

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of the Lord
April 20, 2014

11:00 a.m.



We Gather in God's Name

*Let all enter the sanctuary in a spirit of prayer.
Please remember to turn cell phones and pagers to silent for worship.
Where you see an asterisk (*) please stand if you are able.*

Words in *Italics* are read by the leader;
words in **bold**, by the congregation.

For Meditation before Worship *(for personal use before worship)*

*We sing because we know there is another way to run the world,
a world where death is not the final word, where despair is not the
winner, where human power and hierarchies are not thought to be
inevitable and unchangeable.*

John Holbert

Prelude

Chorale

Jongen

Words of Welcome

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.*

*Please fill out the red Friendship Pad in each pew.
Newcomers please leave us your address and phone number!
Then, pass the folder the length of the pew and back.*

* Call to Worship and Lighting the Christ Candle

Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Christ is risen and the Lord is here.

Christ is risen and the Spirit is with us. Alleluia!

Christ is risen. God has worked wonders.

Christ is risen in glory and power forever. Alleluia!

Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:

**Christ is the light of the world and the center of our lives.
Alleluia!**

Introit

Christ Is Risen

Peters

* **Prayer of the Day**

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Living God,

long ago, faithful women

*proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection,
and the world was changed forever.*

**Teach us to keep faith with them,
that our witness may be as bold,
our love as deep, and our faith as true.
Amen.**

* **Hymn 232**

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Easter Hymn

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, Maker of all:

Have mercy on us.

Jesus Christ, servant of the poor:

Have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, Breath of life:

Have mercy on us.

God of life,

**by the resurrection of your Son you make everything new.
Newness scares us,**

and we confess to shutting our doors in fear.

We have not listened to voices that challenge us.

**We have resisted the Holy Spirit
moving us in new directions.**

Our hearts are slow to trust your promises.

Forgive us, O God,

and renew us to embrace without fear

the new life you have opened to us in Jesus Christ.

(We continue in silent, personal prayer...)

Assurance of Grace

* **Response of Praise 245** *(singing together)*

Llanfair

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!
Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!
Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia!
Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

* **Sharing the Peace**

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

* **Welcoming One Another**

We greet each other with signs of peace and reconciliation.

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Colossians 3:1-4

Page 957; pew Bible

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

Children's Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

*Afterwards, children ages 4-7 may go with Ms. Kathy Moore to Godly Play.
Parents can pick up their children following worship in Rooms 110 & 113.*

Older children, grades 2-5, will remain in the sanctuary to celebrate Easter Sunday with their families.

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.

Second Lesson: Matthew 28:1-10

Page 811; pew Bible

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

Choral Acclamation

Be Not Afraid

Taizé

Sermon

The Resurrection

Morton Harris

(after the sermon, we observe a time of silence and prayer)

We Respond to God's Word

* **Hymn 249** Because You Live, O Christ Vruuchten

* **Affirmation of Faith** (*together*) A New Testament Affirmation

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;
Christ is our Lord and our God. Amen.

Concerns and Remembrances

Prayers of Gratitude and Concern

Concluding Prayer (*together*)

Holy God,
you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence
and continually reveal your Son as our Savior.
Bring healing to all wounds, make whole all that is broken,
speak truth to all illusion, and shed light in every darkness,
that all creation will see your glory and know your Christ.
Amen.

The Offering

Offertory *Hallelujah*, from Mount of Olives Beethoven

* **Doxology 609** (*singing together*) *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

* **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Let us give thanks to the living God.

We thank God with joy.

(We stand quietly as the liturgist offers a prayer.)

We Go Forth to Serve

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

* **Hymn 246** Christ Is Alive! Truro

(Members of the congregation who would like to join the choir to sing the Hallelujah Chorus are invited to make their way to the choir during the singing of this hymn.)

* **Invitation to Discipleship**

* **Closing Responses**

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

In the peace of God

We carry Christ's love into the world.

In company with Christ

We live resurrection life.

With our lives we proclaim:

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

* **Benediction**

* **Response** Hallelujah Chorus G. F. Handel

from *Messiah*

Hallelujah!

For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth!

The kingdom of this world has become
the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ;
and he shall reign forever and ever.

King of kings and Lord of lords!

And he shall reign forever and ever!

* **Postlude** Toccata Widor



Worship Notes:

The Affirmation of Faith we are saying today is a New Testament affirmation. It references several passages of scripture. See: 1 Corinthians 15:1-6; Mark 16:9; Matthew 16:16; Revelation 22:13 and John 20:28. This affirmation was first compiled and published in *The Worshipbook* in 1970.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in the worship, education, mission and common life of First Church.

During Today's Worship

Please turn all cell phones to "silent" when in the Sanctuary.

Large print bulletins (including hymns and scripture readings) and individual listening devices are available from the ushers. Photography during worship is discouraged, and flash is not permitted. Please, no food or drink in the Sanctuary.

If your infant or child needs care or becomes disruptive during the worship service, you may leave the Sanctuary and return as you wish. Child care for infants and children under four years old is available all morning. The nursery is in Room 159. We have a texting system that will alert you if you are needed while in the worship service. The ushers will be glad to help you.

Worship programs for children include: *Godly Play* for younger children (age 4 - grade 1) during the 8 & 11 a.m. services; *The Worship Bridge* for older children (grades 2-5) at the 11 a.m. service.

Worship folders and crayons for children are available at the usher's table in The Commons. Please return the crayons as you leave the sanctuary. *White bulletins* for children ages three to six; *Gray bulletins* for children ages seven to twelve.

If you are new to First Church

Please sign our Ritual of Friendship, the red pad in the pew.

Communion is served on the first Sunday of each month.

Handicap entrance is through the Main Entrance in the rear of the building.

We invite you to stop by Coffee Hour after worship for conversation and fellowship in Lyle Buck Hall.

New Member Orientation explores what it means to be part of First Church household. This one-session class is the way to become a member of First Church.

First Church Cares

To notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illness, hospitalization; to pass along a prayer request; to request a Stephen Minister; or to arrange homebound Communion, contact our co-pastors Sue or Morton.

The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County



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Ministers: All members of the congregation



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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