

...confirm his hope, and perfect him in love.

The congregation responds:

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.

BLESSING

Rev. Lance Richards

The God of all grace...that you may live in grace and peace. **Amen.**

BAPTISMAL CHORUS - Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (v. 3)

UMH 400

**O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.**

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Volunteer Recognition
and AppreciationRev. Lance Richards,
Valerie Harrison,
and Sandi Miller

OFFERING PRAYER

Rev. Steven Newcomb

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Congregation

MINISTRY IN MUSIC

Great is Thy Faithfulness
Sanctuary Choir*by Dan Forrest*

Great is thy faithfulness, O God, my father! There is no shadow of turning with thee!
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see! All I have needed thy hand hath provided
Great is thy faithfulness, lord, unto me.
Summer and winter and springtime and harvest;
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above, Join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today, and bright hope for tomorrow;
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see! All I have needed thy hand hath provided,
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me! Amen.

*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)

Rev. Amanda Davis

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

UMH 390

**"Forgive our sins as we forgive" you taught us, Lord, to pray;
but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart**

that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?

**In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew:
what trivial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!**

**Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls, and bid resentment cease;
then, bound to all in bonds of love, our lives will spread your peace.**

*SCRIPTURE Matthew 6:12, 14-15 Rev. Lance Richards
The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE I Believe...the Forgiveness of Sins 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 Take My Life and Let It Be UMH 399

**Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.
Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.
Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.**

*STEP FORWARD IN FAITH Rev. Steven Newcomb

*BENEDICTION Rev. Lance Richards

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Lord, Whose Love through UMH 581
Humble Service (v 4)

**Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know, and live.**

*POSTLUDE Toccata Pontificale *by Gordon Young*

*Please stand as you are able.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar today are given in memory of Wes Hall by the Holland family.

CRADLE CROSS

The cradle cross on the altar today is in honor of Mia Fonseca,
born July 11, 2024 to parents Rachel Menchaca and Raymond Fonseca.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

ORGANIST Paul Butt
EXECUTIVE PASTOR Rev. Amanda Davis
DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC Dr. Terry Morris
CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND Rev. Steven Newcomb
ADULT DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR
SENIOR PASTOR Rev. Lance Richards
PIANIST Jeremy Wood
VOLUNTEERS Valerie Harrison and Sandi Miller