## SERVICE OF THE WORD First Methodist Church Houston, Downtown | Traditional Service March 19, 2023 | 11:00 am

PRELUDE	Shall We Gather at the River	arr. Joel Raney
	Come Out the Wilderness on the Lord, I am leaning on the Lo ord, who died on Calvary.	UMH 416 <b>rd,</b>
come out the wildern Tell me, how did you	feel when you come out, ess, come out the wilderness, com feel when you come out ess, leaning on the Lord? (repeat re	
WELCOME		Rev. Amanda Davis
	My Hope is Built othing less than Jesus' blood and ri veetest frame, but wholly lean on .	-
<i>Refrain:</i> On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.		
When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace. In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. (repeat refrain)		
His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood. When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. (repeat refrain)		
	vith trumpet sound, O may I then i usness alone, faultless to stand be	
LIFE OF THE CHURCH	Youth Stock Sale	Rev. Amanda Davis
OFFERING PRAYER Rev. Amanda Davis		Rev. Amanda Davis
MINISTRY IN MUSIC	Vision Prayer Sanctuary Choir	Molly Ijames
Into this heart of darkness God made his light to shine, and now the glorious knowledge of Jesus Christ is mine. His light has cleared my vision of all its blinding lies, and spread his truth and beauty before my wondering eyes. Illumined in rich color and beautiful to see, the dying of my Savior will give new life to me. And brighter still in radiance, his resurrection hour will leave the dark tomb empty, and free me from its power. O let me guard this treasure, this knowledge in my heart, this brightly burning candle that bids my doubts depart. And as I shine this gospel in every darkened place, O Savior, keep before me the vision of your face. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart.		
	/hen I Survey the Wondrous Cross, n of nature mine, that were an off	

love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed 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 **UMH 70** 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. TIME FOR CHILDREN Communications/Children's Ministry Staff HYMN OF PREPARATION Were You There? **UMH 288** *Refrain 1:* **Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.** Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you there when they pierced Him in the side? Were you there when they pierced Him in the side? *Refrain 3:* Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they pierced Him in the side? SCRIPTURE Exodus 19:1-9a, 20; 20:1-20 **Rev. Lance Richards** The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God! MESSAGE Vocation **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 Ye Servants of God UMH 181 Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim, and publish abroad his wonderful name; the name all-victorious of Jesus extol, his kingdom is glorious and rules over all. God ruleth on high, almighty to save, and still he is nigh, his presence we have; the great congregation his triumph shall sing, ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King. "Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!" Let all cry aloud and honor the Son; the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim, fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb. Then let us adore and give him his right, all glory and power, all wisdom and might; all honor and blessing with angels above, and thanks never ceasing and infinite love.

STEP FORWARD IN FAITH

BENEDICTION Rev. Lance Richards BENEDICTION RESPONSE I Have Decided to Follow Jesus (v. 2) TFWS 2129 The world behind me, the cross before me, the world behind me, the cross before me, the world behind me the cross before me, no turning back, no turning back.

POSTLUDE

Walton's Paean

David Bednall

ALTAR FLOWERS The flowers on the altar today are given

## **SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:**

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