

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

*Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Sunday
August 3, 2025*

8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. In-person & Livestream Service



GATHER

Let all enter the sanctuary in a spirit of prayer.

Words in **bold** are read by the congregation.

* Please stand if you are able

Please remember to turn your cell phones to silent.

*This worship service is being livestreamed to the internet,
and you may appear on our Facebook page and YouTube channel.*

*For our online congregation - Let us know you are here! Post a greeting!
And remember that you can place a request in the Prayer Journal
in the comments on both You Tube and Facebook Live.*

Prelude

For the Beauty of the Earth

*Conrad Kocher,
arr. by Rachel P. Mohlman*

Lighting the Christ Candle

Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:

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

Call to Worship

Come, join and sing! Our God is ruler of all creation.

Come, stand and praise! Our God is sovereign over all the earth.

Come, lift your hearts! Jesus, our Savior, has risen from the dead.

Come, watch and pray! The Holy Spirit is in this place.

All: Come now and worship! Give praise to God, the Father; Jesus Christ, his Son; and the sacred Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Hymn 647

Give Thanks
(see next page for hymn)

Give Thanks

647

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart; give thanks to the Ho-ly One;

give thanks be-cause we're giv-en Je-sus Christ, the Son. Give

Son. And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the

poor say, "We are rich be-cause of what the Lord has done for

us!" And us!" Give thanks. Give thanks.

Drawing on language from 2 Corinthians 6:10 and 12:10 as well as Psalm 126:3, this short and repetitive song can be easily memorized. The simple vocabulary makes it suitable for multigenerational use, reminding all ages how gratitude for God's goodness changes our perspective.

TEXT: Henry Smith, 1978, alt.

MUSIC: Henry Smith, 1978

Text and Music © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (admin. EMICMGPublishing.com)

GIVE THANKS
Irregular

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of love, we bring to you our inept and evil ways, and rest the troublesome load of frustration, disappointment, regret and guilt in your hands.

Please wash the grime and infection from our wounds, and anoint us with the salve of forgiveness. Take us gently by the chin and lift up our faces so that we can look up into the face of Christ Jesus without shame or fear.

With him let us recover our authentic humanity and face all coming challenges with his quiet strength and optimism.

In his name we so pray.

Amen!

(A time of silence is kept during which individual confessions may be offered.)

Assurance of Grace

* Response of Praise 605 *(singing together)*

Da N'ase

*

Praise to God the Fa - ther; praise to God the Son;
Da n'a - se! Da n'a - se! Da On - ya - me a - se!

praise to God the Spir - it; praise to the Three - in - One.
Da n'a - se! Da n'a - se! Da On - ya - me a - se!

Sing praise, sing praise to the Lord on high.
Ef - ia - se o - ye n'a n'a - do - e do - e so.

Praise to God Al - might - y; praise to the Ho - ly One.
Da n'a - se! Da n'a - se! Da On - ya - me a - se!

Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all.

Let us welcome one another in peace.

(We share peace with a nod or a bow, perhaps with hand on heart or folded hands, or with the ASL sign for peace. If worshipping from home, greet each other by sending a text, a wave or comment on Facebook or YouTube.)

*** Response of Peace** *(singing together)*

John Bell

The peace of the earth be with you, the
peace of the heav - ens, too. The peace of the riv - ers
be with you, the peace of the o - ceans, too:
deep peace fall - ing o - ver you,
God's peace grow - ing in you.

Words of Welcome

*Newcomers please leave us your address and contact information on the Visitor Card.
These are available on a table at the entrance. Place the Visitor Card in the offering plate.*

ENCOUNTER

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Luke 12:13-21

¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."
¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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.

(It is the church's policy to not put images of children on the livestream.)

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: Col 3:1-11

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things-anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcise

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

Trying on Clothes

Kenneth Page

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

RESPOND AND SERVE

* Hymn 509

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

Holy Manna

(see next page for hymn)

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly 509

1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man-na is our bread.
 2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang-ers, seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er; Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.

Come from wil-der-ness and wan-dering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
 Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
 Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.

You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a-round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.

Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

The United Church of Canada minister who wrote this text was introduced to shape note tunes at the 1990 Hymn Society conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Afterwards she vacationed with friends nearby and worked out this text while humming this tune as she walked up and down the beach.

