

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church  
of Howard County

*Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*World Communion Sunday*

*October 4, 2015*

*10:30 a.m.*



## GATHERING

*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 **bold** are read by the congregation.

*Please fill out the red Friendship Pad in each pew.*

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

*Lord, make us instruments of your peace.*

*Francis of Assisi*

### Gathering Music

Song Mungu Ni Mwema *Democratic Republic of Congo*

Song How Great Is Our God *Chris Tomlin*

Hymn 752 Dona Nobis Pacem (Grant Us Peace) *Dona Nobis Pacem*

### \* Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

### \* Lighting the Christ Candle

We are called from the ends of the earth,

**We are called from the centers of our lives.**

Men and women, young and old,

**Rich and poor, strong and weak.**

We are called into God's love,

**To yearn for justice and to pray for peace.**

Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:

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

### \* Prayer for Sunday Morning

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Liberating Christ,

you came into a holy place and read the sacred word  
about sight for the blind and freedom for prisoners.

**Come to this place now.  
Read these words to us,  
until our own eyes are opened and our faith is unlocked,  
and we see the world as it is, and as it could be;  
until the yearnings of ordinary people are taken seriously,  
and the visions of the young are valued,  
and the potential of the old is released;  
until your realm is celebrated everywhere,  
and your church is good news to the poor.  
Amen.**

\* **Hymn 339**

Lift Every Voice and Sing

*Lift Every Voice*

### **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 every people and nation,  
we confess that we have not lived as global citizens  
in your new realm of justice and peace.  
We build up dividing walls in the world.  
We contribute to the division in the church.  
We ignore the suffering in distant nations  
and live in fear of our closest neighbors.**

**Forgive us, God of grace.**

**Pour out your Spirit of peace upon us,  
break down the dividing walls among us,  
and raise us up to be a holy temple –  
your temple of peace in the world –  
built on the cornerstone of Jesus Christ,  
in whose holy name we pray.**

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

### **Assurance of Grace**

... Once we were strangers and aliens;  
now we are citizens with the saints  
and members of the household of God.  
**We are God's people, and we will live by grace.  
We will invite the Spirit to help us live  
faithfully, reverently and carefully -  
visibly different, and gloriously free, for Jesus' sake.  
Thanks be to God!**

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

*Jesus Messiah, refrain*

Jesus Messiah, Name above all names  
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel  
The rescue for sinners  
The ransom from Heaven  
Jesus Messiah, Lord of All

\* **Sharing the Peace**

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

*We greet each other with signs of peace and reconciliation.*

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

*Aronson*

Halleluyah. Halleluyah. Halleluyah. Halleluyah.

**Words of Welcome**

*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.*

**Special Music**

Song of Union

*Mispa Bikoi*

## THE WORD

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson:**

Ephesians 2:11-22

*Page 950; 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, who normally attend The Worship Bridge will return  
to their seats to experience a full worship service with their family.*

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:**

Mark 8:1-10

*Page 819; pew Bible*

For the Word of God in scripture,  
For the Word of God among us,  
For the Word of God within us,  
**Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon**

Bread in the Desert

*Sue Lowcock Harris*

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

## RESPONDING

\* **Affirmation of Faith** *(together)* *excerpted from the Confession of Belhar*

We believe that God has entrusted the church  
with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ.  
We believe that the church is called  
to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.  
We believe that the church is called blessed  
because it is a peacemaker.  
We believe that the church is witness both by word and by deed  
to the new heaven and the new earth  
in which righteousness dwells.  
Thanks be to God!

### Concerns and Remembrances

**Moment for Mission** – Earth Forum

**The Offering**

**Offertory Anthem**

*Eliot Levine*

### The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

**Invitation to the Table**

\* **Hymn 461** *As Dew Falls Gently at Dawn* *As Dew Falls*

### The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God is here.

**The Spirit is with us.**

Open your hearts.

**We open them to God and one another.**

Let us give thanks to the living God.

**We thank God with joy.**

*[Holy God, our loving Father and Mother, we thank you for your constant care for all your children.....In unity with all who yearn for your will to be done on earth, we praise your name. And this is our song:]*

**Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!**

**My heart knows how to say to you: you are holy Lord!**

**Santo, santo, santo. Mi Corazón te adora!**

**Me Corazón te sabe decir: Santo eres, Señor!**

*[Prayer continues...]*

**God in heaven, your name is to be honored.**

**May your new community of hope be realized  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today the essentials of life.**

**Release us from wrongdoing  
as we also release those who wrong us.**

**Do not test us beyond our enduring;  
save us from all that is evil.**

**For you embrace justice, love and peace,  
now and to the end of time. Amen.**



# 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 too restless 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 to 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 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. services; *The Worship Bridge* for older children (grades 2-5) at the 10:30 a.m. service.

**Worship folders and crayons for children** are at the ushers' table in The Commons. Please return the crayons as you leave. *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.

**Disabled persons entrance** is through the Main Entrance in the rear of the building.

**We invite you to stop by Coffee Hour** after the 10:30 a.m. worship service for conversation and fellowship in Lyle Buck Hall.

**New Member Orientation explores what it means to be part of First Church household.** This four session class is the way to become a member and is scheduled for Sundays, October 4, 11, 18 & 25, 2015 from 9:30 – 10:25 a.m. Call the Church Office if you are interested in attending.

## 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 Ruth Bell or Pastor Morton.

## 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  
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

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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