

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

Third Sunday of Easter

Communion

April 15, 2018

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)*

It is clear that the greatest evils of humanity are due to lack of love, and that the New Testament's "miraculous catch" (see Luke 5) was not the haddock and shad and whatever else Peter and the rest of them caught that day, but the fact that Peter and the rest were caught up, even as we are in the net of Christ's love.

William Sloane Coffin

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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.

Creating God, you are the author of life.

Open our souls to understand your way.

Fill us with your eternal peace.

Give us wisdom and courage

to live as witnesses to the resurrection of Christ,

your Son and our Brother,

who pours out your love into the world, now and forever.

Amen.

ENCOUNTER

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: 1 John 3:1-7

Page 990; pew Bible

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

Second Lesson: Luke 24:36-48

Page 861; 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 Right Before Our Eyes

Sue Lowcock Harris

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

RESPOND AND SERVE

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

from A Declaration of Faith (1977)

Jesus is our living Lord.

Jesus was dead and buried,
but God raised him from the dead.

The risen Lord appeared to his followers.

They recognized him as their Master
who had been crucified...

We are certain that Jesus lives.

Jesus lives as God with us,
touching all of human life with the presence of God.

Jesus lives as one of us with God.

Because he shares our humanity
and has bound us to himself in love,
we have an advocate in the innermost life of God.

Jesus is Lord!

Jesus has been Lord from the beginning,
and will be Lord at the end.

Even now Jesus Christ is Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Concerns and Remembrances

A Word About the HVAC Campaign

Steve Conrad

The Offering

Offertory

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

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

*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.*

Prayer after Communion

SEND AND BLESS

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

Minute for Mission – Run for Coffee

Becky Torrance

* **Hymn 231** Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

Suo Gan

* **Closing Responses**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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**

* **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.

New Member Orientation explores what it means to be part of the First Church household. The next orientation is Sunday, April 22nd at noon. Please contact the church office if you plan to attend or need childcare.

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
Sarah Reinhardt, Child Care Worker
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

