

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

Second Sunday in Lent

Communion

March 1, 2015

8:00 a.m.



We Gather in God's Name

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**, read by the congregation.

For Meditation before Worship *(for personal use before worship)*

"The times are bad! The times are troublesome!" This is what humans say. But let us be good and our times will be good. We are our times. Such as we are, such are our times.

Augustine

Words of Welcome

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

And also with you.

Please fill out the red Friendship Pad in each pew.

Newcomers please leave us your address and phone number!

Then, pass the folder the length of the pew and back.

Lighting the Christ Candle

From water to wilderness:

God's covenant continues;

God's realm comes near.

On stone and in hearts:

God's covenant continues;

God's realm comes near.

Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:

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

Prelude

There is a Balm in Gilead

Martin

Prayer for Sunday Morning

May God be with you.

And also with you.

O God of all times and all places,
we gather together, your people,
and we seek a word from you to guide our way.

**Bless us with a reverent sense of your presence,
that we may be filled with peace,
and may worship you with all our mind and spirit;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

* Hymn 401

Here in This Place

Gather Us In

Call to Confession

A Sung Prayer for Mercy 577

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

A Spoken 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.

**God our Redeemer, we confess
that we are people of ashes and dust.**

**You enter the desert to face the hardest truth:
we live in self-deception.**

**You offer the bread that gives true life;
we consume what leaves us craving for more.**

**You refuse to worship empty power;
we let greed rule our world.**

Forgive us, God of grace.

**Wash us clean, once again,
that we may return to you and walk your holy way.**

**Through Jesus Christ,
our teacher, friend, companion and savior.**

Amen.

(We continue in silent, personal prayer...)

Assurance of Grace

- * **Response of Praise 694** (*singing together*) *Great God of Every Blessing*

Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,
you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.

How can we hope to thank you?

Our praise is but a start:

sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

- * **Sharing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

- * **Welcoming One Another**

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.*

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Psalm 22:22-31

Page 435; pew Bible

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

Second Lesson: Mark 8:31-9:1

Page 820; pew Bible

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon Life in the Kingdom: Life in the What? *Morton Harris*
(after the meditation, we observe a time of silence and prayer)

We Respond to God's Word

- * **Affirmation of Faith** (*together*) *The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Concerns and Remembrances

The Offering

Offertory

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

May God be with you.

And also with you.

People of God, open your hearts.

We open them to God and to each other.

Let us give thanks to the living God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

[Blessed are you, O Lord our God ... Therefore, we join our voices in praise to you. And this is our song:]

**Holy, holy, holy God of love and justice,
your compassion enfolds the whole earth.**

Blessed is Jesus Christ, who comes in your name.

Hosanna in the highest: God, come to save us.

[The pastors continue 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 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

Prayer After Communion

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) and individual listening devices 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 & 11 a.m. services; *The Worship Bridge* for older children (grades 2-5) at the 11 a.m. service.

Worship folders and crayons for children are at the ushers' table in The Commons. Please return the crayons as you leave. *White bulletins* for children ages three to six; *Gray bulletins* for children ages seven to twelve.

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.

Handicap entrance is through the Main Entrance in the rear of the building.

We invite you to stop by Coffee Hour after worship for conversation and fellowship in Lyle Buck Hall.

New Member Orientation explores what it means to be part of First Church household. This one session class is the way to become a member. The next orientation is **Saturday, March 21st** from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. 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; to request a Stephen Minister; or to arrange homebound Communion, contact Ruth Bell.

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, Executive Assistant
Pat Travers, Bookkeeper
Woodrow Collins, Church Sexton
Kathy Moore, Godly Play Coordinator
Marla Youkers, Child Care Coordinator
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
execasst@firstpreshc.org
bookkeeper@firstpreshc.org
sexton@firstpreshc.org
GodlyPlay@firstpreshc.org
rbell@firstpreshc.org

We are an Earth Care Congregation ☩ We are a Stephen Ministry Church

Inspirit Counseling Services at First Presbyterian Church

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