

SERVICE OF THE WORD | SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

First Houston United Methodist Church

January 18, 2025 | 11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE	Great is Thy Faithfulness 2025 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.	arr. Forrest & Kim
*CALL TO WORSHIP	My Tribute	UMH 99
To God be the glory, to God be the glory, To God be the glory for the things He has done. With His blood He has saved me; With His power He has raised me; To God be the glory for the things He has done.		
*WELCOME	Rev. Amanda Davis	
*HYMN OF WELCOME	Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah	UMH 127
Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy powerful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; Feed me till I want no more.		
Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow; Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be Thou still my strength and shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.		
When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside; Death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side. Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee; I will ever give to Thee.		
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	The Apostles’ Creed	UMH 881 Deborah Reed
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	Rev. Amanda Davis	
MINISTRY IN MUSIC	Precious Lord Take My Hand with I Need Thee Every Hour Copyright 2012 Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp. Sanctuary Choir	Mark Hayes
Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand. I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home. When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near, When my life is almost gone; hear my cry, hear my call, Hold my hand lest I fall. Take my hand, precious Lord, Lead me home. I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord.		

No tender voice like Thine can peace afford. I need Thee, O I need Thee, every hour I need Thee! O bless me now, my Savior; I come to Thee, I come to Thee. Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand. I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light. Take my hand, precious Lord, Lead me home. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home. I need Thee every hour, most precious Lord.		
*THE DOXOLOGY	Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow	UMH 95
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.		
TIME FOR CHILDREN	Courtney Hutchins	
*HYMN OF PREPARATION	Lead On, O Cloud of Presence (sung to the tune for Lead On, O King Eternal)	
Lead on, O cloud of Presence, the exodus is come. In wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home. Our slavery left behind us, new hopes within us grow. We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.		
Lead on, O fiery Pillar, we follow yet with fears, But we shall come rejoicing though joy be born of tears. We are not lost, though wandering, for by your light we come, And we are still God's people. The journey is our home.		
Lead on, O God of freedom, and guide us on our way, And help us trust the promise through struggle and delay. We pray our sons and daughters may journey to that land Where justice dwells with mercy, and love is law's demand.		
*SCRIPTURE	Numbers 9:15-23	Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick
The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!		
MESSAGE	God's Better Future: Forward Together	Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	Anthony Rogers	
THE LORD'S PRAYER (SPOKEN)	UMH 895 Anthony Rogers	
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	Anthony Rogers	
*HYMN OF BLESSING	Trust and Obey, vs. 1-3	UMH 467
When we walk with the Lord in the light of His word, What a glory He sheds on our way! While we do his good will, He abides with us still, and with all who will trust and obey.		
Refrain: Trust and obey, for there's no other way To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.		

Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
But our toil he doth richly repay; not a grief or a loss,
Not a frown or a cross, but is blest if we trust and obey.

Repeat Refrain		
But we never can prove the delights of His love Until all on the altar we lay; for the favor He shows, For the joy he bestows, are for them who will trust and obey.		
Repeat Refrain		
STEP FORWARD IN FAITH	Rev. Amanda Davis	
*BENEDICTION	Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick	
*BENEDICTION RESPONSE	Trust and Obey, v. 4	UMH 467
Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet, Or we'll walk by His side in the way; what He says we will do, Where He sends we will go; never fear, only trust and obey.		
Refrain: Trust and obey, for there's no other way To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.		
POSTLUDE	Improvisation on We Shall Overcome 2012 GIA Publications, Inc.	Carl Haywood

*Please stand as you are able.		
HONORING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s favorite hymn was "Take My Hand, Precious Lord,” a gospel standard by Thomas A. Dorsey, which he often requested, famously asking Ben Branch to play it just hours before his assassination.		
ALTAR FLOWERS The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Tessie Chipongian by Ruth Chipongian.		
The flowers in the chapel are given to the glory of God and in memory of Dr. James Krause by the Adelphi Class.		

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SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:	
ORGANIST	Paul Butt
EXECUTIVE PASTOR	Rev. Amanda Davis
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES DOWNTOWN	Courtney Hutchins
SENIOR PASTOR	Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick
DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC	Dr. Terry Morris
LITURGIST	Deborah Reed
DIRECTOR OF CONNECTIONS	Anthony Rogers
PIANIST	Jeremy Wood

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love into action.

Sermon Notes:

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