

NEW YEAR

THE NEW YOU



Sunday, Jan 14, 2024

8:30 SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson preaching

- Welcome and Call to Worship** Rachel Poysky
- Songs of Praise** *Everlasting God / Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*
- *Prayer of Confession and Assurance** Brett Hurst
- Song of Response** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*
- Moment of Prayer** Rachel Poysky
- Song of Preparation** *Rejoice*
- Message** **New Year, New You** ([Colossians 3:12-17](#)) Alf Halvorson
- Song of Response** *Yet Not I, but Christ in Me*
- *Benediction**

9:45 SERVICE

- Meet and Greet** (In person / Online) Michael Middleton / Amanda Shockley
- Songs of Praise** *Praise / Holy Forever / Holy Holy Holy*
- Moment of Confession** Amanda Shockley
- Songs of Worship** *Good Plans / Doxology*
- Message** **New Year, New You** ([Colossians 3:12-17](#)) Alf Halvorson
- Song of Response** *Yet Not I, but Christ in Me*
- Moment of Connection** Rachel Poysky
- *Benediction**

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

11:15 SERVICE

- Preludes** *Adagio* attributed to T. Albinoni (1671-1751)
- Welcome and Call to Worship** Rachel Poysky
- Choral Introit** *Praise* Alec Rowley (1892-1958)
- *Hymn of Praise** *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* #343 Vs. 1, 4 | BEECHER
- *Prayer of Confession and Assurance** Marcus Vajdos
- *Affirmation of Faith** from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 & Colossians 1:15-20
- Anthem** *Be Thou My Vision* John Rutter (b. 1945)
- Pastoral Prayer** Rachel Poysky
- Anthem of Preparation** *Speak to One Another* Jean Berger (1909-2002)
- Message** **New Year, New You** ([Colossians 3:12-17](#)) Alf Halvorson
- *Hymn of Response** *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* #345 Vs. 1, 4 | REST
- *Benediction**

- Postlude** *Marche Heroique* Charles-Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

Musicians at 11:15: Charles Hausmann, conductor; Kathryn White, organ

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

See more events at MDPC at events.mdpc.org.



Give Online
give.mdpc.org



Registration Opens Jan 16!

Get to know your MDPC family while helping some of our local ministry partners! Mark your calendar and check out what we're doing in 2024: citic.mdpc.org



Sat, Jan 20 • 9-11:30am

Speakers and fast-moving breakout sessions offer tools to use right away, plus techniques for better relationships in the long term. Learn more: dadpal.mdpc.org



Sun, Jan 21 • 10:45-11:10am

Join us in the Sanctuary Lobby for a chance to get to know MDPC through a conversation with one of our pastors. Learn more at discover.mdpc.org.



Fri-Sun, Feb 9-11 • Iron Horse Ranch

Connection, gourmet food, and a chance to rest in the presence of God with others. Last year's retreat sold out - reserve your spot today! getaway.mdpc.org



Wed, Jan 24 • 6:30-8pm

Do you have a financial plan for your retirement years? Bring your questions and join us as financial pros share helpful tips for investment and more. More information at age.mdpc.org.



Recruiting Now!

Get to know our ministry partners AND make a significant impact on the Kingdom through just one monthly meeting, March-Oct, and a handful of site visits. Learn more at outreach.mdpc.org.

Join Pastor Alf's 2024 Challenge

Week 2

Learn more: 52qs.mdpc.org



The New City Catechism

Question: What is God?

Answer: God is the creator and sustainer of everyone and everything. He is eternal, infinite, and unchangeable in His power and perfection, goodness and glory, wisdom, justice, and truth. Nothing happens except through Him and by His will.

Scripture: Psalm 86:8-10; 15 NRSV

⁸ There is none like You among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like Yours. ⁹ All the nations You have made shall come and bow down before You, O Lord, and shall glorify Your Name. ¹⁰ For You are great and do wondrous things; You alone are God. ... ¹⁵ But You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.



Remember Our Frontline Mission Partners

MDPC partners in local and global ministry truly covet your prayers! Find out this week's prayer recipients by picking up the prayer booklet available around campus or visit partners.mdpc.org.

Births and Deaths

Keith Blecher passed away Jan 6, 2024. More information at memorials.mdpc.org.

Financial Update as of Dec 31, 2023

2023 Annual Budget	\$ 13,175,787
Income to Date	\$ 12,900,888
Needed to Meet Budget	\$ 274,899

New Year / New You Stories • [Colossians 3:12-17 NRSV](#)

This is the first of five sermons that will bridge us to our Lenten series, leading up to Holy Week and Easter 2024. I try not to use trite phrases like “New Year/New You,” but that phrase just might have some merit when you ponder it. After all, C. S. Lewis argued, “You are never too old to set another goal or to dream another dream.” And G. K. Chesterton articulated, “The object of the New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul, a new backbone, new feet, new ears, and new eyes.” What might that look like for you/us and how could we get there, with God’s favor and help?

1. In chapter three of Colossians, Paul challenges his audience to take off certain garments and put on other clothes. That in Christ, we have the strength through the Holy Spirit to stop doing destructive or negative things, and to start doing productive and positive things. What are your most annoying habits? And what good thing or practices have you not seemed to be able to acquire on your own?
2. Read Colossians 3:1-17 if you have the time; or just Col. 3:12-17 if you are pressed. What has Christ done in verses 1-4 that enables you to *put to death* earthly things that characterize your old self? And what is God’s view of you from verses 1, 3, 12, 14 that might inspire and empower you to take on (clothe yourself with) the eight virtues listed in verses 12-14? I shared in my sermon a chart of humans who perceive themselves to be *orphans* and those who trust they are *children of God* through faith. Which list do you normally take your cues from and why? What would it look like for you to believe that you are a child of God, a brother or sister of Christ, valued, a person of worth, precious in the Master’s sight?
3. In verses 15-17, what additional advice does Paul give his hearers? Why are God’s Word and a community of faith so critical in carrying out these prescriptions? Why are these gifts of God essential and how are you leveraging them in your life for God’s glory?
4. In my sermon, I shared stories from James Baldwin’s *Another Country* and Richard Selzer’s *Mortal Lessons*. How do those illustrations reveal our need to be loved and needed and also offer an example of how we might clothe ourselves especially in love?
5. Because of Christ’s example and power at work within you, what “clothing item” might you *take off* and what one might you *put on* for the furtherance of the Gospel and for your joy and other’s benefit? Pray for each one in the group regarding their sanctification (becoming more and more Christ-like in their lives); and follow up next time about how dropping one thing and adding one “clothes item” began to change their life and relationships.