

FORMAL WORSHIP

January 24, 2016

8:45 a.m.

“The righteous will flourish like green leaves.”
Proverbs 11:28

PRELUDE *Variations on LOBE DEN HERREN* Hoffman
Jay Whatley, Organist

INTROIT *Arise, Shine* Forrest
Sanctuary Choir
Dr. Terry Morris, Director of Music

*CREDO Allen Houk
Director of Fund Development

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.

[†]Apostolic and Universal

*GLORIA PATRI
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.

*INVOCATION Allen Houk

*HYMN *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* #89
Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us, binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music leads us sunward, in the triumph song of life.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE Dr. Steve Wende

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

*HYMN *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* #117

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home!

Under the shadow of Thy throne,
Still may we dwell secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting, Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come;
Be Thou our guide while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

*THE WORD IN SCRIPTURE Dr. Terry Morris
Page 561, O.T. Pew Bible
Proverbs 11:28
This is the Word of the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

THE WORD IN SONG *Praise to the Lord* Christiansen
Sanctuary Choir

MESSAGE Dr. Steve Wende
Impact: It's About Growth

THE LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9-13

MORNING PRAYER *I Need Thee Every Hour* #397
Refrain

I need Thee, O I need Thee; every hour I need Thee;
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Kristen Jones
Director of Missions

Refrain
I need Thee, O I need Thee; every hour I need Thee;
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.

SILENT PRAYER
Refrain
I need Thee, O I need Thee; every hour I need Thee;
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.

OFFERTORY PRAYER Rev. Charles Thompson

THE WORD IN SONG *Here I Am, Lord* arr. Courtney
Lindsey Harris, Jr.

CHRIST'S INVITATION Dr. Steve Wende

*HYMN *My Hope is Built* #368

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

Repeat Refrain

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found!
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne!

Repeat Refrain

*BENEDICTION Dolores Noel and Bradley Acree

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Precious Name* #536
At the name of Jesus bowing, falling prostrate at His feet,
King of kings in heaven we'll crown Him, when our journey is complete.

Refrain
Precious name, O how sweet! Hope of earth and joy of heaven.
Precious name, O how sweet! Hope of earth and joy of heaven.

POSTLUDE *Variations on LOBE DEN HERREN* Hoffman
Jay Whatley, Organist

* *Please stand, as you are able.*

ALTAR FLOWERS
The flowers on the altar today are given in loving memory of
Charles and Esther Estes on the occasion of their wedding anniversary,
January 22, 1945, by their daughter Ruthie.

ACOLYTES
Lindsey Harris, Jr. Austin Ishee

CLERGY ON-CALL
Rev. Charles Thompson, 832-668-1800, option 7

- *Service of Communion and Healing in the Chapel, 12:05 p.m.*
- *Assisted Listening Devices are available from the sound console.*
- *iPads, tablets and cell phones are welcome! Take notes and text points from the message to your friends. Just put your device on “silent.”*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION TRIPS

Haiti Mission Trip- February 27-March 4 Join Rev. Ann Spears as she returns to the Mission of Hope in Haiti. Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere where 80% live in poverty with 54% in abject poverty. This is a great trip for anyone with a heart for people of all ages. There are many ways to serve including hands on projects, evangelism and prayer ministry.

Nicaragua, February 25-29 (Women Only) Nicaragua is the second poorest country in Latin America. Partnering with Open Hearts Mission in Managua, the team of women will work with mothers and children living in poverty on outreaches, while focusing on the inward spiritual disciplines in worship and devotional time. A great trip for personal reflection and service for women.

For more information about the Mission trips, contact Kaylie Mims at 832.668.1884 or kmims@fmhouston.com.

NEIGHBORS IN ACTION

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held again this spring. Last year, we filled over 5,000 eggs and ran out within minutes! This year we need about 7,000 candy filled eggs. If you would like to help make this a possibility, please contact Kaylie Mims at kmims@fmhouston.com!

SAVE THE DATE!

Change the World Sunday, March 6, 2016.

PRAYER SISTERS

Ladies, there is still time to sign up for our Prayer Sisters Program. Please join us as we pray for each other and our church. Forms are available at the Welcome Center or can be downloaded from the website. For more information, contact Ruthie Estes, restes@fmhouston.com, 832.668.1861.

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

Tuesdays, we are currently in a Beth Moore study: Breaking Free: The Journey, The Stories. For more information, contact Ruthie Estes, 832.668.1861 or restes@fmhouston.com.

Thursdays, join us for Bible study with Allen Houk. Allen's topic is The Scarlet Thread.

Lunch for the weekday studies is served starting at 11:30, and class will begin at noon.

FAMILY RETREAT AT LAKEVIEW

Please join your church family at the 12th annual Family Retreat which will again be held at Lakeview Methodist Conference Center in Palestine, TX. The event is Jan. 29-31. Contact Laura Aldis, 832.721.6635 or laldis@yahoo.com.

COLUMBARIUM

The First Methodist Columbarium is a beautiful way to honor the love and legacy of members of the First Methodist family. We all want a permanent resting place of prayer and significance for our loved ones, and this garden area will provide just such a sacred and beautiful space. It will be a witness in Houston to the love and lasting care of Christ and His people. To purchase a niche or receive more information, contact Judy Saenz, 832-668-1836 or jsaenz@fmhouston.com.

WESLEY ACADEMY

Gala & Auction You are invited to Wesley Academy's 20th Anniversary Gala & Auction on Friday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. This event includes dinner, and a live and silent auction. For more information, visit wesleyacademy.net or contact the School Office : 713.266.3341.

Open House Wesley Academy is the private school on the First Methodist Houston Westchase campus. The school educates students from age six months through eighth grade. To learn more about Wesley Academy, visit wesleyacademy.net. You are invited to join us for an Open House on Thursday, February 11 or Friday, February 19 at 9 a.m. To RSVP, contact the School Office at 713.266.3341 or lthompson@wesleyacademy.net.