

First Presbyterian Church
of Martinsville



April 5, 2026

Worship 10:00 am

www.fpcmartinsville.org





The Worship of God Easter Sunday



Gathering

The Call of the Carillon

Let the carillon bells invite us into the sanctuary, where we prepare our hearts in silence to worship the Living God.

Prelude

Lord Jesus Christ, be present now! BWV 709
"We believe in one God"

Johann Sebastian Bach

Preparing to Hear the Word

Welcome

The Rev. John Erickson

Remembering Our Baptisms

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Emily Hill

The stone has been rolled away.

The tomb is empty.

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

In the quiet of the garden, grief gave way to wonder.

In the breaking of dawn, despair met new life.

We come carrying what we have known—

and opening ourselves to what God is doing now.

Come, you who are certain and you who are searching.

Come, you who rejoice and you who still weep.

The risen Christ meets us where we are

and calls us by name.

Let us worship the God of resurrection,

who brings life out of death and hope out of despair.

♦ Hymn

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

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♦ Prayer of Adoration

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray together.

Eternal God,

**we praise you that your glory has dawned on us,
and brought us into this Day of Resurrection.**

**We rejoice that the grave could not hold your Son,
and that he has conquered death,
risen to rule over all powers of this earth.**

**We praise you that he summons us into new life,
to follow him with joy and gladness.**

By your Spirit,

**lift us from doubt and despair,
and set our feet in Christ's holy way,
that our lives may be signs of his life,
and all we have may show forth his love.**

Praise, glory, and thanksgiving to you, our God, forever and ever.

Amen.

♦ **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.*

♦ **The Peace of Christ**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

In freedom and in joy, let us share with one another the peace of Christ.

The Word

Prayer for Illumination

Emily Hill

First Scripture Reading

Acts 10:34-43

Pew Bible: NT p. 121

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

Special Music

Christ ist erstanden (Christ is arisen) – Richard Rudolf Klein (based on trad. German)

Second Scripture Reading

John 20:1-18

Pew Bible: NT p. 108

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

Children's Message

Lynette Liberge

Sermon

The Rev. John Erickson

Responding to the Word

♦ **Hymn***Christ Is Alive!*

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♦ **Declaration of Faith**

**This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand,
and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast:
that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures,
that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day,
and that he appeared first to the women,
then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.
We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.
Jesus Christ is the first and the last,
the beginning and the end;
he is our Lord and our God.
Amen.**

Call for the Offering

Offertory

♦ **Doxology**

*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

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Celebration of Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

With joy we praise you gracious God. . .

Therefore, we join our voices with all the saints

and all the angels and the whole creation to proclaim 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.

Closing Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Sending

♦ Hymn

Thine Is the Glory

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Benediction

Benediction Response

Lead Me Lord

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.

LEAD ME, LORD

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

Postlude

Symphony for Organ No. 5, Op. 42, No. 1: V. Toccata

Charles-Marie Widor

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

♦ All who are able, please stand



The Rev. John Erickson, Pastor
Elijah Buerk Music Director / Organist
Steve Ward, Media Director