SERVICE OF THE WORD First Methodist Church Houston, Downtown | Traditional Service February 26, 2023 | 11:00 am

PRELUDE For God so Loved arr. Mickelson & Wrytzen

the World and When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

CALL TO WORSHIP Come Out the Wilderness **UMH 416**

Refrain: I am leaning on the Lord, I am leaning on the Lord,

I am leaning on the Lord, who died on Calvary.

Tell me, how did you feel when you come out, come out the wilderness, come out the wilderness, come out the wilderness? Tell me, how did you feel when you come out come out the wilderness, leaning on the Lord? (repeat refrain)

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.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH Vision Summit Rev. Amanda Davis

OFFERING PRAYER Rev. Amanda Davis

MINISTRY IN MUSIC Were We There? Craig Courtney

Sanctuary Choir

Were we there, you and I, in the olive grove that night? Was there silver in my hand to betray the Son of Man? Did you run away and hide? In your fear, did you deny? Were we there, were we there, you and I? Were we there, you and I, boldly crying, "crucify?"

Did you mock Him with your scorn? Did I weave the crown of thorns? Did you strike Him in the face, spit on Him in His disgrace?

Were we there, were we there. you and I?

Were we there, you and I, on that hill the day He died? Did you watch without a sound when they brought the hammer down? Did I turn to look away from His suffering and pain? Were we there, were we there? Were you there? Was I, too, on that morning at the tomb?

When we looked into His face, did we know He took our place? Yes, He died for us as though we were there so long ago.

OFFERING RESPONSE When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, (v. 4) **UMH 298** Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

UMH 881

Rev. Amanda Davis

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.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

First Choice/Children's Ministry Staff

HYMN OF PREPARATION Eagle's Wings (refrain, vs 1 & 2)

Michael Joncas

Refrain: And God will raise you up on eagles' wings,

bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun and hold you in the palm of His hand.

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in His shadow for life, say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!" (repeat refrain)

The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear; under God's wings your refuge, his faithfulness your shield. (repeat refrain)

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 13 &14 (selected verses)

Rev. Lance Richards

The word of God for us the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Deliverance

Rev. Lance Richards

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Lance Richards

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SPOKEN)

Rev. Lance Richards

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. Lance Richards

HYMN OF BLESSING

Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days

UMH 269

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray, teach us with thee to mourn our sins and close by thee to stay.

As Thou with Satan didst contend, and didst the victory win, O give us strength in Thee to fight, in thee to conquer sin.

As thou didst hunger bear, and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord, to die to self, and chiefly live by thy most holy word.

And through these days of penitence, and through thy passion-tide, yea, evermore in life and death, Jesus, with us abide.

Abide with us, that so, this life of suffering over past, an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.

STEP FORWARD IN FAITH

BENEDICTION

Rev. Lance Richards

BENEDICTION RESPONSE I Have Decided to Follow Jesus (v. 1)

UMH 2129

I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus, no turning back, no turning back.

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

arr. Albert Travis

SENIOR PASTOR
EXECUTIVE PASTOR
DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC
ORGAN
PIANO

Rev. Lance Richards Rev. Amanda Davis Dr. Terry Morris Cynthia Douglas Paul Butt Jeremy Wood