanks be to God!**

♦ **Gloria Patri**

*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.*

♦ **Passing of the Peace**

## The Word

**Prayer for Illumination**

Eric Hooker

**First Scripture Reading**

Psalm 23

Pew Bible: OT p. 474

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Special Music**

*O Herre Gott, dein göttlich Wort, BWV 1110*

J.S. Bach

**Children's Message**

Lynette Liberge

**Second Scripture Reading**

Luke 24: 13-35

Pew Bible: NT p. 84

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Rev. John Erickson



# Responding to the Word

♦ **Affirmation of Faith** —from A Brief Statement of Faith

**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,  
forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified,  
suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised 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.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

♦ **Hymn of Response**

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

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**Call for the Offering**

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

## Sending

♦ **Hymn**

*O Jesus, I Have Promised*

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**Benediction**

**Benediction Response**

*Lead Me Lord*

Musical score for the hymn "Lead Me Lord" in G major and 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy right-eous-ness, make Thy way plain be - fore my face. For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord, On - ly that mak - est me dwell in safe - ty."

WORDS: Psalms 5:8, 4:8  
MUSIC: Samuel S. Wesley, 1861

LEAD ME, LORD

**Postlude**

*Choral - Christ Lag in Todesbanden, 4b*

Johann Ludwig Krebs

*(During the postlude, you are invited to remain seated.)*

♦ *All who are able, please stand*

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Rev. John Erickson, Pastor  
Matt Luca, Music Director / Organist  
Steve Ward, Media Director