

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE
TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
First United Methodist Church, Houston | Downtown Campus Traditional Service
October 6, 2024 | 11:00 am | Sanctuary

PRELUDE	In This Very Room Redeemed	<i>arr. Fred Bock</i> <i>arr. Harold DeCou</i>
*CALL TO WORSHIP	Faith, While Trees Are Still in Blossom (vs. 1 & 2) Faith, while trees are still in blossom, plans the picking of the fruit; faith can feel the thrill of harvest when the buds begin to sprout. Long before the dawn is breaking, faith anticipates the sun. Faith is eager for the daylight, for the work that must be done.	UMH 508
*WELCOME		Rev. Amanda Davis
*HYMN OF WELCOME	Stand Up and Bless the Lord Stand up and bless the Lord, ye people of his choice; stand up and bless the Lord your God with heart and soul and voice. Though high above all praise, above all blessing high, who would not fear his holy name, and laud and magnify? O for the living flame from his own altar brought, to touch our lips, our minds inspire, and wing to heaven our thought! God is our strength and song, and his salvation ours; then be his love in Christ proclaimed with all our ransomed powers. Stand up and bless the Lord; the Lord your God adore; stand up and bless his glorious name, henceforth forevermore.	UMH 662
LIFE OF THE CHURCH	Abundantly More Stewardship Campaign	Rev. Lance Richards
OFFERING PRAYER		Rev. Amanda Davis
OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD		Congregation
MINISTRY IN MUSIC	Take My Life, and Let It Be Consecrated Sanctuary Choir 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 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.	<i>by Mark Hayes</i>
*OFFERING RESPONSE	Bless Thou the Gifts Bless thou the gifts our hands have brought; bless thou the work our hearts have planned. Ours is the faith, the will, the thought; the rest, O God, is in thy hand.	UMH 587
*INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE		Rev Steven Newcomb
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION	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.	Rev Steven Newcomb

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Rev Steven Newcomb

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

THIRD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION Rev. Lance Richards

*HYMN OF PREPARATION Make Me a Captive, Lord UMH 421

Make me a captive, Lord, and then I shall be free.

Force me to render up my sword, and I shall conqueror be.

I sink in life's alarms when by myself I stand;

imprison me within thine arms, and strong shall be my hand.

My heart is weak and poor until it master find;

it has not spring of action sure, it varies with the wind.

It cannot freely move till thou hast wrought its chain;

enslave it with thy matchless love, and deathless it shall reign.

My power is faint and low till I have learned to serve;

it lacks the needed fire to glow, it lacks the breeze to nerve.

It cannot drive the world until itself be driven;

its flag can only be unfurled when thou shalt breathe from heaven.

My will is not my own till thou hast made it thine;

if it would reach a monarch's throne, it must its crown resign.

It only stands unbent amid the clashing strife,

when on thy bosom it has leant, and found in thee its life.

*SCRIPTURE 2 Timothy 1:3-10 Rev. Lance Richards

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE Strengthened Rev. Lance Richards

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

*HYMN OF INVITATION Come, and Let Us Sweetly Join UMH 699

**Come, and let us sweetly join, Christ to praise in hymns divine,
give we all with one accord glory to our common Lord.**

Hands and hearts and voices raise, sing as in the ancient days;

antedate the joys above, celebrate the feast of love.

Jesus, dear expected Guest, thou are bidden to the feast;

for thyself our hearts prepare; come, and sit, and banquet there.

Sanctify us, Lord, and bless, breathe thy Spirit, give thy peace;

thou thyself within us move, make our feast a feast of love.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Rev. Steven Newcomb, Rev. Lance Richards;

Rev. Amanda Davis

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

Table of Grace

by Pepper Choplin

Sanctuary Choir

Table of grace, table of mercy: see, there is room, there is plenty for all.

Rise up and come to this healing place. Come to the table of grace.

Table of grace for all who are weary, those who may struggle and need holy rest.

Love will refresh, and the Spirit will raise. Come to the table of grace.

Receive the bread like holy manna. Be nourished by heaven above.

Receive the cup like living water filled by God's timeless love.

Table of grace, generous bounty, offering freely forgiveness and love;

Come and discover God's merciful ways. Come to the table of grace.

Come, there is plenty, with rest for the weary. Come to the table of grace.

*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. Amanda Davis; Rev. Steven Newcomb

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Lance Richards

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens (v. 1) UMH 150

**God, who stretched the spangled heavens, infinite in time and place,
flung the suns in burning radiance through the silent fields of space,
we your children, in your likeness, share inventive powers with you.
Great creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.**

POSTLUDE

Allegro Maestoso

Felix Mendelssohn

*Please stand as you are able.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar today are given in honor of

Glenda Burkhalter, Jeannie Jones, and Hope Webber for their many years of service
as communion stewards, by Glenda Flores.

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 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