

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

First Sunday in Lent
February 18, 2018

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)*

Following Jesus does not mean clinging to an idea or holding on to a principle. It is walking the path of one who gave his life for his friends and called his followers to do the same.

Henri Nouwen

Gathering Music

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.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Name Unnamed,
Who made heaven and earth.

God's path is a path of steadfast love

We put our trust in God's way.

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 trackless desert,
whose kingdom is not distant,
but is breaking in among us:

**Give us time and space to find a new identity,
and to let go of control**

**so we will walk the pilgrim way with Jesus Christ,
who walked this way before us,
and walks with us still.**

Amen.

Call to Confession

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 have strayed from you
and turned aside from your way.**

**You enter the wilderness to face the hardest truth;
we live in self-deception.**

**You claim us in your covenant;
we forget your steadfast love.**

**You seek us out;
we continue to wander in our sin.**

Forgive us, God of grace.

**Return us to the paths of righteousness,
through Jesus Christ,
our teacher, friend, companion and savior.**

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

A Sung Prayer for Mercy 437

You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!

(singing together)

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 435, verse 2**

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

(singing together)

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.

And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful,
we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving
for the goodness of our Lord.

Words of Welcome

Moment for Black History Month

ENCOUNTER

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Genesis 9:8-17

Page 6; pew Bible

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

Psalter Lesson: Psalm 25:1-10

Page 436; 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: Mark 1:9-15

Page 812; 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

Everything to Lose

Sue Lowcock Harris

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

RESPOND AND SERVE

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

from The Book of Order F-1.01

The good news of the Gospel is that the triune God-
Father, Son and Holy Spirit -
creates, redeems, sustains, rules and transforms
all things and all people.
This one living God, the Scriptures say,
liberated the people of Israel from oppression
and covenanted to be their God.
By the power of the Spirit,
this one living God is incarnate in Jesus Christ,
who came to live in the world, die for the world,
and be raised again to new life.
The Gospel of Jesus Christ announces
the nearness of God's kingdom,
bringing good news to all who are impoverished,
sight to all who are blind,
freedom to all who are oppressed,
and proclaiming the Lord's favor upon all creation.

* **Hymn 783**

When We Are Tested

Angels of Healing

Concerns and Remembrances

Prayers of Gratitude and Concern

Your will be done, O God:
Your kingdom come.

Concluding Prayer *(together)*

God of wilderness and water,
your Son was baptized and tempted as we are.
Guide us through this season
that we may not avoid struggle,
but open ourselves to blessing,
through the depths of repentance
and the heaven-rending words of the Spirit.
Amen.

The Offering

Offertory

* **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**

Lord, receive the offerings of our lives:

That every breath might be holy to you.

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

SEND AND BLESS

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

* **Hymn 775** I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Walk With Me

* **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 742**

We Will Walk with God

We will walk with God, my brothers, we will walk with God.

We will walk with God, my sisters, we will walk with God.

We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

Si-zo-ham-ba na-ye, wo wo wo, si-zo-ham-ba na-ye.

Si-zo-ham-ba na-ye, wo wo wo, si-zo-ham-ba na-ye.

Ngom-hla wen-ja-bu-la, si-zo-ham-ba na-ye.

Ngom-hla wen-ja-bu-la, si-zo-ham-ba na-ye.

* **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.

New Member Orientation explores what it means to be part of the First Church household. The next orientation is Sunday, March 4th at 11:30 a.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; or to arrange homebound Communion, contact Pastor Morton or Pastor Sue.



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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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 ✠

Inspirit Counseling Services at First Presbyterian Church

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