SERVICE OF THE WORD
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
First United Methodist Church, Houston | Downtown Campus Traditional Service
August 18, 2024| 11:00 am | Sanctuary

PRELUDE — Preludes on the hymn tunes MANNA and FOREST GREEN — *by Richard Purvis*

*CALL TO WORSHIP — To God Be the Glory (v. 1 + R) — UMH 98

To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the floodgate that all may go in.

Refrain: **Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!**
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

*WELCOME — Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

*HYMN OF WELCOME — The Church's One Foundation — UMH 545

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the Word.
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;
her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder we see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.
Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH — Summer Recap — Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

OFFERING PRAYER — Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD — Congregation

MINISTRY IN MUSIC — 'Till the Storm Passes By — *by Mosie Lister*

Sanctuary Choir; Ben Barajas, Ren Bautista, Nick Inberg, Riley Morton,
Tyler Perrine, and Addie Rabel, Soloists

In the dark of the midnight have I oft hid my face
while the storms howl above me, and there's no hiding place.
'Mid the crash of the thunder, precious Lord, hear my cry,
"Keep me safe 'til the storm passes by."
Many times Satan whispered, "There is no use to try,
for there's no end of sorrow, there's no hope by and by."
But I know thou art with me, and tomorrow I'll rise
where the storms never darken the skies.

'Til the storm passes over, 'til the thunder sounds no more,
'til the clouds roll forever from the sky; hold me fast,
let me stand in the hollow of thy hand; keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.
When the long night has ended, and the storms come no more,
let me stand in thy presence on that bright, peaceful shore.
In that land where the tempest never comes,
Lord, may I dwell with thee when the storm passes by.
'Til the storm passes over, 'til the thunder sounds no more,
'til the clouds roll forever from the sky; hold me fast,
let me stand in the hollow of thy hand; keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

*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.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed UMH 881

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.

*GLORIA PATRI Glory Be to the Father UMH 70

**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.**

TIME FOR CHILDREN (LIVE) Courtney Hutchins

*HYMN OF PREPARATION O Spirit of the Living God UMH 539

**O Spirit of the living God, thou light and fire divine,
descend upon thy church once more, and make it truly thine.
Fill it with love and joy and power, with righteousness and peace;
till Christ shall dwell in human hearts, and sin and sorrow cease.**

**Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow until our minds are free
from mists of error, clouds of doubt, which blind our eyes to thee.
Burn, winged fire! Inspire our lips with flaming love and zeal,
to preach to all thy great good news, God's glorious commonweal.**

**Teach us to utter living words of truth which all may hear,
the language all may understand when love speaks loud and clear;
till every age and race and clime shall blend their creeds in one,
and earth shall form one family by whom thy will is done.**

**So shall we know the power of Christ who came this world to save;
so shall we rise with him to life which soars beyond the grave;
and earth shall win true holiness, which makes thy children whole;
till, perfected by thee, we reach creation's glorious goal!**

*SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 12-31 Rev. Lance Richards

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE I Believe...the Holy Catholic Church Rev. Lance Richards

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Steven Newcomb

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SPOKEN) Rev. Steven Newcomb

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 — God of Grace and God of Glory — UMH 577

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.
Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

*STEP FORWARD IN FAITH — Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

*BENEDICTION — Rev. Lance Richards

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE — We Believe in One True God (v. 3) — UMH 85

We confess the Holy Ghost, who from both fore'er proceeds;
who upholds and comforts us in all trials, fears, and needs.
Blest and Holy Trinity, praise forever be to thee!

POSTLUDE — Toccata on the hymn tune AUSTRIA — *by Richard Purvis*

*Please stand as you are able.

ALTAR FLOWERS
The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God,
and in memory of Tom Speed, by his family.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

ORGANIST	Paul Butt
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES DOWNTOWN	Courtney Hutchins
DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC	Dr. Terry Morris
CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND ADULT DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR	Rev. Steven Newcomb
FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR/ DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MINISTRY	Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh
SENIOR PASTOR	Rev. Lance Richards
PIANIST	Jeremy Wood