

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

Sixth Sunday of Easter
Communion
May 6, 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)*

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

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!

Prelude

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

Welcome New Members

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!

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

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...]

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.*

Music at Communion

SEND AND BLESS

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

Minute for Mission – Men’s Clothing Drive

Blessing Gunden

* **Hymn 526** Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Linstead

* **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**

* **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

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

mharris@firstpreshc.org
sharris@firstpreshc.org
vcallegary@firstpreshc.org
jgaldieri@firstpreshc.org
fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org
bookkeeper@firstpreshc.org
sexton@firstpreshc.org
GodlyPlay@firstpreshc.org

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