

SERVICE OF THE WORD | ASCENSION SUNDAY

**First Houston United Methodist Church
May 17, 2026 | 11:00 a.m.**

PRELUDE Preludes on St. Columbia and Darwall's 148th *Marianne Kim*
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*CALL TO WORSHIP Majesty, Worship His Majesty UMH 176
**Majesty worship His majesty;
Unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise.
Majesty, kingdom authority, flow from His throne,
Unto His own, His anthem raise.**

**So, exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus.
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King.
Majesty, worship His majesty. Jesus who died,
Now glorified, King of all kings.**

*WELCOME Anthony Rogers

*HYMN OF WELCOME All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name v. 1, 2, 6 UMH 154
**All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all.**

**Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all.**

**O that with yonder sacred throng we at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all.**

STEPHEN MINISTRY COMMISSIONING Rev. Amanda Davis
Pastor: Brothers and sisters: Each of you has been comforted by God with the Good News of Jesus' life and death for you. ... Congregation, please stand in support of our Stephen Ministers as we pray:

People: **Father, we ask You to take our Stephen Ministers into Your care. You have blessed them with particular talents and have provided them with an opportunity to learn more about helping people. May they serve You with the power of the Holy Spirit – quick to serve, patient in listening, willing to share themselves with people. Keep them strong in the faith You have given them for the sake of Jesus, who cares for all of us in every way, forever. Amen.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed UMH 881
Virginia Pittman-Waller, M.D.

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.

*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.**

OFFERING PRAYER Miracle Sunday Mary Daffin

MINISTRY IN MUSIC Hallelujah! Thine the Glory *Mary McDonald*
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Sanctuary Choir
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Amen!
Hallelujah! Thine the glory. Hallelujah! Amen.
Hallelujah! Thine the glory. Revive us, revive us again.
We praise Thee, O God! for the Son of Thy love,
For Jesus who died and is now gone above.
We praise Thee, O God! For Thy Spirit of light
Who has shown us our Savior, and scattered our night.
Hallelujah! Thine the glory! Hallelujah! Amen.
Hallelujah! Thine the glory! Revive us again.
All glory and praise to the Lamb that was slain,
Who has borne all our sins and has cleansed every stain.
Revive us again, fill each heart with Thy love.
May each soul be rekindled with fire from above.
Hallelujah! Thine the glory! Hallelujah! Amen.
Hallelujah! Thine the glory! Revive us again.
Hallelu, Hallelujah! Amen. Hallelu, Hallelujah! Amen.
Hallelujah! Thine the glory! Revive us again! Amen!

*THE DOXOLOGY 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!**

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SPOKEN) UMH 895
Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh
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.

TIME FOR CHILDREN Courtney Hutchins

*HYMN OF PREPARATION Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know v. 1, 4 UMH 163
**Ask ye what great thing I know, that delights and stirs me so?
What the high reward I win? Whose the name I glory in?
Jesus Christ, the crucified.**

**This is that great thing I know; this delights and stirs me so:
Faith in Him who died to save, Him who triumphed o'er the grave:
Jesus Christ, the crucified.**

*SCRIPTURE Acts 1:1-11 Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick
The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE Followers: Transform the World Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick

INVITATION TO THE ALTAR Anthony Rogers

*HYMN OF BLESSING Christ is Alive v. 1, 3, 5 UMH 318
**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. His love in death shall never die.**
**Not throned afar, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains,
But daily, in the midst of life, our Savior in the Godhead reigns.**
**Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
'Till earth and all creation ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

STEP FORWARD IN FAITH Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

*BENEDICTION Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Because He Lives, Refrain UMH 364
**Refrain: Because He lives, I can face tomorrow;
Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.**

POSTLUDE Postlude on Regent Square *Marvin Gaspard*
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*Please stand as you are able.

STEPHEN MINISTERS COMMISSIONED TODAY
Chuck Barnes Lisa Denham Wendy Moses
Deborah Bridges Susan Helm Irene Muturi
Raymond McKaskle

CURRENT STEPHEN MINISTERS PREVIOUSLY COMMISSIONED
Rita Cardenas (Leader) Sandra Miller Ron Sledge
Connie Fowler Charlene Newman Ron Trevathan (Leader)
Susan Marsh (Leader) Regina Potts Adrienne Young (Leader)

