SERVICE OF THE WORD | THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT First United Methodist Church of Houston, Downtown Campus March 23, 2025 | 11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE Lord of the Dance arr. Joel Raney

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*CALL TO WORSHIP Give Me Jesus (v. 1 & Refrain) W&S 3140

In the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.

Refrain: Give me Jesus, give me Jesus, you may have all this world, give me Jesus.

*WELCOME Rev. Steven Newcomb

*OPENING PRAYER Rev. Steven Newcomb

*HYMN OF WELCOME I Stand Amazed in the Presence UMH 371

LIFE OF THE CHURCH Opportunities to GROW Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

OFFERING PRAYER Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD Congregation

MINISTRY IN MUSIC I Am Not My Own arr. Craig Courtney

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Sanctuary Choir

I am not my own, not in body, not in soul, in life, nor even death.

I am not my own. I belong unto my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. I am not my own.

I am not my own, not in body, not in soul, in life, nor even death.

I am not my own. His own blood has ransomed me, from evil set me free.

I am not my own. For my salvation all things work together, in eternal life He gives me hope.

By the power of His Holy Spirit, I will live for Him.

I am not my own. I belong unto my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

I belong to Him, in life, in death, my only comfort, I belong to Him.

I will live for Him, forever and ever, forever more.

*OFFERING RESPONSE

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (v. 4)

UMH 298

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed UMH 881

Rev. Amanda Davis

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.

TIME FOR CHILDREN Courtney Hutchins

*SONG OF PREPARATION Jesus, United By Thy Grace UMH 561

*SCRIPTURE Colossians 1:3-13; 2:6-7 Rev. Steven Newcomb

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

SERMON Grow Rev. Lance Richards

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Amanda Davis

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SPOKEN) Rev. Amanda Davis

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

*SONG OF INVITATION

Here As in Heaven

C. Brown, S. Furtick, W. Joye, M. Ntlele & M. Brock

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Verse 1: The atmosphere is changing now for the Spirit of the Lord is here.

The evidence is all around that the Spirit of the Lord is here. (repeat verse 1)

Chorus: Overflow in this place. Fill our hearts with your love. Your love surrounds us.

You're the reason we came to encounter your love. Your love surrounds us. (repeat verse 1) (repeat chorus twice)

Bridge: Spirit of God fall fresh on us. We need your presence.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, here as in heaven. (repeat bridge)

Verse 2: A miracle can happen now for the Spirit of the Lord is here.

The evidence is all around that the Spirit of the Lord is here. (repeat verse 2)

*STEP FORWARD IN FAITH

Rev. Amanda Davis, Rev. Steven Newcomb, & Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

*BENEDICTION Rev. Lance Richards

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Here As in Heaven (Bridge)

C. Brown, S. Furtick, W. Joye,

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M. Ntlele & M. Brock

Bridge: Spirit of God fall fresh on us. We need your presence. Your kingdom come, your will be done, here as in heaven.

POSTLUDE Toccata Pontificale Gordon Young

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*Please stand as you are able.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar today are given by Sandra Miller in appreciation to the Shepherd's Staff volunteers, who embody kindness, generosity, and unwavering faith.

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