

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE
First Methodist Church, Houston | Downtown Campus Traditional Service
August 6, 2023 | 11:00 am

PRELUDE	Higher Ground	Oatman & Gabriel
*CALL TO WORSHIP:	Majesty, Worship His Majesty	UMH 176
	Majesty, worship his majesty, unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise; majesty, kingdom authority, flow from his throne unto his own, his anthem raise. So exalt, lift up on high, the name of Jesus. Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King. Majesty, worship his majesty, Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings.	
*WELCOME		Rev. Amanda Davis
*HYMN OF WELCOME	Christ for the World We Sing	UMH 568
	Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring, with loving zeal; the poor, and them that mourn, the faint and overborne, sinsick and sorrow-worn, whom Christ doth heal.	
	Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring, with fervent prayer; the wayward and the lost, by restless passions tossed, redeemed at countless cost, from dark despair.	
	Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring, with one accord; with us the work to share, with us reproach to dare, with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.	
	Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring, with joyful song; the newborn souls, whose days, reclaimed from error's ways, inspired with hope and praise, to Christ belong.	
LIFE OF THE CHURCH	Back to School	Rev. Amanda Davis
OFFERING PRAYER		Rev. Amanda Davis
OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD		Congregation
MINISTRY IN MUSIC	'Til the Storm Passes By	<i>by Mosie Lister</i>
	Bridget Warren, Dr. Terry Morris, and Cynthia Douglas, Soloists	
	In the dark of the midnight have I oft hid my face, while the storms howl above me and there's no hiding place. 'Mid the crash of the thunder, precious Lord, hear my cry, "Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by." Many times Satan whispered "There is no need to try, for there's no end of sorrow, there's no hope by and by." But I know thou art with me, and tomorrow I'll rise where the storms never darken the skies. 'Til the storm passes over, 'til the thunder sounds no more, 'til the clouds roll forever from the sky, hold me fast, let me stand in the hollow of thy hand; keep me safe 'til the storm passes by. When the long night has ended and the storms come no more, let me stand in thy presence on that bright, peaceful shore. In that land where the tempest never comes, Lord, may I dwell with thee when the storm passes by! 'Til the storm passes over, 'til the thunder sounds no more, 'til the clouds roll forever from the sky, hold me fast, let me stand in the hollow of thy hand;	

keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.
Hold me fast, let me stand in the hollow of thy hand;
keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

*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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Rev. Amanda Davis & Congregation
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.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Rev. Amanda Davis & Congregation
Leader: Hear the good news... ..in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**
Leader and People: **Glory to God. Amen.**

SUNG RESPONSE Because He Lives (Refrain) UMH 364
Refrain: **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 (Live) Courtney Hutchins

*SCRIPTURE Acts 12:1-24 Rev. Lance Richards
The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE The Power of the Church at Prayer 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,
let us break bread together on our knees.**
*Refrain: When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.*
**Let us drink wine together on our knees,
let us drink wine together on our knees. (sing refrain)**
**Let us praise God together on our knees,
let us praise God together on our knees. (sing refrain)**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Rev. Lance Richards and Rev. Amanda Davis
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Leader: Lift up your hearts!
People: **We lift them up to the Lord!**
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!
People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

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

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

Leader and People: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Leader: ...all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Leader and People: **Amen.**

COMMUNION MUSIC: I Am Light, I Am Life, I Am Love *by Mary McDonald*
Sanctuary Choir

At this table, come and dine; feast on bread, partake the wine.

Do this in remembrance of me.

This my body, and my blood, for the weary soul outpoured.

Do this in remembrance of me.

I was given for you. Come and taste of the Father's love.

As you drink from the cup, remember the blood shed for you.

I am Light, I am Life, I am Love.

At this table, come and dine; feast on bread, partake the wine.

Do this in remembrance of me.

I was given for you. Come and taste of the Father's love.

As you drink from the cup, remember the blood shed for you.

I am Light, I am Life, I am Love.

Let us break bread together on our knees, let us break bread together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER IN SONG *by 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.

*STEP FORWARD IN FAITH *Rev. Lance Richards*

*BENEDICTION *Rev. Lance Richards*

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *There's Something About that Name* *UMH 171*

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! There's just something about that name!

Master, Savior, Jesus! Like the fragrance after the rain.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! Let all heaven and earth proclaim:

Kings and kingdoms will all pass away,

but there's something about that name!

POSTLUDE *Sinfonia* *by J.S. Bach*

*Please stand as you are able.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar today are given in loving memory of Morris Tardiff on the 8th anniversary of his return to his Forever Home, by his wife, Carol.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

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