SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE First Methodist Church, Houston | Downtown Campus Traditional Service October 1, 2023 | 11:00 am

PRELUDE It is Well With My Soul arr. by Hayes and Gaspard

*CALL TO WORSHIP Seek Ye First (v. 1)

UMH 405

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

*WELCOME Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

*HYMN OF WELCOME Now Thank We All Our God

UMH 102

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices; who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us; and keep us still in grace, and guide us when perplexed; and free us from all ills, in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given; the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven; the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore; for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH Worship Rev. Lance Richards

OFFERING PRAYER Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD Congregation

MINISTRY IN MUSIC It is Well With My Soul by Mack Wilberg

Presented in honor of Bernie Embrey for 60 years of service to the Music Ministry Sanctuary Choir

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control, that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul. It is well, it is well with my soul, with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul. My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! My sin, not in part but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more; praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! It is well, it is well with my soul, with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend, even so, it is well with my soul.

It is well, it is well with my soul.

*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. Lance Richards

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Rev. Lance Richards

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. Lance Richards

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 John 2:1-11 Rev. Lance Richards

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

MESSAGE Trusting in God's Rev. Lance Richards

Generosity and Abundance

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Lance Richards

*HYMN OF PREPARATION Be Thou My Vision UMH 451

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art. Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my Wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou and thou only, first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Great God of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh/Rev. Lance Richards

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 Shalom Dan Forrest

Sanctuary Choir; Angela Peugnet, Violin

Peace. Shalom. Peace I leave with you, peace I give to you: Peace.

Not as this world gives, I give to you. Do not be afraid.

My peace I give to you, shalom.

*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 Great Is Thy Faithfulness (refrain) UMH 140
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;

Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

POSTLUDE Now Thank We All Our God arr. by J. S. Bach

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar today are given in honor of Bernie Embrey for 60 years of service to the Music Ministry by Sanctuary Choir.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

ORGANIST
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY, DOWNTOWN
DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC
FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR &
DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS DISCIPLESHIP, DOWNTOWN
SENIOR PASTOR
PIANIST

Paul Butt Courtney Hutchins Dr. Terry Morris

Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh Rev. Lance Richards Jeremy Wood

^{*}Please stand as you are able.