



Sunday, April 21, 2024

**8:30 SERVICE**

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson preaching

Welcome & Call to Worship		Beth Case
Songs of Praise	<i>Your Grace Is Enough / Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i>	
*Prayer of Confession & Assurance		Clay Brown
Song of Response	<i>Yet Not I but Christ in Me</i>	
Moment of Prayer		Beth Case
Song of Preparation	<i>Here for You</i>	
Message	<b>UnExpected: The Meek</b> ( <a href="#">Matthew 5:5</a> )	Alf Halvorson
Song of Response	<i>Build My Life</i>	

**9:45 SERVICE**

Welcome & Call to Worship		Meliza Gómez
Opening Song	<i>Here for You</i>	
Baptisms		Alf Halvorson
	Brooks Thompson Price, son of Sam & Kesley Price	
	Marigold Louise Bass, daughter of Benjamin & Annie Bass	
	Maximilian Welles Miller, son of Andrew & Laura Miller	
	Margaret “Mae” Drew Miller, daughter of Andrew & Laura Miller	
	Jack Stephen Owen, son of William & Rebecca Owen	
	Molly Kay Nielsen, daughter of Regan & Claire Nielsen	
	Charlotte Claire Stockard, daughter of Travis & Brittney Stockard	

Meet & Greet		
Song of Praise	<i>I Believe</i>	
Moment of Confession & Assurance		Laurien Hook
Songs of Worship	<i>Yet Not I but Christ in Me / Made for More</i>	
Message	<b>UnExpected: The Meek</b> ( <a href="#">Matthew 5:5</a> )	Alf Halvorson
Song of Response	<i>Build My Life</i>	
Moment of Prayer and Connection		Beth Case

Musicians at 8:30/9:45: Asher Pudlo, drums; Chris Parrott, bass; Jaime Arroyo, keys; Uvaldo Callejas, bass; Coppelia Acevedo & Meliza Gómez, worship leaders

**11:15 SERVICE**

Prelude	<i>March Petite and Toccata from French Suite</i>	Gordon Young (1919-1998)
Welcome & Call to Worship		Beth Case
*Hymn of Praise #423	<i>Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun</i>	Vs. 1, 5   DUKE STREET
*Prayer of Confession & Assurance		Dan Aikins
*Affirmation of Faith	from The Apostles' Creed	
Congregational Response	<i>The Gloria Patri</i>	Hymn #579
Anthem	<i>The Call of Wisdom</i>	Will Todd (b. 1970)
Reaffirmation of Faith		Nancy Vickers, Alf Halvorson
Anthem of Preparation	<i>Do Not Be Afraid</i>	Philip Stopford (b. 1977)
Message	<b>UnExpected: The Meek</b> ( <a href="#">Matthew 5:5</a> )	Alf Halvorson
*Closing Hymn #420	<i>God of Grace and God of Glory</i>	Vs. 2, 4   CWM RHONDDA
Postlude	<i>Tuba Tune</i>	C. S. Lang (1891-1971)

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

# MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

See more events at MDPC at [events.mdpc.org](https://events.mdpc.org).



Give Online  
[give.mdpc.org](https://give.mdpc.org)



## This Sun after 9:45 Service

Are you a young professional ready to seek God's purpose for your career? Join us in the courtyard to learn about H-Town Fellows. Learn more: [fellows.mdpc.org](https://fellows.mdpc.org)



A Spring Bible Study  
Women of the Bible

## Wednesdays, Apr 24-May 15 • 7pm

Each week, a different teacher will focus on a specific woman in Scripture and explore her role in God's greater story. For details and childcare: [women.mdpc.org](https://women.mdpc.org)



## Palazzo's Fri PM • MDPC Sat AM

MDPC Young Adults invites you to wrestle with big life questions at our Houston Retreat. Guest speaker, Doug Meikle, founder of TrueWorks. Register at [ya.mdpc.org](https://ya.mdpc.org).



