

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
June 30, 2024

10:00 a.m. In-person and Livestream Service



GATHER

Let all enter the sanctuary in a spirit of prayer.
Words in **bold** are read by the congregation.

Please remember to turn your cell phones to silent.

*This worship service is being livestreamed to the internet,
and you may appear on our Facebook page and YouTube channel.*

*For our online congregation - Let us know you are here! Post a greeting!
And remember that you can place a request in the Prayer Journal
in the comments on both You Tube and Facebook Live.*

Prelude

Just As I Am

William B Bradbury, arr. J. Raney

Lighting the Christ Candle

Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:

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

Call to Worship

Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.

For his anger is but for a moment;
his favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.

* **Hymn** (*see insert*)

Child of God

Mark A. Miller

Verse 1, Margaret McGillivray, soloist

Verses 2-4, Congregation joins in

Child of God



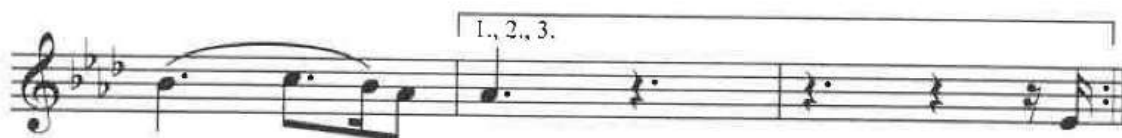
1. No mat - ter what peo - ple
 mat - ter what peo - ple
 mat - ter what the world
 mat - ter what the church



say, say, says, says,
 say, say, says,
 say, say, says,
 de - ci - sions,
 or think a - bout
 or think a - bout
 or thinks a - bout
 pro - nounce - ments on



me, you, me, you,
 I am a child,
 you are a child,
 I am a child,
 you are a child,
 I am a
 you are a
 I am a
 you are a



child _____ of God. 2. No
 child _____ of God. 3. No
 child _____ of God. 4. No
 child _____ of

From: *Roll Down, Justice!* (CGBK72).

Text: Mark A. Miller.

Music: *Child of God*, by Mark A. Miller.

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4.

God. And there is no thing, or

no one who can se - pa - rate, they can't

se - pa - rate you from the truth that you're

some - one, you are fam - i - ly, you are

meant to be a child, a

child of God! You are a

molto rit.

child, a child of God!

Call to Confession

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.

**Holy God, we confess that we are an arrogant people –
so full of “knowledge” that we hardly have any room for love.**

**We confess that we too often judge
when we really need to listen.**

**We confess that we push people away
when you call us to welcome them into our communities.**

**We confess that we think only about protecting ourselves
when we are challenged to risk everything for others.**

**Lord, forgive us for being more concerned with “being right”
than we are with “showing love”.**

**Forgive us for demanding uniformity
when you call us to celebrate diversity.**

**Guide us, Great God,
to live according to your unconditional love.**

**Teach us to see one another as sisters and brothers,
that we may learn to live as one family.**

(A time of silence is kept during which individual confessions may be offered.)

Assurance of Grace

* **Response of Praise 48** (singing together)

Rain Down

Capo 3: (D) (F#7) (Bm) (D7) (G)

F A7 Dm F7 B^b

Rain down; rain down; rain down your

(D/F#) (Em7) (A7) (D) (F#7) (Bm)

F/A Gm7 C7 F A7 Dm

love on your peo - ple. Rain down; rain

(D7) (G) (Em) (A7) (G) (D)

F7 B^b Gm C7 B^b F

down; rain down your love, God of life.

* **Sharing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(We share peace with a nod or a bow, perhaps with hand on heart or folded hands, or with the ASL sign for peace. If worshipping from home, greet each other by sending a text, a wave or comment on Facebook or YouTube.)

