

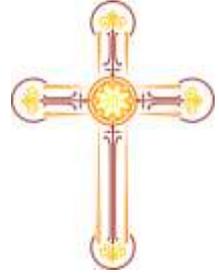
# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church  
of Howard County

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
July 13, 2014

10:00 a.m.

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## **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)

*Through all the tumult of the strife, I hear that music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?*

Robert Lowery

### **Prelude**

### **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.*

\* **Hymn 645**      Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above      *Mit Freuden*

### \* **Lighting the Christ Candle**

*The Lord's unfailing love and compassion never cease;  
**They are fresh as the morning and sure as the sunrise.***

*Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:*

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

**\* A Prayer for the Morning**

*May God be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*As you cause the sun to rise, O God,  
bring the light of Christ to dawn in our souls  
and dispel all darkness.*

**Give us grace to reflect Christ's glory;  
and show Christ's love in our deeds,  
Christ's peace in our words,  
Christ's healing in our touch,  
so all may praise our living teacher, friend and savior,  
now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**\* Hymn 16**                      O That I Had a Thousand Voices    *O Dass Ich Tausend*

**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.**

**Before God, with the people of God,  
we confess to our brokenness:  
to the ways we wound our lives,  
the life of others, and the life of the world.  
Forgive us, O God.**

**Move among us and give us life.  
Make our hearts clean within us,  
and renew us through Jesus Christ.  
By your Spirit, sustain us,  
and enable us to grow in love.**

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

**Assurance of Grace**

**\* Response of Praise 581** *(singing together)*                      *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.

**\* Sharing the Peace**

*The peace of Christ be with you.*

**And also with you.**

\* **Response 399** (*singing together*) *God Welcomes All*

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;  
God's love is strong and it never ends.

\* **Song of Thanksgiving 647** (*singing together*) *Give Thanks*

Give thanks with a grateful heart;  
give thanks to the Holy One;  
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart;  
give thanks to the Holy One;  
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

And now let the weak say, "We are strong";  
let the poor say, "We are rich  
because of what the Lord has done for us!"

And now let the weak say, "We are strong";  
let the poor say, "We are rich  
because of what the Lord has done for us!"

Give thanks. Give thanks.

*(Children may join Camp ConnectED – meet an usher to escort you.)*

## **We Hear God's Word**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson:** Colossians 3:12-17

*Page 958; pew Bible*

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

**Thanks be to God!**

\* **Psalter Hymn 385** All People That on Earth Do Dwell *Old Hundredth*

**Second Lesson:** Acts 16:20-25

*Page 901; pew Bible*

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

**Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon**

Gently Down the Stream:  
The Stream of Song

*Sue Lowcock Harris*

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

# **We Respond to God's Word**

## **\* Affirmation of Faith** *(together)*

from *A Song of Faith*,  
The United Church of Canada 2006

God is Holy Mystery,  
beyond complete knowledge,  
above perfect description.  
Yet, in love,  
the one eternal God seeks relationship.  
So God creates the universe  
and with it the possibility of being and relating.  
God tends the universe,  
mending the broken and reconciling the estranged.  
God enlivens the universe,  
guiding all things toward harmony with their Source.  
Grateful for God's loving action,  
We cannot keep from singing.

## **Concerns and Remembrances**

### **Prayers of Gratitude and Concern**

#### **Concluding Prayer** *(together)*

O God, you have set before us a great hope  
that your kingdom will come on earth,  
and have taught us to pray for its coming:  
make us ready to thank you for the signs of its dawning,  
and to sing, and to pray, and to work for the perfect day  
when your will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
In the name of Jesus Christ.

#### **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.

## The Offering

### Offertory

\* **Doxology 608** (*singing together*)

*Praise God*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore.

\* **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

*God is here!*

**And the Spirit is with us!**

*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 641**      When in Our Music God Is Glorified

*Engelberg*

\* **Invitation to Discipleship**

\* **Closing Responses**

*In work and worship*

**God is with us.**

*Gathered and scattered*

**God is with us.**

*Now and always*

**God is with us. Thanks be to God.**

\* **Benediction**

\* **Response 765**

*May the God of Hope Go with Us*

May the God of hope go with us every day,  
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.

May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace;  
singing, share our joy with all;  
working for a world that's new,  
faithful when we hear Christ's call.

\* **Postlude**



## 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:** *Camp ConnectED* at 9:45 a.m. for children age 4 and up in June and July. *Godly Play* for younger children (age 4 - grade 1) during the 10:00 a.m. service in August.

**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 Lemonade on the Lawn** after worship for conversation and fellowship.

**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



9325 Presbyterian Circle Columbia, MD 21045

410.730.3545

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

*Ministers: All members of the congregation*



Dr. O. Morton Harris, Jr., Co-Pastor  
Dr. Sue Lowcock Harris, Co-Pastor  
Virginia Callegary, Director of Christian Education  
James Galdieri, Director of Music Ministries  
Caroline Smith, Executive Assistant  
Pat Travers, Bookkeeper  
Woodrow Collins, Church Sexton  
Kathy Moore, Godly Play Coordinator  
Marla Youkers, Child Care Coordinator  
The Rev. Ruth Bell, Parish Visitor  
The Rev. T. Webster Brenner, Parish Associate  
The Rev. Stephen Mann, Parish Associate

[mharris@firstpreshc.org](mailto:mharris@firstpreshc.org)  
[sharris@firstpreshc.org](mailto:sharris@firstpreshc.org)  
[vcalleary@firstpreshc.org](mailto:vcalleary@firstpreshc.org)  
[jgaldieri@firstpreshc.org](mailto:jgaldieri@firstpreshc.org)  
[excasst@firstpreshc.org](mailto:excasst@firstpreshc.org)  
[bookkeeper@firstpreshc.org](mailto:bookkeeper@firstpreshc.org)  
[sexton@firstpreshc.org](mailto:sexton@firstpreshc.org)  
[GodlyPlay@firstpreshc.org](mailto:GodlyPlay@firstpreshc.org)

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 Michalczyk 410-433-8861 x115