

THE CHURCH AT THYATIRA

Revelation 2:18-29

MDPC

Sun, Mar 20, 2022 — Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson preaching

8:30 SERVICE

Welcome & Call to Worship

Songs of Praise *Here for You / Christ Our Hope in Life and Death*

***Prayer of Confession & Assurance** Clay Brown

Song of Response *What Can Wash Away My Sin*

Moment of Prayer Beth Case

Song of Preparation *He Lives*

Message ***What Jesus Says to the Church: Thyatira*** Alf Halvorson

9:45 SERVICE

Welcome & Announcements

Songs of Praise *Here for You / Christ Our Hope in Life and Death*

***Moment of Confession & Assurance** Dan Aikins

Songs of Preparation *He Lives / Living Hope*

Message ***What Jesus Says to the Church: Thyatira*** Alf Halvorson

Song of Response *God, I Look to You*

Moment of Prayer Beth Case

Musicians at 8:30/9:45: Asher Pudlo, drums; Daniel Martinez, keys; Uvaldo Callejas, bass; Chris Parrott, guitar; Michael Middleton, & Meliza Gómez, worship leaders

11:15 SERVICE

Prelude *Prayer at Notre Dame and Toccata from Suite Gothique* Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

Welcome & Call to Worship Beth Case

Choral Introit *Lenten Song* Mark Hayes (b.1953)

***Hymn of Praise** *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* #446; Vs. 1, 3 | Austrian Hymn

***Prayer of Confession & Affirmation of Faith** Dave Steane

***Congregational Response** *Open My Eyes* #324; Vs. 2 | Open My Eyes

Anthem *Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) from The Armed Man* Karl Jenkins (b.1944)

Moment of Prayer Beth Case

Anthem of Preparation *Lay Aside Every Weight* Glenn Burleigh

Message ***What Jesus Says to the Church: Thyatira*** Alf Halvorson

***Hymn of Response** *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart* #326; Vs. 1, 2 | Morecambe

Postlude *March Pontificale* William Stickles (1882-1971)

Musicians at 11:15: Charles Hausmann, conductor; Dillon Shindler, double bass; Kathryn White, organ/piano

SERMONNOTES

To view the sermon archive, visit sermons.mdpc.org.



During the Lenten series, in lieu of sermon notes, you're invited to use the curriculum for MDPC's six-week Lenten Study. Each week's lesson will be shared here, or you can download a PDF of the full study guide at **lentstudy.mdpc.org**.

CHECK IN with one another as you gather with a little more intentionality. How is it *really* going? [10 minutes]

SHARE your "praises" (reasons for thanksgiving to God) and "petitions" (reasons for intercession to God). Please be as open as you are comfortable in being. Then **PRAY** for the praises and petitions by some combination of: 1) silent prayer, 2) several people voicing brief prayers, and 3) one person praying on behalf of the group. Include a prayer for God's Spirit to help with the study and discussion. [15 minutes]

READ ALOUD in your group the passage for this meeting, Revelation 2:18-29, with at least one volunteer, then **DISCUSS** with the group your responses to the questions below: [40 minutes]

1. There is nothing "touchy-feely" about the description of the risen Jesus to the Christians in Thyatira. On what does this description focus about Him? Why is this significant?

2. How does the risen Jesus commend the believers in Thyatira? What are some characteristics of their faithful following of Jesus Christ as Lord?

3. In the course of living our lives, how do our actions, over the long haul, reveal who (or what) is actually our true Lord and God? How do private actions often show a different result than public ones? Discuss the challenges and joys of aligning our daily practice with our professed faith on an ongoing basis.

4. What is the problem the risen Jesus has with the Christians in Thyatira? How is this problem the polar opposite of what the risen Jesus says to the Ephesian Christians in Revelation 2:1-7, especially as you compare 2:2 with 2:20? Discuss how we may find the appropriate balance here.

