SERVICE OF THE WORD

First Methodist Church, Houston | Downtown Campus Traditional Service April 30, 2023 | 11:00 am

PRELUDE Prelude on Three Easter Hymns Wilbur Held

CALL TO WORSHIP Hail Thee, Festival Day (R, v2, R) UMH 324

Refrain (for Easter): Hail thee, festival day! blest day to be hallowed forever; day when our Lord was raised, breaking the kingdom of death.

Verse 2 (for Easter): Rise from the grave now, O Lord, the author of life and creation. Treading the pathway of death, new life you give to us all.

Refrain (for Easter): Hail thee, festival day! blest day to be hallowed forever; day when our Lord was raised, breaking the kingdom of death.

WELCOME Rev. Amanda Davis

HYMN OF WELCOME Lift High the Cross UMH 159

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim

till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sign.
The hosts of God in unity combine. (sing refrain)

Each neworn servant of the Crucified bears on the brow the seal of him who died. (sing refrain)

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw the world to thee. (sing refrain)

So shall our song of triumph ever be:

Praise to the Crucified for victory! (sing refrain)

LIFE OF THE CHURCH Confirmation Video Rev. Amanda Davis

OFFERING PRAYER Rev. Amanda Davis

MINISTRY IN MUSIC Gaelic Alleluia arr. Craig Courtney

Sanctuary Choir

Joy dawned again on Easter Day, the sun shone out with fair array, When to their longing eyes restored, the apostles saw their risen Lord.

Alleluia, Alle, alleluia.

O Jesus, King of gentleness, do Thou Thyself our hearts possess That we may give Thee all our days. The willing tribute of our praise. Alleluia, Alle, alleluia.

O Lord of all, with us abide In this our joyful Eastertide; From every weapon death can wield Thine own redeemed forever shield. Alleluia, Alle, alleluia.

O sons, and daughters of the King, whom heavenly hosts in glory sing, Today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia, alleluia.

*DOXOLOGY Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow UMH 94
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, 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!

*SCRIPTURE Joshua 3:1-6, 9-17; 4:1-10, 15-18 Rev. Lance Richards

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE Faith Looks Back to Move Forward 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.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION The Summons TFWS 2130

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,

Will you let my life be grown In you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?

Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?

Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?

Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,

And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?

Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?

Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,

Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

SERVICE OF BAPTISMAL COVENANT & CONFIRMATION

Rev. Lance Richards and Rev. Amanda Davis

Brynn Riley Peugnet and Tallis Briar Peugnet

Pastor: Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your

commitment to Christ?

Congregation: We do.

Pastor: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Brynn

and Tallis in your care?

Congregation: With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Brynn and Tallis with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life eternal.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Father?

Candidates and Congregation: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven

and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

Candidates and *Congregation:* I believe 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, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

Candidates and *Congregation:* 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.

Pastor: The Lord be with you. Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

.....

Leader: ...confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

Congregation: We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and of First Methodist Houston we renew our covenant to faithfully participate in and build up the mission and ministries of the church by offering our prayers, our presence, our

gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

INVITATION TO THE ALTAR

Rev. Lance Richards

*HYMN OF BLESSING

On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand

UMH 724

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye to Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.

Refrain: I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land; oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land.

O'er all those wide extended plains shines one eternal day; there God the Son forever reigns, and scatters night away. (sing refrain)

No chilling winds or poisonous breath can reach that healthful shore; sickness and sorrow, pain and death, are felt and feared no more. (sing refrain)

When I shall reach that happy place, I'll be forever blest, for I shall see my Father's face, and in his bosom rest. (sing refrain)

STEP FORWARD IN FAITH

Rev. Lance Richards

BENEDICTION

Rev. Lance Richards

BENEDICTION RESPONSE On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand (Refrain) UMH 724 Refrain: I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land; oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land.

POSTLUDE Toccata in Seven

John Rutter

SANCTUARY ALTAR FLOWERS

The chancel flowers are given by the Flores and Hickman families to honor Sandra Miller on the occasion of her birthday.

CHAPEL ALTAR FLOWERS

The chapel altar flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Kenneth Paul Scott by his wife, Karen, and children, Kyle and Kristen.

FUMC 2023 CONFIRMANDS

Anna Kargbo

Brynn Riley Peugnet

Tallis Briar Peugnet

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

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