

MESSAGE Joy Drives Away our Fear 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

*CAROL OF HOPE AND REMEMBRANCE I Want to Walk UMH 206
as a Child of the Light

**I want to walk as a child of the light, I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.**

*Refrain: In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

**I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine of my path,
and show me the way to the Father. (sing refrain)**

**I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.
(sing refrain)**

*STEP FORWARD IN FAITH Rev. Lance Richards

*BENEDICTION Rev. Lance Richards

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Lift Up Your Heads, UMH 213
Ye Mighty Gates (verse 2)

**Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart from
earthly use from heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.**

POSTLUDE Now Thank We all Our God *by J. S. Bach*

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar are given
in loving memory of Glynda Rochen by her family.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

ORGANIST Paul Butt
EXECUTIVE PASTOR Rev. Amanda Davis
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES DOWNTOWN Courtney Hutchins
DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC Dr. Terry Morris
SENIOR PASTOR Rev. Lance Richards
PIANIST Jeremy Wood

SERVICE OF THE WORD

First Methodist Church, Houston | Downtown Campus Traditional Service
November 26, 2023 | 11:00 am

PRELUDE Sleepers, Awake! *by J. S. Bach*

*CALL TO WORSHIP: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus UMH 196
**Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.**

*WELCOME Rev. Amanda Davis

*CAROL OF WELCOME O Come O Come, Emmanuel (v 1- 3; 6-7) UMH 211
**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.**

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go.
(sing refrain)**

**O come, O come, great Lord of might who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times once gave the law in cloud and majesty and awe.
(sing refrain)**

**O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thy justice here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
(sing refrain)**

**O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind.
From dust thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly strife.
(sing refrain)**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

First Sunday of Advent Isaiah 60:2-3 The Yezak Family

SUNG RESPONSE O Come, O Come Emmanuel (refrain) UMH211
(Refrain) "Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel."

BAPTISMAL CHORUS Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing (v. 1) UMH 400
**Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.**