* **Response of Praise 59** (singing together)

The Steadfast Love of the Lord

Refrain Capo 1: (D) (D/F#) (G) (A7sus) (A)
 Eb Eb/G Ab Bb7sus Bb

The stead - fast love of the Lord nev - er ceas - es; God's
 (D) (D/F#) (G) (A7sus) (A7)
 Eb Eb/G Ab Bb7sus Bb7
 mer - cies nev - er come to an end. They are
 (G) (A) (F#m7) (Bm7) (Em7)
 Ab Bb Gm7 Cm7 Fm7
 new ev - ery morn - ing, new ev - ery morn - ing; great is your
 (A7sus) (A7) (D) (A/C#)(Bm7) (Em7) (A7sus) (A7) (D)
 Bb7sus Bb7 Eb Bb/D Cm7 Fm7 Bb7sus Bb7 Eb
 faith - ful - ness, O Lord, great is your faith - ful - ness.

Words of Welcome

Newcomers please leave us your address and contact information on the Visitor Card in the pew rack! Place the Visitor Card in the offering plate.

ENCOUNTER

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Psalm 30

- ¹ I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up,
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.
- ² O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.
- ³ O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.
- ⁴ Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.
- ⁵ For his anger is but for a moment;
his favour is for a lifetime.
Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.
- ⁶ As for me, I said in my prosperity,
'I shall never be moved.'
- ⁷ By your favour, O LORD,
you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.
- ⁸ To you, O LORD, I cried,
and to the LORD I made supplication:
- ⁹ 'What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the Pit?
Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?
- ¹⁰ Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me!
O LORD, be my helper!'
- ¹¹ You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,
- ¹² so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you for ever.

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 the sanctuary later in the worship service.*

(It is the church's policy to not put images of children on the livestream.)

**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.**

Anthem

O How Amiable

Ralph Vaughn Williams

Clarence Baney, tenor; Benjamin Riniker, baritone

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

8 We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; ²for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, ⁴begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints— ⁵and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us, ⁶so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you. ⁷Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

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

Abundant Joy

Kenneth Page

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

RESPOND AND SERVE

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

I believe in the living God, the joy of the universe,
who is the pulse and purpose of all things seen and unseen,
who from the dust of earth calls up living beings
to be children of eternity.

I believe in Jesus the Christ, God's true Son,
who is bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh,
who took upon himself the healing of the human race,
who was betrayed, crucified,
dead and buried in a borrowed tomb,
who on the third day was found to be gloriously alive.

I believe in the Holy Spirit of God,
who brings hope out of despair,
love out of apathy and joy out of sorrow,
who unceasingly regenerates and reforms the church
that it may always be the body of the risen Christ,
loving the world through prayer, word and deed.

I believe that even I am caught up
in the resurgent life of Christ Jesus,
and that nothing in life or death can separate me
from his love and joy. This I believe. Amen!

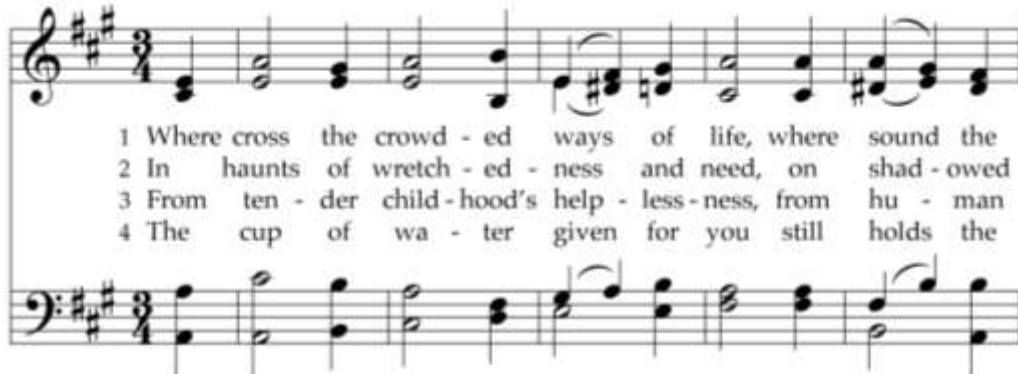
* **Hymn 343**, *verses 1-4, 6*

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

Germany

(see next page for hymn)

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life 343



1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
 3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
 4 The cup of wa - ter given for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
 thresh - olds fraught with fears, from paths where hide the
 grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
 fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
 sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
 tudes to view the sweet com - pas - sion of your face.