5. How is "Jezebel" leading people astray? What alleged prophetic new word is she sharing as being from God? How are her spiritual "children" impacting the witness of the church in Thyatira? (Note: The name Jezebel comes from the wife of King Ahab in the Old Testament's 1 Kings 16—2 Kings 9. She was infamous for her Baal worship, brutality, immorality, and gruesome demise. Most scholars believe the name is symbolically used.)

6. How are supposed new words from God used to mislead many people today? How do we respond to false teachings as followers of Jesus?

7. How should the Christians of Thyatira respond, according to verses 25-28? How will the risen Jesus respond to them? What can we learn from this Scriptural witness for our Christian lives?

TOUCH BASE about your assignment for next time from Revelation 3:1-6, the message to the Church in Sardis (pages 9-10). [5 minutes]

PRAY as you end your time together.

MINISTRYHIGHLIGHTS

To see more events at **MDPC**, visit events.mdpc.org.

Give Online
give.mdpc.org



Thursdays starting Mar 24

Food, open dialogue, interesting conversation...who will you invite? Spring Alpha is on Thursdays, starting with dinner at 7:00pm. Learn more and sign up at alpha.mdpc.org.



Apr 11-14

Our annual out-loud cover-to-cover reading of the Bible returns. Be part of this Holy Week tradition! Read or volunteer as a host at tsw.mdpc.org.



Apr 11-15 (24/7 beg. 6:00am Mon)

Before or after you participate in The Spoken Word, plan to visit our interactive prayer room in the Parlor. tsw.mdpc.org.



Order by Sun, Apr 10

Dedicate an Easter lily in honor or memory of a loved one. You can complete the form online ($9/dedication) at lily.mdpc.org.



Updates from Our Mission Partners in Ukraine • To learn about MDPC's recent gifts to our mission partners in Ukraine, visit the link below. Their greatest stated need is PRAYER! Pick up a prayer guide today, or visit ukraine.mdpc.org.



Remember Our Mission Partners on the Front Lines

Each week, we pray for three of MDPC's partners in ministry, both local and global. They truly covet your prayers! Find this week's prayer recipients at partners.mdpc.org, or pick up one of the prayer booklets available around campus.

Financial Update as of Mar 13, 2022

2022 Annual Budget	$12,300,000
Income to Date	$2,296,575
Needed to Meet Budget	$10,003,425



Sun, Mar 27 • 10:45-11:15am
Gathering Room

The Link is designed to help you find your place here, whether you're a visitor, new member, or MDPC family legacy! Details at **thelink.mdpc.org**.



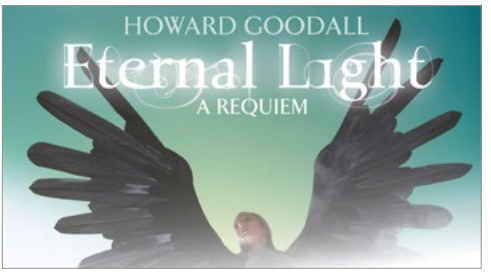
Wed, Mar 30 • 7:00pm

Join other women for a Mediterranean cuisine cooking demo by a private chef! To register, visit the event link at **women.mdpc.org**.



REACH Summer Camp Registration Is Open!

REACH kids' camps at MDPC range from sports to art to STEM! Spots fill fast, so see all the camps and sign up today at **reach.mdpc.org**.



Sing on Good Friday, Apr 15

Join the Sanctuary Choir and chamber orchestra in a special presentation at the noon worship service. Learn more at **sing.mdpc.org**.



Use your gift of hospitality!

The Sunday Welcome Team shares the love of Jesus both in-person and online. Contact Dan Aikins (**daikins@mdpc.org**) to learn how you can use your gifts to serve the Kingdom!



Youth Summer Mission Trips

MS Trip: San Antonio, TX, May 29
HS Trip: Asheville, NC, June 19
Junior-Senior Trip: Puerto Rico, Jul 16

Visit **youth.mdpc.org** and click the Linktree links. Registration is open!



The Faith Is Strong in You..

MDPC's vacation Bible school is open for registration! To be able to welcome as many kids as possible, we also need LOTS of teen and adult volunteers. Please consider serving with us (**9:30am-12:30pm, July 11-15**).