

SERVICE OF THE WORD FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST First United Methodist Church of Houston September 14, 2025 11:00 a.m.		
PRELUDE	To God Be the Glory Copyright 2008, Hope Publishing	arr. Joel Raney
*CALL TO WORSHIP	A Mighty Fortress Is Our God v. 1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, On earth is not his equal.	UMH 110
*WELCOME		Anthony Rogers
*HYMN OF WELCOME	Here I Am, Lord I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save. I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? <i>Refrain:</i> Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? (Repeat Refrain) I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? (Repeat Refrain)	UMH 593
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	A Modern Affirmation Leader: Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare: All: We believe in God the Father; infinite in wisdom, power, and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children’s good. We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father’s unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death. We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need. We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.	UMH 885
*GLORIA PATRI	Glory Be to the Father 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.	UMH 70
OFFERING PRAYER		Rev. Steven Newcomb
MINISTRY IN MUSIC	‘Til the Storm Passes By Sanctuary Choir; Michelle Gascon; Cole Jones, Soloists Copyright 1973, renewed 201 Mosie Lister Songs, Southern Faith Songs In the dark of the midnight have I oft hid my face While the storms howl above me, and there’s no hiding place.	Jay Rouse

	‘Mid the crash of the thunder, precious Lord, hear my cry, “Keep me safe ‘til the storm passes by.” Many times Satan whispered, “There is no use to try, For there’s no end of sorrow, there’s no hope by and by.” But I know Thou art with me, and tomorrow I’ll rise Where the storms never darken the skies. ‘Til the storm passes over, ‘til the thunder sounds no more, ‘Til the clouds roll forever from the sky; hold me fast, Let me stand in the hollow of Thy hand; keep me safe ‘til the storm passes by. When the long night has ended, and the storms come no more, Let me stand in Thy presence on that bright, peaceful shore. In that land where the tempest never comes, Lord, May I dwell with Thee when the storm passes by. ‘Til the storm passes over, ‘til the thunder sounds no more, ‘Til the clouds roll forever from the sky, Hold me fast, let me stand in the hollow of Thy hand; Keep me safe ‘til the storm passes by.	
*THE DOXOLOGY	Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.	UMH 95
TIME FOR CHILDREN		Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh
*HYMN OF PREPARATION	I Surrender Sanctuary Choir; Anthony Rogers, Soloist © 2011 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia Here I am down on my knees again Surrendering all. Surrendering all. Find me here Lord as You draw me near Desperate for You. Desperate for You. I surrender. Drench my soul as mercy and grace unfold I hunger and thirst. I hunger and thirst. With arms stretched wide I know You hear my cry Speak to me now. Speak to me now.	Matt Crocker
SOLO:		
ALL:		
CHORUS	I surrender. I surrender. I wanna know You more. I wanna know You more. (Repeat Chorus)	
BRIDGE	Like a rushing wind Jesus breathe within. Lord have Your way, Lord have Your way in me. Like a mighty storm stir within my soul. Lord have Your way. Lord have Your way in me. (Repeat Bridge twice) (Repeat Chorus twice)	
*SCRIPTURE	Acts 16:6-15	Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick
MESSAGE	Fingerprints of God: St. Lydia	Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick
PASTORAL PRAYER		Rev. Amanda Davis
THE LORD’S PRAYER (SPOKEN)		UMH 895
	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. Dr. Eric Pugh
*HYMN OF BLESSING	He Touched Me Shackled by a heavy burden, 'Neath a load of guilt and shame. Then the hand of Jesus touched me, And now I am no longer the same. <i>Refrain:</i> He touched me, O He touched me, And O the joy that floods my soul! Something happened, and now I know, He touched me and made me whole. Since I met this blessed Savior, Since He cleansed and made me whole, I will never cease to praise Him, I'll shout it while eternity rolls. (Repeat Refrain)	UMH 367
STEP FORWARD IN FAITH		Rev. Amanda Davis & Rev. Steven Newcomb
*BENEDICTION		Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick
*BENEDICTION RESPONSE	He Touched Me (refrain) <i>Refrain:</i> He touched me, O He touched me, And O the joy that floods my soul! Something happened, and now I know, He touched me and made me whole.	UMH 367
POSTLUDE	Toccata on Holy Manna Copyright 2020, Hope Publishing	Joel Raney
*Please stand as you are able.		
	ALTAR FLOWERS The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Parker, who was a tireless volunteer at First Methodist, added grace and beauty to every room she entered, and whose generous and witty spirit will be forever missed.	
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SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:		
ORGANIST		Paul Butt
EXECUTIVE PASTOR		Rev. Amanda Davis
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC		Cynthia Douglas
SENIOR PASTOR		Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick
DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC		Dr. Terry Morris
ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & CONGREGATIONAL CARE PASTOR		Rev. Steven Newcomb
INTERGENERATIONAL DISCIPLESHIP & MISSIONAL MOBILIZATION PASTOR		Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh
DIRECTOR OF CONNECTIONS		Anthony Rogers
PIANIST		Jeremy Wood

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Sermon Notes:

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