Concerns and Remembrances

The Offering

Offertory Anthem

Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake
Nan, *soprano*; Rosemary, *mezzo soprano*
Wayne, *tenor*; David, *bass*

Richard Farrant

*Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake lay not our sins to our charge
But forgive that is past and give us grace to amend our sinful lives
To decline from sin and incline to virtue
That we may walk with a perfect heart before Thee now and evermore.
Amen.*

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Kenneth Page

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

[The prayer continues and concludes with this prayer:]

God in heaven, your name is to be honored.

**May your new community of hope be realized
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us today the essentials of life.

Release us from our wrongdoing as we also release those who wrong us.

Do not test us beyond our enduring; save us from all that is evil.

For you embrace justice, love and peace, now and to the end of time.

Amen.

Breaking the Bread

Communion Music 526

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ
Rosemary, *guitar*
(see next page for hymn)

Linstead

526 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one; at the ta - ble he
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a



shout of joy: bread is bro - ken; the wine is poured;
 sets the tone, teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,
 world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:



Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain;
 God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!



earth can breathe a - gain; pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

This "communion calypso" (as the author called it) affirms the continuing presence of Christ both in the sacramental meal and in the lives of Christians. Because this text was written to fit a pre-existing tune, it has a rather telegraphic style that encourages pondering.

TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1975

MUSIC: Jamaican folk melody; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1975

Text and Music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company

LINSTEAD

LM with refrain

Communion of the People

*We will receive communion this morning by passing the bread and cup to one another in the pew.
 Gluten-free crackers are in the center of the bread tray. The trays will have red wine and white grape juice.
 Our tradition is to eat the bread as it comes to you, and then to hold the cup so we may commune together.*

Prayer After Communion

SEND AND BLESS

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

* Hymn 52

When Israel Was in Egypt's Land
(see next page for hymn)

Go Down Moses

When Israel Was in Egypt's Land 52

1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, let my peo - ple go;
 2 "Thus saith the Lord," bold Mo - ses said, "Let my peo - ple go!
 3 "No more shall they in bond - age toil: let my peo - ple go!
 4 O let us all from bond - age flee; let my peo - ple go!

op-pressed so hard they could not stand, let my peo - ple go!
 If not, I'll smite your first-born dead. Let my peo - ple go!"
 Let them come out with E - gypt's spoil: let my peo - ple go!"
 And let us all in Christ be free: let my peo - ple go!

Refrain

Go down, (go down,) Mo - ses, (Mo - ses,) way down in E - gypt's

land; tell old Pha - raoh: let my peo - ple go!

Nothing in Hebrew Scripture resonated more deeply with the experience of African Americans in North America than Israel's slavery in Egypt. In this spiritual's recurring line, "Let my people go," past and present became one, as they still do for all who are oppressed.

* **Benediction**

* **Response #568** *(singing together)*

Amen (Haugen)

568

Amen

Capo 3: (Em) (D) (G) (Am) (Em) (B) (C) (D) (A)
 Gm F B^b Cm Gm D E^b F C

A - men, a - men, a - men!

(Em) (D) (G) (Am) (Em) (B) (C) (Bm7) (E)
 Gm F B^b Cm Gm D E^b Dm7 G

A - men, a - men, a - men!

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
 MUSIC: Marty Haugen, 1984
 Music © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc.

AMEN (Haugen)

Postlude

Peter, Go Ring dem Bells

Spiritual, arr. by Florence Price



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

If your infant or child needs care during the worship service, you may leave the Branch Hall and return as you wish. Child care for infants and children under four years old is available all morning. 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.

Flash photography during worship is not permitted. Please, no food or drink in the Sanctuary.

If you are new to First Church

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 become a member of First Church. Please speak with Pastor Ken or call the church office to set a time to meet.

Interested in the mission and activities of First Presbyterian Church?

Visit the church's website, www.firstpreshc.org for more info.

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The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County

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Ministers: All members of the congregation



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Virginia Callegary, Director of Christian Education
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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 ✦

✦ We are a Matthew 25 Congregation ✦

Inspirit Counseling Services at First Presbyterian Church

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