



# An Order for Easter Sunrise

6:30 am  
April 20, 2014

The Woodlands Chapel

The First Presbyterian Church  
of Howard County

---

## Gathering

*As we gather, please be sure to get a white ribbon and a pen  
from one of the greeters.*

*There are also bells to ring for the Alleluias!*

## Words of Greeting

*Alleluia! Christ is risen!*

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*Risen in quiet and mysterious darkness*

*Before the chorus of the dawn.*

*Alleluia! Christ is risen!*

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*Risen with glory and grace in reserve*

*and authority beyond measure*

*Alleluia! Christ is risen!*

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*Risen to prove that violence is no solution;*

*To offer us peace and life in all its fullness.*

*Alleluia! Christ is risen!*

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*For God has taken into holy flesh the sin of the world.*

*That last laugh is God's laugh;*

*God has had the last laugh:*

**For freedom comes beyond the cross,**

**for peace comes beyond the violence,**

**for friendship comes beyond the betrayal,**

**for life comes beyond the crushing of life.**

*The first laugh and the last laugh are God's.*

**And God has made laughter for us.**

*Alleluia! Christ is risen!*

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Song—God Has Made Laughter**

## Opening Prayer

*May God be with you*  
**And also with you.**

*Jesus Christ, we greet you!*  
*your hands still have holes in them,*  
*your feet are wet from the dew;*  
*and with the memory of our names*  
*undimmed by three days of death*  
*you meet us, risen from the grave.*

*We fail to understand how;*  
*We puzzle at the reason why.*

*But you have come:*  
*not to answer our questions,*  
*but to show us your face.*

**You are alive and the world can rejoice again!**  
**Hallelujah!**  
**Amen.**

## Morning Hymn—Jesus Christ is Risen Today!

1. Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
Unto Christ our heavenly king, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
Sinner to redeem and save. Alleluia!
3. Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
Praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!  
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

## Scripture Lesson: Matthew 28:1-10

*The Word of God for the people of God.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Song—Yemen Alleluia



## A Responsive Prayer for Easter

*Christ,  
Christ, the branch,  
the shoot from the tree of David.  
Christ the gardener,  
the pruner, the one who cuts back in kindness.*  
**O Lord in all the earth, how excellent the name of Jesus.**

*Christ,  
Christ the leaf,  
the tender shoot in dry ground.  
Christ the nature lover, the flower admirer,  
the one who expects us to be attractive for him.*  
**O Lord in all the earth, how excellent the name of Jesus.**

*Christ,  
Christ the seed, the gatherer.  
Christ the germ of resurrection,  
the first fruit of heaven,  
the one who makes all things new.*  
**O Lord in all the earth, how excellent the name of Jesus.**

*Jesus Christ,  
branch and leaf and seed,  
from whom we come,  
with whom we stay,  
to whom we return:*  
**You we bless, name above all names, and excellent in all the earth. Amen.**

*The peace of Christ be with you  
And also with you.*

## Song—Celtic Alleluia

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Celtic Alleluia. Both staves are in the key of D major (one sharp) and 8/8 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia!' are written below the notes on both staves. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff begins with a fermata over the first note, indicating a continuation or a specific performance instruction.

## Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Spend a few moments in personal prayer, and write on your ribbon a word or two to represent a person, a place, or a circumstance – for whom you pray for God’s new life or for which you give thanks.

We will pin these prayers to the white cloth on the cross

Silent prayer and writing, until all are ready...



Please come up and fasten the prayers to the white cloth  
on the cross.

When all are done, we will join together in prayer.



*Living God, hear our prayer:*

**Make this world your new creation!**

*Before we call, you answer, O God.*

*Before we speak, you know our words.*

*Let there be joy in Jerusalem,*

*And peace among all nations.*

**Make this world your new creation!**

*Let the sounds of weeping and cries of distress*

*Turn to shouts of joy and laughter.*

**Make this world your new creation!**

*Let infants grow and thrive;*

*Let the old dance like children.*

**Make this world your new creation!**

*Let every person find a home*

*And enjoy the fruit of their labor.*

**Make this world your new creation!**

*Let the wolf and the lamb live in peace;*

*Let no one hurt or destroy another.*

**Make this world your new creation!**

*Show us, O God, the holy mountain you have prepared  
so that we may be glad and rejoice in your presence forever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**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.**

Scripture Lesson: Colossians 3:1~4, 12~17

*The Word of God for the people of God.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## Closing Prayer

**We praise you, O God, and give you thanks  
that you have given us such joy, such grace, such hope,  
in the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Let our lives be proof of that good news.  
Let our words and actions,  
our love and service bear witness to your resurrection power;  
for the sake of our living Lord, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

## Closing Responses

*Look! God is creating a new heaven and a new earth.*

**Alleluia!**

*The events of the past will be completely forgotten.*

**Alleluia!**

*Be glad and rejoice forever in what God is creating.*

**Alleluia!**

*For this is the same God  
who raised Jesus Christ from the dead,  
and whose Spirit goes before you into the world.*

**Alleluia!**

*So, go in peace.*

*The God of creation, resurrection and eternity  
be with you this day and always.*

**Alleluia!**



*Please linger by the fire,  
or come inside to Lyle Buck Hall for Breakfast,  
then join us for Traditional Worship at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.  
or Contemporary Worship at 9:30 a.m.*

***Children will be hunting Easter Eggs on the Lawn at 12:00 noon!***



The First Presbyterian Church  
of Howard County  
9325 Presbyterian Circle Columbia, MD 21045  
410.730.3545  
[www.firstpreshec.org](http://www.firstpreshec.org)

*Ministers: All members of the congregation*

Dr. O. Morton Harris, Jr., Co-Pastor	<a href="mailto:mharris@firstpreshec.org">mharris@firstpreshec.org</a>
Dr. Sue Lowcock Harris, Co-Pastor	<a href="mailto:sharris@firstpreshec.org">sharris@firstpreshec.org</a>
Virginia Callegary, Director of Christian Education	<a href="mailto:vcalleary@firstpreshec.org">vcalleary@firstpreshec.org</a>
James Galdieri, Director of Music Ministries	<a href="mailto:jgaldieri@firstpreshec.org">jgaldieri@firstpreshec.org</a>
Caroline Smith, Executive Assistant	<a href="mailto:execasst@firstpreshec.org">execasst@firstpreshec.org</a>
Pat Travers, Bookkeeper	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@firstpreshec.org">bookkeeper@firstpreshec.org</a>
Woodrow Collins, Church Sexton	<a href="mailto:sexton@firstpreshec.org">sexton@firstpreshec.org</a>
Kathy Moore, Godly Play Coordinator	<a href="mailto:GodlyPlay@firstpreshec.org">GodlyPlay@firstpreshec.org</a>
Marla Youkers, Child Care Coordinator	
The Rev. Ruth Bell, Parish Visitor	
The Rev. T. Webster Brenner, Parish Associate	
The Rev. Stephen Mann, Parish Associate	

We are an Earth Care Congregation ☩ We are a Stephen Ministry Church

*Inspirit Counseling Services at First Presbyterian Church*

Meredith Barger	410-433-8861 x104
John Michalcyzk	410-433-8861 x115