

SERVICE OF THE WORD | FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
First United Methodist Church of Houston, Downtown Campus
May 18, 2025 | 11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE	I Sing the Mighty Power of God Copyright 2012, Hope Publishing Co.	<i>arr. Joel Raney</i>
*CALL TO WORSHIP	All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (v. 1 & 2)	UMH 155
All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall, let angels prostrate fall; bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him, crown him, crown him, crown him, and crown him Lord of all. Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall, ye ransomed from the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him, crown him, crown him, crown him, and crown him Lord of all.		
*WELCOME		Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh
*OPENING PRAYER		Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh
*HYMN OF WELCOME	Be Thou My Vision	UMH 451
LIFE OF THE CHURCH	New Check-in System & Name Tags!	Rev. Steven Newcomb
OFFERING PRAYER		Rev. Steven Newcomb
OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD		Congregation
MINISTRY IN MUSIC	Crown Him! Copyright 2021, Beckenhorst Press, Inc. Sanctuary Choir	<i>arr. Dan Forrest</i>
Alleluia! Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne: Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own! Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee, and hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity. Alleluia! Crown Him the Lord of love: behold His hands and side. Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified; no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight, but downward bends His wond'ring eye at mysteries so bright. Alleluia! Crown Him the Lord of life! who triumphed o'er the grave, who rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save; His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high, who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die. Alleluia! Crown Him the Lord of heav'n; one with the Father known, one with the Spirit through Him giv'n from yonder glorious throne. To Thee be endless praise for Thou for us hast died; be Thou, O Lord, through endless days adored and magnified! 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!		
INVITATION FOR CONFIRMANDS TO COME FORWARD		Rev. Lance Richards
HYMN OF INVITATION	Holy Spirit, Come, Confirm Us (vs. 1-2)	UMH 331
SERVICE OF BAPTISMAL COVENANT & CONFIRMATION		Rev. Lance Richards and Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh
Names of Candidates: Alianna Marie Molina and Nathaniel Wesley Richards		
RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH		
Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? We do. Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Alianna & Nathaniel in your care? With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Alianna & Nathaniel 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.		
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH		
Do you believe in God the Father? I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. Do you believe in Jesus Christ? 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.		
Do you believe in the Holy Spirit? 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.		

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER		
The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.		
COMMENDATION & WELCOME		
... 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.		
HYMN OF RESPONSE	Holy Spirit, Come, Confirm Us (vs. 3-4)	UMH 331
TIME FOR CHILDREN		Courtney Hutchins
*HYMN OF PREPARATION	Soon and Very Soon	UMH 706
*SCRIPTURE	Revelation 21:1-6	Rev. Amanda Davis
The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!		
MESSAGE	All Things New	Rev. Lance Richards
PASTORAL PRAYER		Rev. Amanda Davis
THE LORD’S PRAYER (SPOKEN)		Rev. Amanda Davis
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
*HYMN OF BLESSING	Holy Spirit Copyright 2011, Jesus Culture	Bryan & Katie Torwalt
<i>Verse: There's nothing worth more that will ever come close; no thing can compare - you're our living hope: your presence. I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves, where my heart becomes free and my shame is undone: your presence, Lord.</i>		
<i>Chorus: Holy Spirit, you are welcome here. Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere. Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for - to be overcome by your presence, Lord.</i>		
<i>(sing verse) (sing chorus twice)</i>		
<i>Bridge: Let us become more aware of your presence. Let us experience the glory of Your goodness. (repeat bridge twice) (sing chorus twice)</i>		
*STEP FORWARD IN FAITH	Rev. Amanda Davis, Rev. Steven Newcomb, & Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh	
*BENEDICTION		Rev. Lance Richards
*BENEDICTION RESPONSE	Soon & Very Soon (v. 1)	UMH 706
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King; soon and very soon, we are going to see the King; soon and very soon, we are going to see the King. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We’re going to see the King.		
*POSTLUDE	Soon and Very Soon	arr. Marianne Kim

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*Please stand as you are able.

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