5 O Master, from the mountainside,
 make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
 among these restless throngs abide;
 O tread the city's streets again;

6 Till all the world shall learn your love,
 and follow where your feet have trod;
 till glorious from your heaven above
 shall come the city of our God.

Because dense populations always result in concentrated hardships, this vivid yet timeless evocation of urban need connects to our own day as well as to Jesus' lament over Jerusalem (Matthew 23:37/Luke 13:34). This tune was the first used with this text and is now customary.

Concerns and Remembrances

Prayers of Gratitude and Concern

Concluding Prayer *(together)*

Thank you, Lord, for being our God and making us your people.

Thank you for growing in us and for helping us to grow.

Thank you for the ministry you entrust to us.

**May your will be done in us and by us,
both now and forevermore. Amen.**

The Offering

Offertory Solo

Thanks Be to God
Clarence Baney, *tenor*

Stanley Dickson

* **Doxology 710** *(singing together)*

We Lift Our Voices

(see next page for hymn)

We Lift Our Voices 710

We Are an Offering

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of eight staves of music. The lyrics are: "We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands; Lord, use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering; we are an offering." Chord symbols are placed above the notes: F, C, F, C, F, C, Dm7, F, C, F, C, C, F, G7, Em7, Asus A, Dm7, F, G, Esus E, Am, F, C, Bb, Dm, F, C, F, C, F, C, Dm7, C.

We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our
 lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our
 voice - es; Lord, use our hands; Lord, use our
 lives; they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing.
 All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we
 give to you, we give to you. We lift our
 voice - es; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you:
 we are an of-fer-ing; we are an of-fer-ing.

* Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

SEND AND BLESS

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

*** Hymn**

I'm Trading My Sorrows

Darrell Evans

I'm trading my sorrows
I'm trading my shame
I'm laying them down
For the joy of the Lord
I'm trading my sickness
I'm trading my pain
I'm laying them down
For the joy of the Lord

Chorus

Yes Lord yes Lord yes yes Lord
Yes Lord yes Lord yes yes Lord
Yes Lord yes Lord yes yes Lord Amen

(BRIDGE)

I am pressed but not crushed
Persecuted not abandoned
Struck down but not destroyed
I am blessed beyond the curse
For His promise will endure
That His joy's gonna be my strength
Though the sorrow may last for the night
His joy comes with the morning

*** Benediction**

*** Response** *(singing together)*

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our Creator, family all are we,
Let us walk with each other, in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now,
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow,
To take each moment and live each moment in peace, eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

*** Postlude**

Praeludium in F

Johann Ludwig Krebs



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

If your infant or child needs care 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.

Flash photography during worship is not permitted. Please, no food or drink in the Sanctuary.

If you are new to First Church

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 become a member of First Church. Please speak with Pastor Ken or call the church office to set a time to meet.

Interested in the mission and activities of First Presbyterian Church?

Visit the church's website, www.firstpreshc.org for more info.

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The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County

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Ministers: All members of the congregation

Kenneth Page, Interim Pastor
Virginia Callegary, Director of Christian Education
Dr. Margaret McGillivray, Director of Music Ministries
Caroline Smith, Church Administrator
Pat Travers, Bookkeeper
Woodrow Collins, Church Sexton
Kathy Moore, Godly Play Coordinator
Marla Youkers, Nursery Coordinator
Sarah Reinhardt, Nursery Assistant

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 ✦

✦ We are a Matthew 25 Congregation ✦

Inspirit Counseling Services at First Presbyterian Church

Meredith Barger 410-433-8861 x104 | John Michalczyk 410-433-8861 x115

