

***OFFERING RESPONSE Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow UMH 94**
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Nicene Creed UMH 880

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI Glory Be to the Father UMH 70

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

TIME FOR CHILDREN (LIVE) Courtney Hutchins

*HYMN OF PREPARATION Christ Has Risen TFWS 2115

**Christ has risen while earth slumbers, Christ has risen where hope died,
as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied.
Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer;
let the world confirm the rumor: Christ is risen, God is here!**

**Christ has risen for the people whom he died to love and save;
Christ has risen for the woman bringing flowers to grace his grave.
Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room.
He whose word inspired creation can't be silenced by the tomb.**

**Christ has risen to companion former friends who fear the night,
sensing loss and limitation where their faith had once burned bright.
They bemoan what is no longer they expect no hopeful sign
till Christ ends their conversation, breaking bread and sharing wine.**

**Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what he has been
evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.**

*SCRIPTURE Luke 24:36-48 Rev. Amanda Davis
The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE Proclaim Forgiveness Rev. Amanda Davis

PASTORAL PRAYER Dr. Brant Wallace

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SPOKEN) Dr. Brant Wallace

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE ALTAR

Rev. Amanda Davis

*HYMN OF BLESSING

He Lives

UMH 310

**I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today;
I know that he is living, whatever foes may say.
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,
and just the time I need him, he's always near.**

Refrain: He lives, he lives Christ Jesus lives today!
**He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, he lives salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.**

**In all the world around me I see his loving care,
and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair
I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast;
the day of his appearing will come at last. *(sing refrain)***

**Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing
eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;
none other is so loving, so good and kind. *(sing refrain)***

*STEP FORWARD IN FAITH

Rev. Amanda Davis

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Amanda Davis

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

He Lives (Refrain)

UMH 310

Refrain: He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
**He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.**

POSTLUDE

Toccata in B minor

by Eugene Gigout

*Please stand as you are able.

CRADLE CROSS

The cradle cross on the altar today is in honor of Vera Virginia Adalyn Berlanga, born December 24, 2023 to Lauren and Warren Berlanga, and the grandchild of José and Polly Berlanga and Marshall and Cindy Reid.

A cradle cross was placed on the West Campus altar in celebration of Connor William Gaden, born April 9, 2024, son of John Thomas and 'Amy Gaden and grandson of Tom and Kathy Gaden.

ALTAR FLOWERS

On April 10, 1839, it was announced in the Telegraph and Texas Register that "Reverend Jesse Hord, minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church will preach in the senate chamber of the capital [in Houston], on Sabbath, 14th April, at which time a church will be organized by said minister." This was the first Methodist congregation established in

Houston. Reverend Hord wrote in his personal journal “Our church or class in this populous city numbers fourteen, joined by letter.” The Sanctuary flowers are given by Ellen and Gary Hickman to honor our church, recognized as the first to organize and establish Methodism in Houston 185 years ago on this date, April 14, 1839.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

ORGANIST

Paul Butt

EXECUTIVE PASTOR

Rev. Amanda Davis

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES DOWNTOWN

Courtney Hutchins

DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC

Dr. Terry Morris

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