

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

Reformation Sunday
October 30, 2016

10:30 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.

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

Ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda secundum verbum Dei.

The church reformed, always reforming according to the Word of God.

Gathering Music

Hymn 743

O God, You Are My God

Step By Step

Hymn 613

O Lord, Our Lord

How Majestic

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.

Song

Send Out Your Light

Wild Goose Resource Group

Lighting the Christ Candle

Way beyond all journeying, Truth behind all mystery,

Life within all living:

We praise you!

Mender of every brokenness, Midwife of a better future:

We praise you!

Maker, redeemer, confessor, companion, befriender, inspirer,

God beyond all names:

We praise you!

Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:

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

Prayer for Sunday Morning

May God be with you.

And also with you.

God of the lost ones,
you come into the places we live and you call us your own.

**May our tables be graced by your presence as guest,
and our possessions freed to serve the poor;
through Jesus Christ, the one who seeks us out.**

Amen.

* Hymn 104

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

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.

Sovereign God, mother of mercy, father of grace:

we confess that we do not live out of gratitude.

We follow the crowd around you,

but we stand apart and keep our distance.

We ask your mercy and favor,

but begrudge your blessing to others.

Forgive us, God of grace.

Come and find us and save us,

for without you we are lost,

but in you, our lives are found.

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

Assurance of Grace

* Response of Praise (*singing together*)

Levine

Hallelu, Hal-le-lu, Hallelu, Hallelujah! Hallelu, Hallelujah, Amen.

(repeat)

How good it is that we should be together

Mother, Father, Sister, Brother, neighbor and friend.

Reaching out, find a way building bridges for tomorrow.

Mending hearts, making peace begins with us today.

* 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** (*singing together*)

Let There Be Love and Understanding

Let there be love and understanding among us,
Let peace and friendship be our shelter from the storm.

Words of Welcome

**Installation of Elder Barb Fink, Class of 2017
and Deacon Amy Curran, Class of 2018**

ENCOUNTER

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Habakkuk 1:1-4 and 2:1-4

Page 762; 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, may go with Ms. Virginia Callegary to
The Worship Bridge. They will return to worship later in the service.*

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: Luke 19:1-10

Page 854; 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

There Is Still A Vision

Sue Lowcock Harris

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

RESPOND AND SERVE

* **An Affirmation for Reformation Sunday** (*together*)

What is our Chief End?

Our Chief End is to glorify God and enjoy God forever!

(The Shorter Catechism, 1647)

We confess and acknowledge one God alone,
to whom alone we must cleave,
whom alone we must serve,
whom only we must worship,
and in whom we put our trust.
Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable,
incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible.

(The Scots Confession, 1560)

What is your only comfort in life and in death?
That I am not my own, but belong –
body and soul, in life and death –
to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.
Because I belong to him,
Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life
and make me wholeheartedly willing and ready
from now on to live for him.

(The Heidelberg Catechism, 1563)

In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
who alone we worship and serve.

(A Brief Statement of Faith, 1983)

* **Hymn 345** In an Age of Twisted Values *Church United*

Moment for Sharing

Concerns and Remembrances

Prayers of Gratitude and Concern

God of abundant grace,
Hear our prayers.

Concluding Prayer *(together)*

O God, in days past you gave the people of this community
the gifts of courage, faith and vision to found our congregation,
and the energy, intelligence, imagination and love
to serve you in the world
through war and peace, prosperity and hardship.
Grant, we pray, a like spirit to us in this time and place.
Further in all things the purpose of our common life,
that hidden things may be revealed to us
and new ways found to touch the hearts of all.
May we preserve with each other love and peace,
and, if it be your holy will,
grant that we may continue to be a place of your abiding,
and that our common life may be a sanctuary and a light,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Offering

Offertory Anthem Behold Now, Praise the Lord *Thimann*

* **Doxology** (*singing together*) *O Waly, Waly*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

* **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

With gratitude to the giver of life,
we offer our lives to the Lord.

(We stand quietly as the liturgist offers a prayer.)

SEND AND BLESS

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

* **Hymn 624** I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art *Toulon*

* **Closing Responses**

This is the day that God has made;

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

We will not offer to God

Offerings that cost us nothing.

Go in peace to love and to serve;

We will seek peace and pursue it.

In the name of the Trinity of Love,

God in community, holy and one.

* **Benediction**

* **Response 519** *You Are My Strength When I Am Weak*

You are my strength when I am weak;
you are the treasure that I seek; you are my all in all.

When I fall down, you pick me up;
when I am dry, you fill my cup; you are my all in all.

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name!

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name!

* **Postlude**



WORSHIP NOTES: The Opening Sentences as we light the Christ Candle come from Morning Liturgy B, in a *Wee Worship Book*, Fifth Incarnation, by the Wild Goose Resource Group.

The Prayer for Sunday Morning is adapted from *Prayers for and Inclusive Church*, by Steve Shakespeare, Year C Proper 26.

The Concluding Prayer in today's Prayers of Gratitude and Concern is a reworking of The Prayer for the Iona Community, prayed by members of the Community, published in the *Community's Prayer Book*.

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 8:30 & 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 Co-Pastors 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; to request a Stephen Minister; or to arrange homebound Communion, contact Ruth Bell or Pastor Morton.

The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County



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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
The Rev. Ruth Bell, Parish Visitor
The Rev. T. Webster Brenner, Parish Associate
The Rev. Stephen Mann, Parish Associate

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GodlyPlay@firstpreschc.org
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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 Michalcyzk 410-433-8861 x115