

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

World Communion and Peacemaking Sunday
October 1, 2017

8:30 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)*

All my life I've been waiting for, I've been praying for,

for the people to say

That we don't want to fight no more, there'll be no more wars,

and our children will play...

One day...one day...one day...

Matisyahu

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.

Lighting the Christ Candle

The world belongs to God

The earth and all its people.

How good it is, how wonderful

To live together in unity.

Love and faith come together;

Justice and peace join hands.

If Christ's disciples keep silent,

These beams would shout aloud!

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 of love, giver of life:

you know our frailties and failings.

give us your grace to overcome them,

keep us from the things that harm us,

and guide us along the way of salvation,

through Jesus Christ, our teacher, friend and savior.

Amen.

* **Hymn 401**

Here in This Place

Gather Us In

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 our redeemer, we confess

that we remain captivated by sin.

We promise to serve you,

then we fail to do your will.

We say we will follow you,

then we go our own way.

We do not trust your presence with us.

We doubt that you will provide for us as we need it.

We grumble.

Forgive us, O God and set us free.

Give us the grace we need to amend our lives

until we become the people you intended us to be.

(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 of Praise** (*singing together*)

Levine

Hallelu, Hal-le-lu, Hallelu, Hallelujah! Hallelu, Hallelujah, Amen.
(repeat)

How good it is that we should be together
Mother, Father, Sister, Brother, neighbor and friend.
Reaching out, find a way building bridges for tomorrow.
Mending hearts, making peace begins with us today.

Words of Welcome

ENCOUNTER

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Ephesians 2:17-22

Page 950; pew Bible

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

* **Psalter Hymn 633** Praise Ye the Lord (Psalm 150)

Cleveland

Second Lesson: Exodus 17:1-7

Page 56; 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 Exodus: Survival, Part One

Sue Lowcock Harris

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

RESPOND AND SERVE

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

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,
the unity of the communion of saints
of the entire human family.
And we believe that this unity of the people of God
must be manifest and active,
in that we love one another;
that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another,
that we share one baptism together,
that we eat of one bread and drink of one cup together,
that we confess one name, one Lord,
for one cause, with one hope,
which is the height and the breadth and the depth
and the love of Christ, forever and ever.
Amen.

Concerns and Remembrances

The Offering

Offertory

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

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 living God.

We thank God with joy.

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

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.

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

SEND AND BLESS

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

* **Hymn 765** May the God of Hope Go with Us *Argentina*

* **Closing Responses**

We drink the water of life;

We bear witness to God's goodness.

We share the bread of new creation;

We bear witness to God's abundance.

We go out into God's world in joy;

We live as God's people of peace.

* **Benediction**

* **Postlude**



WORSHIP NOTES: We are singing the Psalter Lesson during the months of September and October in celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Singing versified settings of the Psalms is a particular gift of our Reformed Tradition to the Protestant churches.

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 at the New Member Class is Sunday, October 22, 2017 at 11:30 a.m..

First Church Cares

To notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illness, hospitalization; to pass along a prayer request; or to arrange homebound Communion, contact Pastor Morton or Pastor Sue.



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

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

The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County is a congregation of the Presbytery of Baltimore in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

✠ We are an Earth Care Congregation ✠

Inspirit Counseling Services at First Presbyterian Church

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