

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

Second Sunday in Lent
March 12, 2017

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.

Please fill out the red Friendship Pad in each pew.

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

I always think that we all live, spiritually, by what others have given us in the significant hours of our life. These significant hours do not announce themselves as coming but arrive unexpected.

Albert Schweitzer

Gathering Music

Greeting

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 contact information!

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

Song *(singing together)*

Don't Be Afraid

Wild Goose Resource Group

Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
my love is stronger than your fear.

Don't be afraid, My love is stronger
and I have promised,
promised to be always near.

Lighting the Christ Candle

We lift our eyes; from where will our help come?

**Our help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

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 our helper, our shade, our protector:

**we trust your power to make all things new;
to keep us in sunlight and in moonlight,
along rocky paths and pathways unknown;
until all our going and coming brings us at last
to your kingdom promised in Christ,
in whose name we pray.**

Amen.

* **Hymn 396**

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship

Holy Manna

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.

Merciful God, forgive us.

Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot break free.

We have spoken when we should have kept quiet.

We were silent when we should have said something.

We have acted when we knew better.

We were still when we know we should have moved.

**For the wrong we have done,
for the good we have failed to do,**

have mercy on us, O God.

Come close and make us yours,

for the sake of Jesus Christ.

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

A Sung Prayer for Mercy 437

(singing together)

You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!

You are the Lord, giver of mercy.

You are the Christ, giver of mercy.

You are the Lord, giver of mercy.

Assurance of Grace

* 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 694 verse 1

Great God of Every Blessing

(singing together)

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.

Words of Welcome

ENCOUNTER

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Philippians 1:27-2:4

Page 953; 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.

Psalter Hymn 45 I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes (Psalm 121) *Dundee*

Second Lesson: Matthew 21:23-32

Page 802; 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 A Walk Through Holy Week: Monday *Sue Lowcock Harris*

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

RESPOND AND SERVE

- * **Affirmation of Faith** *(together)* *adapted from The Confession of Belhar*

We believe that the unity of the people of God
must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways:
in that we love one another;
that we experience, practice
and pursue community with one another;
that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully
to be of benefit and blessing to one another.
Thanks be to God!

- * **Hymn 727** Will You Let Me Be Your Servant *The Servant Song*

Concerns and Remembrances

Prayers of Gratitude and Concern

Hear us, O God
Your mercy is great.

Concluding Prayer *(together)*

Living God:
show yourself to us that we might serve you
with body, soul and mind.
Hear our prayers
and make us willing agents of your gracious purposes,
in Jesus' name.
Amen.

The Offering

Offertory Anthem Lord, For Thy Tender Mercies Sake *Farrant*

- * **Doxology 607** *(singing together)* *Old Hundredth*

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**

Jesus said: Store up your treasure in heaven;
For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
(We stand quietly as the liturgist offers a prayer.)

SEND AND BLESS

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

* **Hymn 353** My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less *Solid Rock*

* **Closing Responses**

We journey with Christ.

**Christ before me, Christ beside me,
Christ behind me, Christ beneath me.**

As we walk

Christ, be our way.

As we learn

Christ, be our truth.

As we grow

Christ, be our life.

* **Benediction**

* **Response 543, verse 1** (*singing together*) *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

God, be the love to search and keep me;

God, be the prayer to move my voice;

God, be the strength to now uphold me:

O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

* **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) 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 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 Pastor Morton.

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

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GodlyPlay@firstpreshc.org
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We are an Earth Care Congregation ☩

Inspirit Counseling Services at First Presbyterian Church

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