## SERVICE OF THE WORD First Methodist Church, Houston | Downtown Campus Traditional Service July 23, 2023 | 11:00 am

PRELUDE	It Is Well With My Soul	arr. by Hayes & Gaspard	
*CALL TO WORSHIP Revive Us Again (verse 1) WMH 391 We praise thee, O God, for the Son of thy love, for Jesus who died and is now gone above.			
<i>Refrain:</i> Hallelujah, thine the glory! Hallelujah, amen! Hallelujah, thine the glory! Revive us again.			
*WELCOME		Joel Montgomery	
*HYMN OF WELCOME	What a Fellowship	by David Cherwien	
with Leaning on the Everlasting Arms What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms; what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.			
<i>Refrain:</i> Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.			
O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms. (sing refrain)			
What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms. (sing refrain)			
SERVICE OF BAPTISMAL CO	-	Rev. Lance Richards	
Name of Candidate: Mila Sofia Yezak Name of Parents: Olivia Kern & Kyle Yezak		and Joel Montgomery	
do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? <b>We do.</b>			
Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Mila in your care? With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Mila with a community of love and forgiveness, that she may grow in her trust of God, and be found faithful in her service to others. We will pray for her, that she may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life eternal. The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.			
confirm their hope, and perfect them in love. 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.			
SUNG RESPONSEChild of Blessing, Child of Promise (v. 1)UMH 611Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign;with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.			
LIFE OF THE CHURCH	School Supply Drive	Joel Montgomery	
OFFERING PRAYER		Joel Montgomery	
OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD Congre		Congregation	
MINISTRY IN MUSIC	Goodbye, World, Goodbye	by Keith Christopher	

Sanctuary Choir;-Soloist, Laura Schachner

I've told all my troubles goodbye, goodbye to each tear and each sigh. This world where I roam cannot be my home, I'm bound for that home in the sky. I walk and I talk with my Lord, I feast every day on his word; heaven is near and I can't stay here, goodbye, world, goodbye. I've told all my troubles goodbye, goodbye to each tear and each sigh. This world where I roam cannot be my home. I'm bound for that home in the sky. I walk and I talk with my Lord, I feast every day on his word; Heaven is near and I can't stay here, goodbye, world, goodbye. Now don't you weep for me when I'm gone, 'cause I won't have to leave here alone. And when I hear that last trumpet sound, my feet won't stay on the ground. I'm gonna rise with a shout, gonna fly. I'm gonna rise with my Lord through the sky. Heaven is near and I can't stay here, goodbye, world, goodbye. I won't have the blues anymore when I step across to that shore. And I'll never pine, 'cause I'll leave behind my heartaches and tears evermore. One day, maybe two, then goodbye. Tomorrow I'll rise up and fly. Heaven is near and I can't stay here, goodbye, world, goodbye. Now don't you weep for me when I'm gone, 'cause I won't have to leave here alone. And when I hear that last trumpet sound, my feet won't stay on the ground. I'm gonna rise with a shout, gonna fly. I'm gonna rise with my Lord through the sky. Heaven is near and I can't stay here, goodbye, world, goodbye!

\*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.

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed UMH 881 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 (VIDEO) **Courtney Hutchins** \*HYMN OF PREPARATION Standing on the Promises Standing on the promises of Christ my King, through eternal ages let his praises ring; glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God. Refrain: Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior, standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God. Standing on the promises that cannot fail, when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail, by the living Word of God I shall prevail, standing on the promises of God. (sing refrain)

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord, bound to him eternally by love's strong cord, overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword, standing on the promises of God. (sing refrain)

Standing on the promises I cannot fall, listening every moment to the Spirit's call, resting in my Savior as my all in all, standing on the promises of God. (sing refrain)

UMH 374

***		
*SCRIPTURE The word of God for the	Acts 11:1-18 e people of God. <b>Thanks be to G</b>	Rev. Lance Richards
MESSAGE	Who Am I to Hinder God?	Rev. Lance Richards
PASTORAL PRAYER		Rev. Lance Richards
done on earth, as it is in trespasses, as we forgive	EN) eaven, hallowed be thy name. Th heaven. Give us this day our dai e those who trespass against us. us from evil. For thine is the king	ly bread. And forgive us our And lead us not into
INVITATION TO THE ALTAR		Rev. Lance Richards
I am tired, I am weak, I	Precious Lord Take My Hand with I Need Thee Every Hour hand, lead me on, help me stand am worn. rough the night, lead me on to th	
•	is Lord, lead me home, lead me h	-
When my life is almost	lrear, precious Lord, linger near, gone; hear my cry, hear my call, I. Take my hand, precious Lord, k	
	-	nee.
I am tired, I am weak,	ough the night, lead me on to th	
	CHOIR ONLY	
	ee my hand, precious Lord, lead m eed thee every hour, most precio	
*STEP FORWARD IN FAITH		Rev. Lance Richards
*BENEDICTION		Rev. Lance Richards
Refrain: Everybody oug	Everybody Ought to Know ght to know, everybody ought to ow who Jesus is. (sing refrain)	know,
	ley; he's the bright and morning : thousand. Everybody ought to k	
POSTLUDE	Victory in Jesus	arr. by Fred Bock
	ALTAR FLOWERS rs on the altar today are given by r brother, Dan Jones, and her me	
SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:		
ORGANIST		Paul Butt
HOST DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONA	AL MUSIC	Joel Montgomery Dr. Terry Morris

SENIOR PASTOR PIANIST

Rev. Lance Richards Jeremy Wood