

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

Palm Sunday

Passion Sunday

March 25, 2018

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)*

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

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.

Prelude

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.**

* Hymn 197

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Ellacombe

Don't forget to wave your palm branches!

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.

**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...)

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

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!

Second Lesson: mark 14:1-11

Page 826; 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: 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.

The Lord's Prayer *(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.

The Offering

Offertory

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.

Large print bulletins (including hymns and scripture readings) 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; 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
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