

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Communion

May 1, 2016

8:30 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)*

People do not have to do anything. It is all grace. It is not that there is a door which Christ has unbolted, and we, standing outside it, have to stretch out our hand, lift the latch, and walk through. We are already inside.

John Austin Baker

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:

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

Prelude

Prayer for Sunday Morning

May God be with you.

And also with you.

God be in my head and in my understanding.

God be in my eyes, and in my looking.

God be in my mouth, and in my speaking.

God be in my heart, and in my thinking.

God be at my end, and at my departing.

Amen.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Jesus, Son of Mary
Have mercy on us.

Jesus, Savior of the World,
Make peace within us.

Christ, King of Glory:
Be with us and for us, wherever life takes us.

**God of everlasting life,
we confess that we continue to look
for the living among the dead.**

**You offer us the gift of new and abundant life,
but we keep trying to earn our way into your kingdom.**

Forgive us, God of grace.

**Give us openness and humility,
eagerness and trust,
that we may enter your realm of justice and joy
and live for you,
through Jesus Christ, the Risen One.**

(We take time for quiet, personal prayer...)

Assurance of Grace

* Sharing the Peace

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

*We greet each other with signs of peace and reconciliation.
A touch on the shoulder, a nod, a bow – can be a substitute
for handshakes to hinder the spread of the flu.*

* Response 587 (singing together)

Celtic Alleluia

Voice

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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.*

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Luke 18:9-17

Page 853; pew Bible

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

Second Lesson: Galatians 2:15-21

Page 946; 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

What Is True Faith?

Sue Lowcock Harris

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

RESPONDING

* **Affirmation of Faith** *(together)*

The Nicene Creed, p34, The Hymnal

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
In accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son

is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Concerns and Remembrances

Prayers of Gratitude and Concern

The Offering

Offertory Anthem

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

People of God, open your hearts.

We open our hearts to Christ, who reigns in glory.

Let us give thanks to the living God.

We thank God with joy.

*[Blessed are you O Lord our God, Name Unnamed, Ruler of the universe... ..
And so, 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 Lord, God of justice and love,

Your compassion enfolds the earth,

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in your holy name.

Hosanna in the highest: O God, come to save.

*[The pastors continue to lead us in prayer. We gather up all our prayers,
spoken and unspoken, as we pray together...]*

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.**

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, except on Communion Sunday.

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 attend the Discipleship Hour after the 10:30 a.m. worship service for conversation and fellowship in Lyle Buck Hall.

We invite you to become a member of First Church. Please speak with Morton or Sue or call the church office to set a time to meet.

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.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
sharris@firstpreshc.org
vcallegary@firstpreshc.org
jgaldieri@firstpreshc.org
execasst@firstpreshc.org
bookkeeper@firstpreshc.org
sexton@firstpreshc.org
GodlyPlay@firstpreshc.org
rbell@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 Michalczuk 410-433-8861 x115