

First Presbyterian Church OF PARKERSBURG

GATHERING, GROWING, CARING, GOING

1341 Juliana Street ♦ Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101

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Rev. Annie McMillan - Pastor

Scott Rockhold - Organist ♦ Chris Alfred - Financial Manager/Treasurer

Judi Echard - Office Secretary ♦ Senta Goudy - Clerk of Session

April 27, 2025

10:30 a.m.



WE ARE A NURTURING, VIBRANT CONGREGATION,
REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY
AND STANDING AS A BEACON OF CHRIST'S LOVE AND PROMISE.

Sharing the Life of the Church

AFTER CHRIST'S RESURRECTION, THE DISCIPLES DEMONSTRATE MANY RESPONSES: NOT ONLY FAITH AND JOY BUT ALSO DOUBT AND CONFUSION. WELCOME TO WORSHIP — NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE ON YOUR FAITH JOURNEY.

Coffee - Coffee is available in the Harris Room between worship services. If you would like to host Coffee Hour, sign up outside the Harris Room, or call Joyce Boso at 304-488-1205 for more details.

A Thank You Note - I would like to thank the congregation for helping to make our Mission and Outreach Easter Egg Hunt at Friendship Park such a heartwarming success. The 30 kids were truly excited to begin their search. "It takes a village (congregation)" for Mission's success. Thanks from the Mission Committee for your support in accomplishing our goal of meeting the needs of our community and adding joy to their day. - *Nancy Cutlip, Mission Committee Chair*

Bluestone Events - The Spring Getaway is May 2-4, and Summer Camp for youth and children begins in June. For more information, pick up a brochure outside the Sanctuary, or visit their website @ <https://bluestonecamp.org>.

Mulching Party - May 10, @8:30 a.m. If you'd like to join in the fun and help us spread mulch in our lovely gardens, don your work gloves and grab your favorite spreading tool. You can stay as long as you like - all help will be appreciated. If you have any questions, see Judi White.

Workers Needed - On **Saturday, May 17**, the Saturday Stewards will be oiling the

pews in the Sanctuary, and they need volunteers. Work begins at **8:30 a.m.**, and ends when the job is completed. Please come and work if you are able, no matter how long you can stay. If you have questions, see Mike Beckett.

Graduate Sunday - We will honor our 2025 graduates during Worship on **Sunday, May 25**. If you know of a high school or college graduate, please provide us with their name, school, and degree/certificate achieved. Call the church office, 304-422-5426, or send an email to office@fpcpborgwv.org so that all graduates may be recognized.

Kids / Prayer Partners Bike Rodeo - On **Sunday, May 18**, immediately following 10:30 Worship, the kids and their prayer partners will participate in a Bike Rodeo, with stations to ride through and lots of good exercise. So everyone bring your bikes and prepare for some fun. Lunch will be provided.

Combined Worship on Sunday, June 1
We will combine worship services at **9:30 a.m.** in the Sanctuary for Confirmation Sunday. Please be here for this special time together as we welcome our Confirmands, Bronson Linville and Emily Shuman, into the body of the Church, and partake of the Lord's Supper.

VBS 2025 - This year's Vacation Bible School is **August 1 & 2**, and we are looking for volunteers. Anyone interested in helping, either before or during, please see or call Kelly Beckett, 304-991-3613.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025

10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

Welcome

Sharing the Life of the Church

Prelude

Low in the Grave

Robert Lowry/arr. Lani Smith

***Call to Worship**

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in the sanctuary.

Praise God in the vault of heaven.

Praise God in the earth and skies.

Sing praises to the Lord.

Shout and sing praises to God.

We have witnessed God's mighty acts.

We have seen the Lord's greatness.

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.

Let everything that draws breath praise the Lord!

***Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray:

God of the Resurrection, you open the tomb

and invite us to sing and dance in the new life you give us.

In Jesus Christ,

whose wounds are not erased but glorified in resurrection,

touch our wounds that they may be transformed

into channels of healing for others.

Prepare us to receive your blessing and then to go from this place

to be a blessing to others in your name.

***Hymn 667**

When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

Children's Time

*Those who are able, please stand.

