

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church  
of Howard County

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*  
*Confirmation*  
*March 18, 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)*

*I love the recklessness of faith. First you leap, then you grow wings.*

*William Sloane Coffin*

### Gathering Music

#### 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.*

#### Song

Don't Be Afraid

WGRG

#### Lighting the Christ Candle

Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Name Unnamed,  
**Who made heaven and earth.**

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 the past, you give us birth and guide our steps:  
we are here to thank you.

**God of the future, you are always ahead of us:  
we are here to trust you.**

**God of the present, you are here in the midst of us:  
we are here to praise you.**

**God of life beyond us, and God of life within us:  
we rejoice in your glorious love,  
and we gather here to worship you.**

**Amen.**

\* **Hymn 300**

We Are One in the Spirit *They'll Know We are Christians*

**Call to Confession**

**A Spoken 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 have strayed from you**

**and turned aside from your way.**

**You write your law on our hearts,**

**but we pretend we do not know you.**

**You shape a new world of justice and peace,**

**but we cling to the way of evil.**

**We protest the problems of our world,**

**but we do not actively work to address them.**

**Forgive us, God of grace.**

**Set our minds on life in your realm,**

**through Jesus Christ,**

**our teacher, friend, companion and savior.**

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

**A Sung Prayer for Mercy 437**

*You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!*

*(singing together)*

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

You are the Christ, giver of mercy!

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

**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)*

*Jesus Messiah*

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**

**ENCOUNTER**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson:** Jeremiah 31:31-34

*Page 642; pew Bible*

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Psalter Lesson:** Psalm 119:9-16

*Page 493; 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:** John 12:20-33

*Page 875; 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**

Everything to Lose: Loss of Identity

*Morton Harris*

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

# RESPOND AND SERVE

## Concerns and Remembrances

### Prayers of Gratitude and Concern

Your will be done, O God:

**Your kingdom come.**

### Concluding Prayer *(together)*

Creator God, rekindle in us all your gifts of grace.

Renew our lives in Christ

and bring to completion all that your calling has begun -

in us, in our church, in our world,

through Jesus Christ, our teacher, friend, guide and savior,

our light and our life.

Amen.

## Confirmation of Baptism

### Presentation of the Confirmands

#### Profession of Faith

Hailey Rose Byrne

Carson Steven Lang

Kirsten Arielle Wilson

Liam Wilson

### Questions to the Congregation

#### Presentation of Gifts

**Hymn 726** Will You Come and Follow Me/The Summons *Kelvingrove*

*(The congregation will remain seated as we sing the hymn,  
until all are directed to stand.)*

\* **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.

### Welcome

## The Offering

### Offertory

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

*O Waly Waly*

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

\* **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

Lord, receive the offerings of our lives:

**That every breath might be holy to you.**

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

## SEND AND BLESS

### This Week at First Presbyterian Church

#### Minute for Mission – Run for Coffee

\* **Song**

Your Grace Is Enough

*Matt Maher*

\* **Closing Responses**

We journey with Christ.

**Christ before me, Christ beside me,  
Christ behind me, Christ beneath me.**

As we walk

**Christ, be our way.**

As we learn

**Christ, be our truth.**

As we grow

**Christ, be our life.**

\* **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**



# 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)** 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

[mharris@firstpreshc.org](mailto:mharris@firstpreshc.org)

Dr. Sue Lowcock Harris, Co-Pastor

[sharris@firstpreshc.org](mailto:sharris@firstpreshc.org)

Virginia Callegary, Director of Christian Education

[vcallegary@firstpreshc.org](mailto:vcallegary@firstpreshc.org)

James Galdieri, Director of Music Ministries

[jgaldieri@firstpreshc.org](mailto:jgaldieri@firstpreshc.org)

Caroline Smith, Church Administrator

[fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org](mailto:fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org)

Pat Travers, Bookkeeper

[bookkeeper@firstpreshc.org](mailto:bookkeeper@firstpreshc.org)

Woodrow Collins, Church Sexton

[sexton@firstpreshc.org](mailto:sexton@firstpreshc.org)

Kathy Moore, Godly Play Coordinator

[GodlyPlay@firstpreshc.org](mailto:GodlyPlay@firstpreshc.org)

Marla Youkers, Child Care Coordinator

Sarah Reinhardt, Child Care Worker

The Rev. Ruth Bell, Parish Visitor

[rbell@firstpreshc.org](mailto:rbell@firstpreshc.org)

The Rev. T. Webster Brenner, Parish Associate

The Rev. Stephen Mann, Parish Associate

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