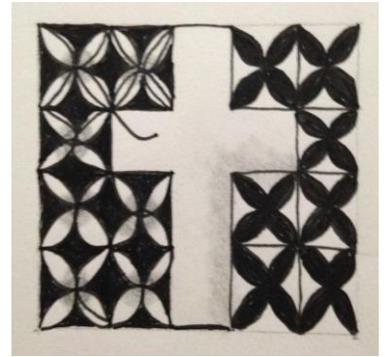


THE SERVICE FOR EASTER SUNDAY

Communion

8:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 1, 2018



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.*

FOR MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP *(for personal use before worship)*

We sing because we know there is another way to run the world, a world where death is not the final word, where despair is not the winner, where human power and hierarchies are not thought to be inevitable and unchangeable.

John Holbert

GREETING

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

And also with you.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Christ is risen and the Spirit is with us.

Christ is risen! God has worked wonders. Alleluia!

Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:

Christ is the light of the world and the center of our lives. Alleluia!

PRELUDE

Entrata Festiva

Flor Peeters

PRAYER FOR SUNDAY MORNING

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Creator of the universe, you made the world in beauty
and restore all things through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**We pray that, where your image is still disfigured
by poverty, sickness, selfishness, warfare and greed,
the new creation in Jesus Christ may appear
in justice, love and peace, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

* HYMN 232

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Easter Hymn

1. Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
3. But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured. Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
4. Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia

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. ...

**Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave,
you shattered the power of sin and death.
We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear.
We overlook the poor and the hungry,
and pass by those who mourn;
we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed,
and indifferent to calls for peace;
we despise the weak and abuse the earth you made.
Forgive us God of mercy.
Help us to trust your power
to change our lives and make us new,
that we may know the joy of life abundant
given in Jesus Christ, the risen lord.**

(We take time to pray quiet, personal prayer...)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

- * **RESPONSE OF PRAISE 268 verse 2** *(singing together)* Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

- * **SHARING THE PEACE**

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

- * **RESPONSE OF PRAISE 268 verse 3** *(singing together)* Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

WORDS OF WELCOME

*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.*

ENCOUNTER

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 25:6-9 (*page 568, Pew Bible*)

The Word of God for the People of God
Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

Mark 16:1-8 (*page 829, 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.

CHORAL RESPONSE, 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

When the Sabbath Was Over

Dr. Morton Harris

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.

CONCERNS AND REMEMBRANCES

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Christ Our Passover

William McFarland

*Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:
therefore let us keep the feast.
Not with old leaven,
neither with the leaves of malice and wickedness,
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more;
death has no more dominion over him.
For in that he died, he died unto sin once;
but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God,
Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin,
but alive to God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Christ is risen from the dead
and became the first fruits of them that slept.
For since by man came death,
by man came also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die,
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.*

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

* COMMUNION HYMN 505

The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing

The Feast Is Ready

1. The trumpets sound; the angels sing; the feast is ready to begin.
The gates of heaven are open wide, and Jesus welcomes you inside.
Refrain:
Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight.
Come and revel in heaven's love and light.
Take your place at the table of the King.
The feast is ready to begin; the feast is ready to begin.
2. Tables are laden with good things; O taste the peace and joy he brings.
He'll fill you up with love divine; he'll turn your water into wine. (*Refrain*)
3. The hungry heart he satisfies, offers the poor his paradise.
Now hear all heaven and earth applaud the amazing goodness of the Lord. (*Refrain*)

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

People of God, open your hearts.

We open our hearts to Christ, who reigns in glory.

Let us give thanks to the 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:]

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

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Canzona Per Sonare No. 2

Giovanni Gabrieli

SONG AFTER COMMUNION 544

Bless the Lord

Taizé

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

SEND AND BLESS

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

* HYMN 249

Because You Live, O Christ

Vruechten

1. Because you live, O Christ, the garden of the world has come to flower;
the darkness of the tomb is flooded with your resurrection power.
The stone has rolled away and death cannot imprison!
O sing this Easter day, for Jesus Christ has risen, has risen, has risen, has risen!
2. Because you live, O Christ, the spirit bird of hope is freed for flying;
our cages of despair no longer keep us closed and life-denying.
The stone has rolled away and death cannot imprison!
O sing this Easter day, for Jesus Christ has risen, has risen, has risen, has risen!
3. Because you live, O Christ, the rainbow of your peace will span creation;
the colors of your love will draw all humankind to adoration.
The stone has rolled away and death cannot imprison!
O sing this Easter day, for Jesus Christ has risen, has risen, has risen, has risen!

* CLOSING RESPONSES

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

In the peace of God.

We carry Christ's love into the world.

In company with Christ.

We live resurrection life.

With our lives we proclaim:

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE 268 verse 1 (*singing together*)

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

POSTLUDE

*Nun Danket Alle Gott
(Now Thank We All Our God)*

Sigrid Karg-Elert



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. Photography during worship is discouraged, and flash is not permitted. Please, no food or drink in the Sanctuary.

Large print bulletins (including hymns and scripture readings) are available from the ushers.

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.

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 at both services 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 stop for Breakfast in Lyle Buck Hall this morning between 7:00 - 10:30 a.m.

We invite you to become a member of First Church. The next New Members Class is Sunday, April 22 at noon, following the Congregational Meeting. 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; or to arrange homebound Communion, contact Pastor Morton Harris or Pastor Sue Lowcock Harris.

Worship Notes: *The Affirmation of Faith we are saying today is a New Testament affirmation. It references several passages of scripture. See: 1 Corinthians 15:1-6; Mark 16:9; Matthew 16:16; Revelation 22:13 and John 20:28. This affirmation was first compiled and published in The Worshipbook in 1970.*



The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County

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Sarah Reinhardt, Child Care Worker

The Rev. Ruth Bell, Parish Visitor

rbell@firstpreshc.org

The Rev. T. Webster Brenner, Parish Associate

The Rev. Stephen Mann, Parish Associate

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