Confession and Pardon

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

*We confess that we far too often want proof for everything, O Lord.
 We want proof that someone loves us;
 we want proof that we can trust in others;
 we want proof that everything in life is going to turn out all right.
 Are we to be prisoners of our senses,
 distrusting and rejecting whatever we cannot see, touch, or hear?
 Yet you are faithful: you give sight to the blind,
 you carry us when we are weary, you call us to your side.
 Lord, forgive our unbelief!
 Forgive the many times when we think and act
 in ways which are hurtful and mean.
 Help us to fully place our trust in you,
 with our whole hearts, and minds, and spirits, and souls.
 Fill us with your healing love and help us to become
 the disciples that you need to serve in this world;
 through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.*

SILENCE for personal confession ...

Words of Assurance and Pardon

Listen to the sound of the waters and remember
 you have been marked as a beloved child of God.
 Feel the healing, loving power of God in your lives,
 for in the love of Jesus Christ, you are loved forever.
 Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Friends believe the good news with great joy!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*Response

Hymn 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

***Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
 Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.
 In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
 Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.***

***Ritual of Friendship**

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Exchange words of peace and greetings with those around you.

GROWING

Special Music

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Robert Williams
arr. James Mansfield

Prayer for Illumination

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word.
Enlighten our minds and kindle our hearts with the presence of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture

Revelation 1:1-8

p. 867

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Scripture

John 20:18-31

p. 769

The gospel of the Lord

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Sermon

**“BELIEVING INTO CHRIST:
EMBODIED BELIEVING”**

Rev. Annie McMillan

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

***I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come
to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN.***

CARING

The Offering

Because He Lives

W. Gaither, G. Gaither
arr. P. Keveren

*The Doxology

Hymn 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

*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.*

GOING

*Hymn 246

Christ Is Alive!

TRURO

*Benediction and Sending Forth

The Postlude

Bells of Easter

David Paxton

Worship Participants

Acolytes - *Connor Buchanan, Emily Shuman*
Beadles - *Ellie Buchanan, Avalyn Meckley, Riley Shuman*
Liturgist - *Eric Johnson*
Sound Technician - *Matt Buchanan*
Organist - *Scott Rockhold*

*Scripture Readings for next week: May 4
3rd Sunday of Easter*

Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)

Psalm 30

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

John 20:18-31

¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

²² And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

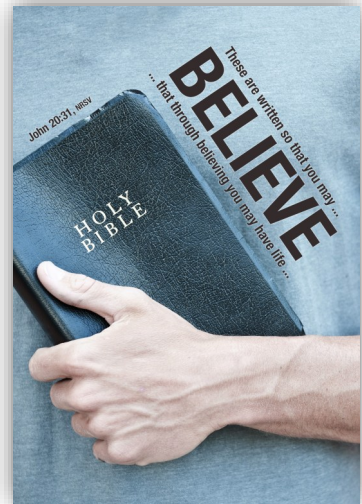
But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

²⁸ Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.



THIS WEEK AT FPC

Sunday, April 27

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Morning Prayer - Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Confirmation Class - Room 201
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee - Harris Room
- 10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day - Sanctuary

Monday, April 28

- 2:00 p.m. Henderson Hall Docents - Harris Room
- 6:30 p.m. Parkersburg Pride - Room 204
- 7:00 p.m. Mission Committee - Harris Room / ZOOM

Wednesday, April 30

- 5:30 p.m. Session Retreat Part II - Harris Room
- 6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts - Room 124

Thursday, May 1 **National Day of Prayer**

- 5:00 p.m. Personnel Meeting - Pastor's office
- 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts - Room 123
- 7:15 p.m. Troop 3 Boy Scouts - Scout House



Saturday, May 3

- 8:30 a.m. Facilities Mgmt./Saturday Stewards - Harris Room
- 10:00 a.m. Deacons / May Day flower prep - Stevenson Hall
- 11:30 a.m. HA Meeting - Room 204

Sunday, May 4 **Communion** / Deacons deliver May Day flowers

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Morning Prayer - Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Confirmation Class - Room 201
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee - Harris Room
- 10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day - Sanctuary

Prayer List – Please remember the following in your prayers:

Andrew Strock	Autumn Vancamp	Vicki Shuman
Lloyd Cowell	Alan & Jodi Earnest	Wayne Dunn
Sandy Cowell	Richard Hayhurst	Mike Lewis
Brandon Davis	Mary Essenmacher	Bobby Craig
Barbara Perez	Derrick Sheppard	Carl Gheen
Kenny Sumner	Ruth Ann Huddle	Tyler Mackey
Dan Sombeck	Pat & Ann Patterson	Ken Stoller
Harriet Litteral	Homebound Members	Ed Ball
Doug Anderson	Troops – World Peace	Brad Carter
Fleming Family		Dan Ellis