## Thu, May 2 • 9:30-10am • Chapel

Join friends and family for The National Day of Prayer as we pray together for our nation and our world. If you can't make it, livestream at [livestream.mdpc.org](https://livestream.mdpc.org).



## Summer Wednesdays

Ladies, check out these sweet summer opportunities to seek Jesus, find friendship, and love others! Learn more and sign up at [slice.mdpc.org](https://slice.mdpc.org).



## Sundays • 9:45 or 11:15am • Amphith.

Come enjoy Biblical teaching with a pastor or staff member with seminary training. No homework, no pre-registration or class roll, but always donut holes!



## Occasional or Every Sunday!

On any Sunday, we need folks to greet, pass out bulletins, and help tidy up the Sanctuary after services. Consider volunteering at [usher.mdpc.org](https://usher.mdpc.org).



Have you done your Spring cleaning? Bring us your spare LEGOs to support this year's Summer Celebration mission projects! Please package them in plastic bags and drop off at Children's Ministries.

## Join Pastor Alf's 2024 Challenge



The New City Catechism

Learn more: [52qs.mdpc.org](https://52qs.mdpc.org)

## Week 16

**Question:** What is sin?

**Answer:** Sin is rejecting or ignoring God in the world He created, rebelling against Him by living without reference to Him, not being or doing what He requires in His law— resulting in our death and the disintegration of all creation

**Scripture:** *Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. 1 John 3:4 NRSV*

## Financial Update as of Apr 14, 2024

2024 Annual Budget	\$ 13,723,677
Income to Date	\$ 3,747,732
Needed to Meet Budget	\$ 9,975,945

## Births and Deaths

**Jack Barry** passed away Apr 14, 2024.  
**Larry Biestek** passed away Apr 3, 2024.  
**Yvonne Dupuis-Perkins** passed away Mar 25, 2024.  
*More information at [memorials.mdpc.org](https://memorials.mdpc.org).*

## UnExpected: The Meek • [Matthew 5:5 NRSV](#)

This is the third in our nine-week post-Easter series on the Beatitudes from the Gospel of Matthew. This is the first beatitude that has a reward or outcome—the meek follower of Jesus “will inherit the earth.” That is a lofty and desirable outcome for many. I wonder what you think Jesus means by those words.

1. In your experience in the world, who generally *inherits the earth* right now? What qualities or attributes do they possess? Are they qualities you admire or despise?
2. Read Matt. 5:5. When you hear the word “meek,” what immediately comes to mind? List some adjectives or definitions. Do you think Jesus means in Matt. 5:5 what you have described? Why or why not?
3. I spent quite a bit of time explaining what the Greek word for *meek* means in this text. I shared three dimensions or angles. How do they flesh out this word for you? What surprised you in my explanations? And what confirmed your suspicions?
4. Then I spent some time working through Numbers 12:3, Prov. 16:32, Psalm 37:1-11, Psalm 21, and Matt. 11:28. How does letting “scripture interpret scripture” fill in important gaps in your understanding of this third beatitude?
5. If Moses and Solomon and David and especially Jesus affirmed and modeled what meekness is really to be as a follower of God, what extra insights are gained when you ponder their lives?
6. I finished my message with three short videos about a Christian public figure who has been in the news recently because of his great golfing prowess. He is the number one ranked golfer in the world, and a Christian who is willing to show vulnerability about his personal fears but also courage regarding his faith and priorities. He shared about how his wife and friends helped him overcome anxiety in 2022 and 2024 and reminded him about important things regarding the cross and his Lord. How might Scotty Scheffler, though far from perfect, be “meek” in the best sense of that term? And how might his witness encourage you to be more public about your anxieties as well as your faith in Christ? And finally, how might your friends in the faith play an important role in your life, especially when you are feeling overwhelmed? Instead of distancing ourselves when things are challenging, maybe we should draw close to those we respect the most so they can buoy us up as only the body of Christ can. And maybe we can be someone who buoys up our friends or family when they find themselves struggling, too.