

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church  
of Howard County

*Palm Sunday*

*Passion Sunday*

*March 25, 2018*

*10:30 a.m.*

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## 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.**

Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:

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

**Choral Introit** (Hymn 199)

Filled with Excitement

*Hosanna*

**The Palm Sunday Story** – Mark 11:1-10

## Prayer for Sunday Morning

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Sovereign God,  
you have established your rule over the human heart,  
not by force, but by the servant example of Jesus Christ.

**Move us by your Spirit  
to join the joyful procession  
of those who confess Christ Jesus with their tongues  
and praise him with their lives.  
Amen.**

## Processional Dance – The Liturgical Dancers: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

*Please remain seated for the extended introduction to the hymn,  
which is offered by the Liturgical Dancers.*

*Then, stand with the choir as we join together in singing the hymn.  
Don't forget to wave your palm branches!*

\* **Hymn 197**

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

*Ellacombe*

## 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.  
We join the parade and shout hosanna,  
then we deny that we ever knew you.  
We wave palms and sing praise,  
then we abandon your way of living.  
We are horrified by the suffering we cause -  
to you, to our neighbors, to ourselves,  
and to the world you have created.  
Forgive us, God of grace.  
Set our minds on life in your realm,  
and restore us in your love,  
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, 188 verse 1**

*Jesus Loves Me!*

*(singing together)*

Jesus loves me! This I know,  
for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong.  
They are weak, but he is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

### **Words of Welcome**

#### **The Ark and L.I.F.E. Chorus**

## **ENCOUNTER**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson:** Isaiah 50:4-9a

*Page 594; 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.

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: Loss of Life Sue Lowcock Harris  
*(after the sermon, we observe a time of silence and prayer)*

## **RESPOND AND SERVE**

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

*Philippians 2:5-11*

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death –  
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:  
Jesus Christ is Lord!  
Amen.

**\* Hymn 158**

Born in the Night, Mary's Child

*Mary's Child*

### **Concerns and Remembrances**

#### **Prayers of Gratitude and Concern**

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

#### **Concluding Prayer** *(together)*

O Christ, the Master Carpenter,  
who at the last, through wood and nails,  
purchased our whole salvation,  
wield well your tools in the workshop of your world,  
so that we who come rough-hewn to your bench  
may here be fashioned to a truer beauty of your hand.  
We ask it for your own name's sake. Amen.

## The Offering

**Offertory Anthem** When I Survey the Wondrous Cross *William Martin*

\* **Doxology 196 verse 4** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,  
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King!

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

\* **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 221** O Sacred Head, Now Wounded *Passion Chorale*

\* **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**

\* **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.** Photography during worship is discouraged, and flash is not permitted. Please, no food or drink in the Sanctuary.

**Large print bulletins (including hymns and scripture readings)** are available from the ushers.

**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; 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.firstpreschc.org](http://www.firstpreschc.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  
Sarah Reinhardt, Child Care Worker  
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