

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church  
of Howard County

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

*Communion*

*May 6, 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 saw that God was everything that is good and encouraging...*

*God is our clothing that wraps, clasps and encloses us,*

*so as never to leave us.*

*Julian of Norwich*

### **Gathering Music**

Lovely

*Vaughn Williams*

### **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.**

**Alleluia!**

### **Prayer for Sunday Morning**

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Faithful God,

make our hearts bold with love for one another.

**Pour out your Spirit upon all people, everywhere,**

**that we might live your justice,**

**and sing in praise your new song of life**

**restored, revived and reborn.**

**Amen.**

## 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.**

**God of all hope and joy,  
we confess that we continue to live in fear.  
We have not loved you with our whole hearts.  
We have not loved each other.**

**We have squandered Christ's gift of friendship  
and failed to offer that gift to others.**

**Forgive us, God of grace.**

**Breathe on us  
and restore our souls,  
so that we may be at peace with you,  
and live as your beloved children,  
through Jesus Christ our teacher, our brother, our Lord.**

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

### Assurance of Grace

\* **Response of Praise 581** *(singing together)*

*Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.

\* **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)*

*Alleluia!*

Alleluia!

### Words of Welcome

## ENCOUNTER

### Prayer for Illumination

**First Lesson:** 1 John 5:1-6

*Page 991; 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, who normally attend The Worship Bridge will return to their seats to experience a full worship service with their family.*

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 15:9-17

*Page 878; 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** Love and Commandment

*Morton Harris*

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

## RESPOND AND SERVE

\* **Affirmation of Faith** *(together)* *The Nicene Creed (Ecumenical Version)*

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
In accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **A Word from the Stewardship Committee - Wills Emphasis Sunday Concerns and Remembrances**

### **The Offering**

### **Offertory**

## **The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper**

### **Invitation to the Table**

#### **\* Communion Hymn 526**

*Linstead*

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

### **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 pastor continues to lead us in prayer. We gather up all our prayers,  
spoken and unspoken, as we pray together...]*

**God in heaven, your name is to be honored.**

**May your new community of hope be realized  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today the essentials of life.**

**Release us from wrongdoing  
as we also release those who wrong us.**

**Do not test us beyond our enduring;  
save us from all that is evil.**

**For you embrace justice, love and peace,  
now and to the end of time. 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.*

**Music at Communion**                      O Taste and See                      *Vaughn Williams*

\* **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

**Minute for Mission** – Men's Clothing Drive                      *Blessing Gunden*

\* **Hymn 536**                      Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen                      *Surge Ecclesia*  
*The Choir will sing the first verse.*  
*All are invited to join in singing the subsequent verses.*

\* **Closing Responses**

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!

**Let the sea roar and all that fills it!**

Let the field exult, and everything in it!

**Let the trees of the wood sing for joy!**

For Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen!**

\* **Benediction**

\* **Response 257, verse 4**                      *The Risen Christ*

May we, Christ's body, walk and serve and stand  
with the oppressed in this and every land,  
till all are blessed and can a blessing be,  
restored in Christ to true humanity.

\* **Postlude**                      Hyfrydol                      *Vaughn Williams*



# 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.firstpreshec.org](http://www.firstpreshec.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