

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE

First Methodist Church Houston. Downtown Traditional Service

February 5, 2023 | 11:00 am

PRELUDE Go Down Moses, I want Jesus arr. Joel Raney
to Walk with Me, Let Us Break Bread Together and Great Day,
from A Symphony of Spirituals

**Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty; let our rejoicing rise
high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.**

WELCOME Rev. Amanda Davis

HYMN OF WELCOME He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought UMH 128
He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
What'er I do, where'er I be, still, 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

***Refrain: He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by His own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.***

**Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom, by waters still, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis
his hand that leadeth me. (repeat refrain)**

**Lord, I would place my hand in Thine, nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis my God that leadeth me. (repeat refrain)**

And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jordan leadeth me.
(repeat refrain)

LIFE OF THE CHURCH Rev. Amanda Davis

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD Rev. Amanda Davis

MINISTRY IN MUSIC The King of Love My Shepherd Is Dan Forrest

Laura Schachner, Solo

*The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am His, and He is mine forever.
Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul He leadeth;
And where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.
Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed, but yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.
The King of love my shepherd is, my shepherd is the King of love,
And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise within Thy house forever.*

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.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE Rev. Amanda Davis
Leader: Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love Him, who earnestly repent of
 their sins and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our
 sins before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Amanda Davis

People: **Merciful God, we confess that we have not always loved you with our whole hearts. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will; we have broken your law; we have rebelled against your love; we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.**

SUNG RESPONSE

Because He Lives (Refrain)

UMH 364

**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.**

TIME FOR CHILDREN

First Choice/Children's Ministry Staff

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 4:1-6, 11-13, 15

Rev. Lance Richards

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Build One Another Up in Love

Rev. Lance Richards

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Lance Richards

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Let Us Break Bread Together

UMH 618

Let us break bread together on our knees (on our knees),

Let us break bread together on our knees (on our knees).

*Refrain: When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me (on me).*

Let us drink wine together on our knees (on our knees),

Let us drink wine together on our knees. (on our knees). (repeat refrain)

Let us praise God together on our knees (on our knees),

Let us praise God together on our knees (on our knees). (repeat refrain)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Rev. Lance Richards and Rev. Amanda Davis

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them up to the Lord!**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God! **It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

...and so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

...as we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

...all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Table of Grace

Pepper Choplin

Sanctuary Choir

Table of grace, table of mercy: see, there is room, there is plenty for all.

Rise up and come to this healing place. Come to the table of grace.

Table of grace for all who are weary, those who may struggle and need holy rest.

Love will refresh, and the Spirit will raise. Come to the table of grace.

*Receive the bread like holy manna. Be nourished by heaven above.
Receive the cup like living water filled by God’s timeless love.
Table of grace, generous bounty, offering freely forgiveness and love;
Come and discover God’s merciful ways. Come to the table of grace.
Come, there is plenty, with rest for the weary. Come to the table of grace.*

THE LORD’S PRAYER IN SONG *Albert Hay Malotte*
**Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
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 Take My Life and Let It Be UMH 399
**Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.
Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee.
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use every power as Thou shalt choose.**
**Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.**

BENEDICTION Rev. Lance Richards

SUNG RESPONSE We are the Church UMH 558
*Refrain: I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together!*

**The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple,
The church is not a resting place, the church is a people. *(repeat refrain)***

POSTLUDE Swing Low, Sweet Chariot, and arr. Joel Raney
Promised Land from A Symphony of Spirituals

Altar Flowers
The flowers on the altar today are given by Darleen Schauer
in memory of her parents, Arnold and Pearl Schauer.

SENIOR PASTOR	Rev. Lance Richards
EXECUTIVE PASTOR	Rev. Amanda Davis
DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC	Dr. Terry Morris
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC	Cynthia Douglas
ORGAN	Paul Butt
PIANO	Jeremy Wood