

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

Third Sunday of Easter
April 30, 2017

10:30 a.m.



GATHER

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)*

*The point of traveling is not
To arrive but to return home
Laden with pollen you shall work up
Into honey the minds feeds on.*

R.S. Thomas

Gathering Music

He Is Exalted	<i>Twila Paris</i>
How Great Is Our God	<i>Chris Tomlin</i>

Greeting

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

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

Song 466	Come and Fill Our Hearts	<i>Confitemini Domino</i>
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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.

Prayer for Sunday Morning

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Living God, you are our companion on the way.

You walk behind us, beside us, beyond;

you catch us unawares.

Break through the disillusionment and despair

clouding our vision,

that, with wide-eyed wonder,

we may find our way and journey on

as messengers of your good news.

Amen.

* **Hymn 239**

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!

Gelobt Sei Gott

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.

Living God,

we confess that we look for the living among the dead.

You speak to us through your living Word,

but we refuse to listen.

You feed us with the bread of life,

but we hunger for other things.

Forgive us; give us new life!

Lead us to repent and remember

the promise of our baptism:

the life that death cannot destroy;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Assurance of Grace

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

Alleluia Con Brio

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! _____

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! _____

*** 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 of Praise**

Jesus Messiah

(singing together)

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

Words of Welcome

Special Music

Le Sauveur est ressuscité

Sung by Mispa Bikoi and her grandchildren:
Anne, Paul, Charles, Brice, Albert, PaulTheo, Daniel

ENCOUNTER

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson:

Psalm 116:

Page 491; 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, may go with Ms. Virginia Callegary to
The Worship Bridge. They will return to worship later in the service.*

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.

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!

Gospel Acclamation, 243

Be Not Afraid

Taizé

Be not afraid; sing out for joy!
Christ is risen, alleluia!
Be not afraid; sing out for joy!
Christ is risen, alleluia!

Sermon

What Happens on the Road

Sue Lowcock Harris

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

RESPOND AND SERVE

* **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.

* **Hymn 836**

Abide with Me

Eventide

Concerns and Remembrances

Prayers of Gratitude and Concern

God of new life:
Hear our prayer.

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 Anthem

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Bach

- * **Doxology 405, verse 5** (*singing together*) *Praise God for This Holy Ground*

Though praise ends, praise is begun
where God's will is gladly done.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
God's goodness is eternal.

- * **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

We belong to Christ Jesus.

All things are Christ's, for Christ is Lord of all. Alleluia!

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

SEND AND BLESS

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

- * **Hymn 257**

The Risen Christ

Woodlands

- * **Closing Responses**

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!

Let the sea roar and all that fills it!

Let the field exult, and everything in it!

Let the trees of the wood sing for joy!

For Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

- * **Benediction**

- * **Response 295, verse 2** (*singing together*)

Go to the World!

Go to the world! Go into every place.

Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.

Go seek God's presence in each time and space.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

- * **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 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 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 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. The next New Members Class is today Sunday, April 30 at 11:45 a.m. Child care is available if you call the church office in advance.

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 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, 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
The Rev. Stephen Mann, Parish Associate

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sexton@firstpreshc.org
GodlyPlay@firstpreshc.org

rbell@firstpreshc.org

We are an Earth Care Congregation ☩

Inspirit Counseling Services at First Presbyterian Church

Meredith Barger 410-433-8861 x104 | John Michalcyzk 410-433-8861 x115

