

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
First United Methodist Church, Houston | Downtown Campus Traditional Service
July 7 2024 | 11:00 am | Sanctuary

PRELUDE Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory *arr. by Joel Raney*

*CALL TO WORSHIP Revive Us Again (v. 1)

We praise thee, O God, for the Son of thy love, For Jesus who died and is now gone above.

Hallelujah, thine the glory! Hallelujah, amen! Hallelujah, thine the glory! Revive us again.

*WELCOME Rev. Lance Richards

*HYMN OF WELCOME The Cross Medley

I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today; I know that he is living, whatever foes may say.

I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer, and just the time I need him, he's always near.

Refrain: **He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me**

along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame; and I love that old cross where the dearest and best for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain: **So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;**

I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.

In all the world around me I see his loving care, and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair.

I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast; the day of his appearing will come at last.

Refrain: **He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me**

along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world, has a wondrous attraction for me;

for the dear Lamb of God left His glory above to bear it to dark Calvary.

Refrain: **So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;**

I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.

Refrain: **He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me**

along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!

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LIFE OF THE CHURCH Welcome Pastor Steven Newcomb Rev. Lance Richards

West Campus VBS Celebration

OFFERING PRAYER Rev. Lance Richards

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD Congregation

MINISTRY IN MUSIC Battle Hymn of the Republic *arr. By Mark Hayes*

Sanctuary Choir

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;

He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;

He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword: His truth is marching on.

Glory! Glory, hallelujah! Glory! Glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.
 I have seen Him in the watchfires of a hundred circling camps;
 They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
 I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps: His day is marching on.
 He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat.
 He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat.
 O be swift, my soul, to answer Him, be jubilant my feet! Our God is marching on.
 Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Our God is marching on!
 In the beauty of the lilies, Christ was born across the sea.
 With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me.
 As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free, while God is marching on.
 Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah! While God is marching on!

*OFFERING RESPONSE 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
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.

*RESPONSE OF ASSURANCE 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

*HYMN OF PREPARATION We've a Story to Tell to the Nations UMH 569
**We've a story to tell to the nations, that shall turn their hearts to the right,
 a story of truth and mercy, a story of peace and light, a story of peace and light.**
Refrain: **For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noonday bright;
 and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.**
**We've a song to be sung to the nations, that shall lift their hearts to the Lord,
 a song that shall conquer evil and shatter the spear and sword,
 and shatter the spear and sword. (sing refrain)**
**We've a message to give to the nations, that the Lord who reigneth above
 hath sent us his Son to save us, and show us that God is love,
 and show us that God is love. (sing refrain)**
**We've a Savior to show to the nations, who the path of sorrow hath trod,
 that all of the world's great peoples might come to the truth of God,
 might come to the truth of God. (sing refrain)**

*SCRIPTURE Hebrews 2:10-18 Rev. Lance Richards
 The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE I Believe in Jesus...Who Was Crucified, Dead, and Buried
 Rev. Lance Richards

CALL TO PRAYER This Is My Song UMH 437
**This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
 This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams,
 my holy shrine;**

but other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean, and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;

but other lands have sunlight too, and clover, and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.

O hear my song, thou God of all nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms; thy kingdom come, on earth thy will be done.

Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him, and hearts united learn to live as one.

O hear my prayer, thou God of all nations myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Steven Newcomb

*HYMN OF INVITATION

Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone

UMH 424

Must Jesus bear the cross alone, and all the world go free?

No, there's a cross for everyone, and there's a cross for me.

How happy are the saints above, who once went sorrowing here!

But now they taste unmingled love, and joy without a tear.

The consecrated cross I'll bear till death shall set me free;

and then go home my crown to wear, for there's a crown for me.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Rev. Lance Richards and Rev.

Steven Newcomb

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

Precious Lord, Take My Hand *arr. by Jack Schrader*

Sanctuary Choir

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light. Take my hand, precious lord,
lead me home.

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light. Take my hand, precious Lord,
lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near, when my life is almost gone,
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall, take my hand, precious Lord, lead me
home.

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light. Take my hand, precious Lord,
lead me home.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER IN SONG

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 Everybody Ought to Know UMH 85

*Refrain: Everybody ought to know, everybody ought to know,
Everybody ought to know who Jesus is. (sing refrain)*

**He's the Lily of the Valley; He's the bright and morning star.
He's the fairest of ten thousand. Everybody ought to know. (sing refrain)**

POSTLUDE Stars and Stripes Forever *by John Philip Sousa*

*Please stand as you are able.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar today are given in honor of Maxine Powell
on her 96th birthday by the One in the Lord class.

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
CONGREGATIONAL CARE & ADULT DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR	Rev. Steven Newcomb
SENIOR PASTOR	Rev. Lance Richards
PIANIST	Jeremy Wood