

FORMAL WORSHIP
February 14, 2016
8:45 a.m.

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"
Mark 7:10

PRELUDE *Variations on ST CHRISTOPHER* John W. Vandertuin
Jay Whatley, Organist

INTROIT

Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord
Sanctuary Choir
Dr. Terry Morris, Director of Music

*CREDO Rev. Ann Spears
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic[†] church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

†Apostolic and Universal

***GLORIA PATRI**
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.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 25:1-10)

Welcome to the time of covenant renewal.
The God of our salvation greets us here.

**We are reminded of God's promises to us;
We remember the promises we have made.**

Sense the Spirit descending on us now.
Hear God's welcoming voice.

**Surely God is with us.
We can hear God calling our names.**

See the rainbow in the sky.
Wonder at God's steadfast love.

**All creation proclaims the wonders of God.
We come together to learn what God wants to teach us.**

Rev. Ann Spears

*RESPONSE *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in this Place* #334
Sanctuary Choir

*HYMN *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* #203
Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.

**He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in His sight.**

**He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in His path to birth.
Before Him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,
And righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.**

**To Him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever; that name to us is love.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE Dr. Steve Wende

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

*HYMN *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* #297

**Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.**

Upon that cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of One who suffered there for me;
And from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess:
The wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.

**I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of His face;
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.**

*THE WORD IN SCRIPTURE
Mark 11:7-11
This is the Word of the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Page 44, N.T. Pew Bible

THE WORD IN SONG *Hallelujah* Louis Lewandowski
Sanctuary Choir

MESSAGE Dr. Steve Wendel

Journey:
Blessed is He Who Comes in the Name of the Lord

THE LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9-13

MORNING PRAYER *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus* #349

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Allen Houk

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace.**

SILENT PRAYER
Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace.

OFFERTORY PRAYER Rev. John Onstott

THE WORD IN SONG *The Holy City* Adams
Dr. John Weinel

CHRIST'S INVITATION Rev. Ann Spears

*HYMN *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* #384

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling; all Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

**Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit; let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.**

**Finish, then, Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

***COMMISSION AND BLESSING** Rev. Charles Thompson

Go forth in the steadfast love of God.
Spread the good news of salvation from sin.

Our spirits are fed in the worship of Christ!
Our lives are cleansed by a merciful God.

Share with others the joy of living in God's grace.
Let your fasting and sacrifices be a blessing to others.

Our lips will declare God's praise.
Our service and witness will extend God's love.

We are assured of God's continuing presence.
The One who knows our hearts accepts us as we are.

We will seek to grow in truth and purity.
We will use well the time and resources God gives. Amen.

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *His Name is Wonderful* #174

**His name is wonderful, His name is wonderful,
His name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.
He is the mighty King, Master of everything;
His name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.
He's the great Shepherd, the Rock of all ages,
Almighty God is He;
Bow down before Him, love and adore Him,
His name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.**

POSTLUDE *Toccata on ELLACOMBE* Kenneth D. Varner
 Jay Whatley, Organist

* Please stand, as you are able.

ALTAR FLOWERS
The flowers on the altar today are given by the Adelphi Class,
in honor of their 70th Anniversary.

ACOLYTES
Lindsey Harris, Jr. Austin Ishee

CLERGY ON-CALL
Rev. Kaitlyn Bowie Hankins, 832-668-1800, option 7

- *Service of Communion and Healing in the Cry Room, 12:05 p.m.*
- *Assisted Listening Devices are available from the sound console.*
- *iPads, tablets and cell phones are welcome! Take notes and text points from the message to your friends. Just put your device on “silent.”*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION TRIP TO HONDURAS

Join us on our mission trip to Honduras with Living Water International.

Be a part of this team that delivers the hope of the Gospel by digging a water well and teaching classes on hygiene to the families living in the village. Contact Kaylie Mims at kmims@fmhouston.com for more information.

NEIGHBORS IN ACTION

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held again this spring. This year we need about 7,000 candy filled eggs. If you would like to help make this a possibility, please contact Kaylie Mims at kmims@fmhouston.com!

THIRD SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

You can help us provide important necessities to people in our community through our third Sunday Food Drive on Feb. 21st. Please bring bottled water, cans of soup/chili, rice, beans, cereals and sundries such as travel size lotion, shampoo, razors, soap, toothbrushes and small bottles of toothpaste. Items can be placed in any of our collection bins on 3rd, 4th, or 6th floors.

INSPIRE WOMEN EVENT

This year at the Inspire Women's 16th Annual Conference, our very own Dr.

Wende will be honored! Join us on Saturday, April 2 at Sugar Creek Baptist Church. Register by February 26th for only \$15! You can register on our website or by visiting <http://inspirewomen.org/conference-2016/>.

SAVE THE DATE!

Change the World Sunday is March 6, 2016. Registration is now open! Register at <http://www.fmhouston.com/change-the-world-2016/>. We look forward to serving with you!

TGIF AT FIRST

Community Family Fun Night Coming Friday! One Friday night each month FUMC Downtown will be hosting a fun evening with games and light refreshments for members, their guests, and our Downtown neighbors. This Friday, February 19, will be Bingo Night. Come join us in Fellowship Hall from 7:00 – 9:00, and invite a friend!

FUMC SPRING DAY TRIPS

March 16: National Parks Photography Project and Messina Hof Estate Winery

April 20: Galveston Harbor Tour, Texas Seaport Museum and Elissa, and

Fisherman's Wharf Restaurant. Contact Judy Saenz for more information:

832.668.1836 or jsaenz@fmhouston.com.

LET'S FORM A RECYCLING TEAM!

We need people willing to gather discarded paper at the Downtown campus for recycling. This group will need a coordinator to maintain a list of volunteers and to create and monitor assignments. If you would like to participate, contact Volunteer Coordinator Carolyn Harris at charris@fmhouston.com.

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

Tuesdays, join us for the Beth Moore study: Breaking Free: The Journey, The Stories. For more information, contact Ruthie Estes, 832.668.1861 or restes@fmhouston.com.

Thursdays, Allen Houk's topic is The Scarlet Thread.

Lunch for the weekday studies is served starting at 11:30, and class will begin at noon.

COLUMBARIUM

The First Methodist Columbarium is a beautiful way to honor the love and legacy of members of the First Methodist family. To purchase a niche or receive more information, contact Judy Saenz, 832-668-1836 or jsaenz@fmhouston.com.

WESLEY ACADEMY

Friday, February 19: Open House, 9:00 a.m.

Friday, March 4: Gala & Auction, 6:30 p.m.

For more information, visit wesleyacademy.net or contact the School Office: 713.266.3341.