

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**  
**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**First United Methodist Church, Houston | Downtown Campus Traditional Service**  
**September 15, 2024 | 11:00 am | Sanctuary**

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PRELUDE 11:00 Duet on Hymn to Joy *by Joel Raney*

\*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 lifegate 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. Steven Newcomb

\*HYMN OF WELCOME Sing with All the Saints in Glory UMH 702

**Sing with all the saints in glory, sing the resurrection song!  
Death and sorrow, earth's dark story, to the former days belong.  
All around the clouds are breaking, soon the storms of time shall cease;  
in God's likeness we, awaking, know the everlasting peace.**

**O what glory, far exceeding all that eye has yet perceived!  
Holiest hearts, for ages pleading, never that full joy conceived.  
God has promised, Christ prepares it, there on high our welcome waits.  
Every humble spirit shares it; Christ has passed th'eternal gates.**

**Life eternal! heaven rejoices; Jesus lives, who once was dead.  
Join we now the deathless voices; child of God, lift up your head!  
Patriarchs from the distant ages, saints all longing for their heaven,  
prophets, psalmists, seers, and sages, all await the glory given.**

**Life eternal! O what wonders crowd on faith; what joy unknown,  
when, amidst earth's closing thunders, saints shall stand before the throne!  
O to enter that bright portal, see that glowing firmament;  
know, with thee, O God Immortal, "Jesus Christ whom thou has sent!"**

LIFE OF THE CHURCH NIA Transforming Lives Luncheon

OFFERING PRAYER Rev. Steven Newcomb

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD Congregation

MINISTRY IN MUSIC I Know That My Redeemer Lives *by Dan Forrest*  
Sanctuary Choir

I know that my Redeemer lives. Glory, hallelujah!  
I know that my Redeemer lives. Glory, hallelujah!

What comfort this sweet sentence gives. Glory, hallelujah!

Shout on, press on, we're gaining ground, Glory, hallelujah!

The dead's alive, and the lost is found. Glory, hallelujah!

He lives to bless me with his love; Glory, hallelujah!

He lives! He lives to plead my cause above; Glory, hallelujah!

Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground. Glory, hallelujah!

The dead's alive, and the lost is found. Glory, hallelujah! shout on, pray on.

He lives, to crush the fiends of hell; Glory, hallelujah!

He lives and doth within me dwell; Glory, hallelujah!

Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground. Glory, hallelujah!

he dead's alive, and the lost is found. Glory, hallelujah!

\*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      I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath      UMH 60  
**I'll praise my Maker while I've breath;  
and when my voice is lost in death,  
praise shall employ my nobler powers.  
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,  
while life, and thought, and being last,  
or immortality endures.**

**Happy are they whose hopes rely  
on Israel's God, who made the sky  
and earth and seas, with all their train;  
whose truth forever stands secure,  
Who saves th' oppressed and feeds the poor,  
for none shall find God's promise vain.**

**The Lord pours eyesight on the blind;  
the Lord supports the fainting mind  
and sends the laboring conscience peace.  
God helps the stranger in distress,  
the widow and the fatherless,  
and grants the prisoner sweet release.**

**I'll praise my God who lends me breath;  
and when my voice is lost in death,  
praise shall employ my nobler powers.  
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,  
while life and thought, and being last,  
or immortality endures.**

\*SCRIPTURE      1 Corinthians 15:12-14, 20-23, 35-50      Rev. Lance Richards  
The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE      I Believe...the Resurrection of the Body      Rev. Lance Richards

PASTORAL PRAYER      Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SPOKEN)      Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh  
**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      Hymn of Promise      UMH 707

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;  
There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery.  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;  
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection; at the last a victory.  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

\*STEP FORWARD IN FAITH

Rev. Steven Newcomb and 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

Carillon

*by Herbert Murrill*

\*Please stand as you are able.

#### ALTAR FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to honor the marriage of  
Ellen Maresh and Gary Hickman on their 38th Anniversary.

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#### SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

ORGANIST

Paul Butt

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES DOWNTOWN

Courtney Hutchins

DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC

Dr. Terry Morris

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND

Rev. Steven Newcomb

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR/

Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MINISTRY

SENIOR PASTOR

Rev. Lance Richards

PIANIST

Jeremy Wood