

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Communion | Baptism
September 4, 2016

10:00 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 Personal Meditation before Worship

*Just as this broken bread was first scattered upon the hills,
then was gathered and became one,
so may your church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.
The Didache, 2nd century*

Prelude

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.

* **Hymn 35** Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty *Lobe Den Herren*

* Lighting the Christ Candle

Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:

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

* Prayer for the Morning

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Weaver of life, framer of the ages,
we marvel at your artistry and the trust you place in us.

**From our first cries to our final breaths,
we are your own.**

**Bind us now to each other
in ways beyond our own choosing,
that your purpose might find fulfillment
in our common life and service,
for the sake of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

* **Hymn 314** Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness *Christ, Be Our Light*

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.

Just and gracious God,

We confess that we have not lived in faith and love.

**You invite us to your feast,
and we do not come.**

We turn from neighbors in need.

**We share only fragments that remain
after our cravings have been met.**

Forgive us, God of grace.

We place our lives in your hands.

**Show us your way of mutual love
and hospitality to all,
so that we may dwell in your house;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

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

Assurance of Grace

- * **Response of Praise 63** *(singing together)* *The Lord Is God, verses 1 & 2*

The Lord is God, the Lord alone!
Give honor, thanks, and praise
to God, the maker of all things
and giver of our days.

With all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind and might,
O people, love the Lord your God,
the source of truth and light.

- * **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.*

* **Song of Thanksgiving 647** (singing together)

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart give thanks to the Holy One, give
 5 thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His Son. And now let the
 10 weak say, I am strong; let the poor say I am rich because of what the Lord has
 15 done for us Give thanks, give thanks, give thanks.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Alyssa Afua Amankwa Sampson, daughter of Kweku and Afua Sampson

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Page 503; pew Bible

Psalm Prayer (together)

Almighty God, creator of the universe,
 we are awed by your wondrous works.
 For your infinite wisdom, we praise you;
 yet even more we rejoice that you do not forget us,
 that you know us, that you come to care for us,
 sisters and brothers of Jesus Christ, your Son.
 Amen.

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.*

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: Luke 14:12-24

Page 849; 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!

RESPONDING

* **Affirmation of Faith** *(together)* *The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by
the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the
third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from
thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the
communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of
the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Concerns and Remembrances

The Offering

Offertory Anthem

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God is here.

The Spirit is with us.

People of God, open your hearts.

We open them to God and one another.

Let us give thanks to the living God.

We thank God with joy!

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

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.**

Breaking the Bread

Communion of the People

*We will receive communion this morning
by passing the bread and the cup to one another in the pew.
Gluten-free bread is in the paper cup in the center of the bread tray.
The outer circle is white grape juice; the inner circles are red wine.*

*Our tradition is to eat the bread as it comes to you,
and then to hold the cup so we may commune together.*

Music at Communion

Prayer After Communion

SENDING

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

* **Hymn 547** Go, My Children, with My Blessing *Ar Hydy Nos*

* Closing Responses

In work and in 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 598

Amen, We Praise Your Name

Amen, we praise your name, O God!

Amen, we praise your name, O God!

Amen, amen. Amen, amen.

Amen, we praise your name, O God!

* 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 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 during the summer include: *Godly Play* for younger children (age 4 - grade 1) during the 10:00 a.m. service.

Worship bags for children are at the ushers' table in The Upper Commons. Please return the bags as you leave. *Green bags and bulletins* for children ages three to six (pre-readers); *Purple bags and bulletins* for children ages seven to twelve (readers).

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 Lemonade on the Lawn after the 9:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. worship services for conversation and fellowship on the front lawn.

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. 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, Church Administrator
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

mharris@firstpreshc.org
mharris@firstpreshc.org
sharris@firstpreshc.org
vcallegary@firstpreshc.org
jgaldieri@firstpreshc.org
fpcadmin@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 Michalczyk 410-433-8861 x115