

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church  
of Howard County

*The Transfiguration of Christ*  
February 11, 2018

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)*

*In our era, the road to holiness necessarily passes through the world of action.*

*Dag Hammarskjöld*

### **Gathering Music**

Gloria

Eben

### **Greeting**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**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**

Let the light shine out from within the darkness

**God of all glory, gather us in.**

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 Moses and Elijah,

you are revealed in the burning bush and the chariot of fire.

**Gather us among your faithful ones,**

**the people of your covenant,**

**so that we may stand in the light of your glory**

**and listen for the word of your servant,**

**our teacher, friend and savior – Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

\* **Hymn 189**

O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair

*Deo Gracias*

## 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 Creator,**

**we confess that we are broken creatures.**

**You shine with perfect beauty,**

**but we turn away from your presence.**

**You blaze with heavenly glory,**

**but we hide our faces from your truth.**

**Forgive us, God of grace.**

**Shine in our hearts this day through the light of your Word  
and from your compassionate heart,**

**pour your mercy upon us**

**so that we may live in a way that is pleasing to you,**

**a way that shines with your love for all;**

**through Jesus Christ, our life, our hope, our peace.**

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

### Assurance of Grace

#### \* **Response of Praise 673 verse 3** *(singing together)*

*Lauda Anima*

With the saints we lift our voices,

God of power, God of might.

All creation shines with glory,

singing praises day and night:

alleluia, alleluia,

holy, holy, holy 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.*

#### \* **Response of Praise 642, refrain**

*Heleluyan, We Are Singing*

*(singing together)*

Heleluyan, we are singing. Hele, heleluyan.

Heleluyan, now and always. Hele, heleluyan.

### Words of Welcome

### Moment for Black History Month

# ENCOUNTER

## Prayer for Illumination

**First Lesson:** 2 Kings 2:1-12

*Page 290; 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.

**Second Lesson:** Mark 9:2-10

*Page 820; 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**

A Place Apart

*Morton Harris*

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

## RESPOND AND SERVE

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

*adapted from the Confession of 1967*

God's sovereign love is a mystery  
beyond the reach of the human mind.  
Human thought ascribes to God  
superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness.  
But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ  
by showing power in the form of a servant,  
wisdom in the folly of the cross,  
and goodness in receiving sinful men and women.  
The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world  
disclosed that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator  
who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.  
Thanks be to God.

### \* **Hymn 659**

Know That God Is Good

*Mungu Ni Mwema*

*We will sing in the following languages: Swahili, English, Luganda, and French.*

*Please watch the wall for the words.*

## **Concerns and Remembrances**

### **Prayers of Gratitude and Concern**

Fountain of goodness,  
**Hear our prayer**

### **Concluding Prayer** *(together)*

O God, as your Son Jesus withdrew  
to a place apart to be with you in prayer,  
so we have offered you our prayers in this place  
for the transformation of the world and of our lives.  
In receiving our prayers,  
reveal to us the glory and presence of your Spirit,  
alive in the world today.  
Free us from all doubts,  
and empower us to act as transfigured people,  
today and forever.  
Amen.

### **Moment for Mission** – Tarboro Mission Trip

## The Offering

### Offertory

Psalm 121

*Sargon*

### \* **Doxology** (*singing together*)

*Lasst Uns Efreuen*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
Alleluia, Alleluia  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

### \* **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

The earth belongs to God, our creator.

**Every good thing is a gift of God.**

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

## SEND AND BLESS

### This Week at First Presbyterian Church

**Sending Out:** Philippines Mission Trip

### \* **Hymn 773**

Heaven Shall Not Wait

*Heaven Shall Not Wait*

### \* **Closing Responses**

In every journey  
**We walk with Christ.**

In every story  
**We hear a word of grace.**

And in every moment, our lives proclaim:  
**Christ is the light of the world and the center of our lives.**

### \* **Benediction**

### \* **Response 821, refrain**

*My Life Flows On*

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?

### \* **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. 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; 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

[mharris@firstpreshc.org](mailto:mharris@firstpreshc.org)  
[sharris@firstpreshc.org](mailto:sharris@firstpreshc.org)  
[vcallegary@firstpreshc.org](mailto:vcallegary@firstpreshc.org)  
[jgaldieri@firstpreshc.org](mailto:jgaldieri@firstpreshc.org)  
[fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org](mailto:fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org)  
[bookkeeper@firstpreshc.org](mailto:bookkeeper@firstpreshc.org)  
[sexton@firstpreshc.org](mailto:sexton@firstpreshc.org)  
[GodlyPlay@firstpreshc.org](mailto:GodlyPlay@firstpreshc.org)  
[rbell@firstpreshc.org](mailto: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