

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

*Pentecost
Communion
June 4, 2017*

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)*

*Some day, after mastering the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity,
we shall harness for God the energies of love, and then for a second time
in the history of the world, we will have discovered fire.*

Teilhard de Chardin

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.

Lighting the Christ Candle

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you,
and you shall be my witnesses to the ends of the earth.

Come, Holy Spirit:

send out your light and renew the face of the earth!

Come, Light of our Hearts:

you are our peace in every war and conflict!

Come, Breath of God:

blow through our chaos and recreate your children!

Come, Wellspring of Joy:

rain into our parched souls with water of life.

Come, Hope of the World, Spirit of Great Compassion.

Come, Reconciler, Redeemer, Renewer of all things.

Come, Wind and Flame, Fire and Dove.

Come among us, Holy Spirit: fill the hearts of your faithful.

Fill the hearts of your faithful

and kindle in us the fire of your love.

Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:

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

Prelude

Prayer for Sunday Morning

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Unlocked Spirit, you are the breath of peace;
no door keeps you out:

**Invade our warring confusion,
disarm our defenses,
and shape us to live as a people of forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ, the word of reconciliation.
Amen.**

* Hymn

Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow

Aberystwyth

Wind who makes all winds that blow –
Gusts that bend the saplings low,
Gales that heave the sea in waves,
Stirrings in the mind's deep caves —
Aim Your breath with steady power
On Your church this day, this hour.
Raise, renew the life we've lost,
Spirit God of Pentecost.

Fire who fuels all fires that burn —
Suns around which planets turn,
beacons marking reefs and shoals,
Shining truth to guide our souls —
Come to us as once You came:
Burst in tongues of sacred flame!
Light and Power, Might and Strength,
Fill Your church, its breadth and length.

Holy Spirit, Wind and Flame,
Move within our mortal frame.
Make our hearts an altar pyre,
Kindle them with Your own fire.
Breathe and blow upon that blaze
Till our lives, our deeds and ways,
Speak that tongue which every land
By Your grace shall understand.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy Spirit, Creator:

Have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, Comforter:

Make peace within us.

Holy Spirit, Giver of life:

Be with us and for us, wherever life takes us.

**God of abundance, renewal and resurrection,
we confess that we continue to look for
the living among the dead.
you speak to us in every language,
but we refuse to heed your Word.
You pour out the gifts of your Spirit,
but we try to contain your grace.
Forgive us; give us new life!
Breathe upon us with your mercy
and fill us with the power to proclaim
the life that death cannot destroy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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

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** *(singing together)*

Jesus Messiah

Jesus Messiah Name above all names
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel
The rescue for sinners The ransom from Heaven
Jesus Messiah, Lord of All

Words of Welcome

ENCOUNTER

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Acts 2:1-21

Page 885; pew Bible

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

Second Lesson: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Page 483; pew Bible

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

Third Lesson: John 20:19-23

Page 883; 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 Renew the Face of the Earth

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 1967*

We believe that God the Holy Spirit
fulfills the work of reconciliation.
The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church
as the community in which we are reconciled
to God and to one another.
The Spirit enables us to receive forgiveness
as we forgive one another,
and to enjoy the peace of God
as we make peace among ourselves.
We believe that in spite of our sin,
the Holy Spirit gives us power
to become representatives of Jesus Christ
and to proclaim the good news of reconciliation to all.
Thanks be to God!

- * **Song** In Christ Alone *Getty, Townend & Galbraith*

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 one another.

Let us give thanks to the living God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*[The pastors continue 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

Prayer After Communion

SEND AND BLESS

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

* Hymn 288

Spirit of the Living God
(second verse is on the wall)

*Living God
Iverson & Baughen*

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me:
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, move among us all;
make us one in heart and mind, makes us one in love,
humble, caring, selfless, sharing.
Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love.

* Closing Responses

We have heard it with our ears.

We have felt it in our souls.

It was the sound of wind, rushing.

It was the flame of life, kindled.

The Spirit of God has breathed out into us.

Filled with peace, we put peace into the hands of the world.

* 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) 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

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Ministers: All members of the congregation

Dr. O. Morton Harris, Jr., Co-Pastor

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Marla Youkers, Child Care Coordinator

The Rev. Ruth Bell, Parish Visitor

rbell@firstpreshc.org

The Rev. T. Webster Brenner, Parish Associate

The Rev. Stephen Mann, Parish Associate

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

