

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church  
of Howard County

*Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*October 15, 2017*

*10:30 a.m.*

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## 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)*

*Don't ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive, and then go do that. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.*

*Howard Thurman*

### Gathering Music

#### 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.**

## Prayer for Sunday Morning

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

God of all who wander in the wilderness:

**You go before us as beacon and guide.**

**Lead us through all danger**

**sustain us through all desolation,**

**and bring us home to the land you have prepared for us.**

**Amen.**

\* **Hymn 363**

Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

*Darwall's 148th*

## 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 are not ready for your holy realm.**

**Our priorities are all mixed up,**

**and we have broken faith with you.**

**You are the one who has saved us;**

**but we make false gods for ourselves.**

**You are the one who has called us to serve you;**

**but we make petty excuses and fail to answer.**

**Forgive us, O God.**

**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

\* **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.

\* **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 62** (*singing together*)

*Love the Lord Your God*

Love the Lord your God with all your heart.  
Love the Lord your God with all your soul.  
Love the Lord your God with all your mind.  
Love the Lord your God with all that you are.

**Words of Welcome**

**A Moment for Grateful Giving**

**ENCOUNTER**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson:** Matthew 20:17-28

*Page 801; pew Bible*

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

\* **Psalter Hymn 60**

*St. Magnus*

Your Endless Love, Your Mighty Acts (Psalm 106)

**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.

**Second Lesson:** Exodus 32:1-14

*Page 69 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: The Threat

*Sue Lowcock Harris*

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

# RESPOND AND SERVE

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

*A Protestant Affirmation*

We believe in God,  
who is like a good mother or father,  
near to us, and strong to help us.  
We believe in Jesus Christ, in whom we see God:  
Christ is for us the way of truth and life.  
We believe our faith is a confident trust  
in the truth and goodness of God.  
We believe our hope is a hope  
to fill the present and the future, with deepest meaning.  
We believe our love is the means  
by which this faith will be made real in our lives.  
Glory to God: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.  
Amen.

\* **Hymn 39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

*Faithfulness*

## Concerns and Remembrances

### Prayers of Gratitude and Concern

God of life,  
**Hear our prayers.**

### Concluding Prayer *(together)*

Ever-present God, you never leave us.  
Help us to stay with you when we are tempted to flee,  
and keep us seeking after that which is true,  
that we may know that you are the Holy One,  
our God, a tenacious presence in whatever our reality;  
through Jesus Christ, our teacher, friend and savior.  
Amen.

## The Offering

### Offertory Anthem

Crown My Heart

*Whitbourne*

\* **Doxology 708, verse 1** *(singing together)*

*We Give Thee but Thine Own*

We give thee but thine own,  
whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone,  
a trust, O Lord, from thee.

\* **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

With gratitude to the giver of life,  
**we offer our lives to the Lord.**

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

# SEND AND BLESS

## This Week at First Presbyterian Church

\* **Hymn 707**                      Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord                      *Hall*

\* **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**

\* **Response 742**

*We Will Walk with God*

We will walk with God, my brothers, we will walk with God.

We will walk with God, my sisters, we will walk with God.

We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

Si-zo-ham-ba na-ye, wo wo wo, si-zo-ham-ba na-ye.

Si-zo-ham-ba na-ye, wo wo wo, si-zo-ham-ba na-ye.

Ngom-hla wen-ja-bu-la, si-zo-ham-ba na-ye.

Ngom-hla wen-ja-bu-la, si-zo-ham-ba na-ye.

\* **Postlude**



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

The Affirmation of Faith is from "Hymnal for Worship", an ecumenical worship book, published by the National Council of Churches in 1982 for use by hospital chaplains. This affirmation originated in the Protestant services at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in DC. We often use this affirmation at our services at Vantage House.

# 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](http://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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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