

UnExpected

Sunday, May 12, 2024

8:30 SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson preaching

Welcome / Call to Worship		Marcus Vajdos
*Songs of Praise	<i>Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord Come, Now Is the Time to Worship / Be Thou My Vision</i>	
*Prayer of Confession & Assurance		Dan Aikins
Song of Response	<i>Amazing Grace</i>	
Moment of Prayer		Marcus Vajdos
Song of Preparation	<i>Holy Forever</i>	
Message	UNexpected: The Pure <u>Matt. 5:8 NRSV</u>	Alf Halvorson
Song of Response	<i>Lord, I Want to Be a Christian</i>	Kathryn White

9:45 SERVICE

Opening Song	<i>Take You at Your Word</i>	
Baptisms	Mary Frances Hills Warren, daughter of Cody & Hannah Warren Whitman Fielder Warren, son of Cody & Hannah Warren Anna Jane Ormond, daughter of Eric & Katherine Ormond Harrison James Ormond, son of Eric & Katherine Ormond	Alf Halvorson
Songs of Praise	<i>Build My Life / Amazing Grace / Holy Forever</i>	Meliza Gómez
Message	UNexpected: The Pure <u>Matt. 5:8 NRSV</u>	Alf Halvorson
Song of Response	<i>Jesus Paid it All</i>	
Immersion Baptisms	Palmer Lucille Lewis, daughter of Norman & Emily Lewis George Holbrook Lewis, son of Norman & Emily Lewis Brooke Sheryl Shive, daughter of Bradley Walker Shive Luke Francis Verbeke, son of Peter & Lisa Verbeke Zachary Evans Cooper, son of Jason & Maren Cooper	Alf Halvorson
Song of Celebration	<i>Made for More</i>	Worship Team
Moment of Connection		Sally Heinen

11:15 SERVICE

Prelude	<i>Fanfare</i>	John Cook (1918-1984)
Welcome / Call to Worship		Amy Delgado
*Hymn of Praise #145	<i>Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart</i>	Vs. 1, 2, 4 MARION
*Prayer of Confession and Assurance		Clay Brown
*Affirmation of Faith	United Church of Canada	Clay Brown
*Congregational Response	<i>The Gloria Patri</i>	Hymn #579
Anthem	<i>Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart</i>	arr. Benjamin Harlan (b. 1954)
Moment of Prayer		Amy Delgado
Anthem of Preparation	<i>A Pure Heart</i>	Craig Courtney (b. 1948)
Message	UNexpected: The Pure <u>Matt. 5:8 NRSV</u>	Alf Halvorson
*Hymn of Response #170	<i>The Lord's My Shepherd</i>	Vs. 1, 2, 5 CRIMOND
Postlude	<i>Processional</i>	Alice Jordan (1916-2012)

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

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



Give Online
give.mdpc.org



Through May 19 • Front Office & Parlor Dropoffs • Let's pack the MDPC Fuente Food Pantry for summer! Visit fooddrive.mdpc.org for a convenient Amazon Wish List link, or a grocery list to shop locally.



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!



Sun, May 19 • 4-7pm • Ball Field
Young adults (18-35), join us to kickoff the summer! We'll have games, food, and lots more. Let us know you're coming! Event RSVP is at ya.mdpc.org.



May 22, June 29, July 27 • 10-11:30am
Fun, special mornings for you to spend quality time with just your preschooler(s)! See all three events and register at preevents.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.



Every Wed, 5-7pm • Fellowship Hall
If you attend a Wed-night program (or just happen to be in the neighborhood), join us for dinner! Dine in or carry out. See menu and pricing at wnd.mdpc.org.



July 8-12 • 9am-12:30pm
You can make a huge impact on a child's walk with Jesus when you volunteer for Summer Celebration VBS! Adults and teens can sign up at sc.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

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The New City Catechism

Week 20: Who is the Redeemer?
Answer: The only Redeemer is the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, in whom God became man and bore the penalty for sin Himself.
For Children: The only Redeemer is the Lord Jesus Christ.
[Isiah 53:10 NRSV](https://isiah5310nrsv.com)

Learn more: 52qs.mdpc.org

Financial Update as of May 5, 2024

2024 Annual Budget	\$ 13,723,677
Actual Income to date	\$ 4,624,553
Needed to Meet Budget	\$ 9,099,124

Births and Deaths

Ray Rose passed away April 28, 2024.
CM Blair passed away March 16, 2023.
More information at memorials.mdpc.org.

UnExpected

SERMONNOTES

Sunday, May 12, 2024
Written by Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson

UnExpected: The Pure • [Matthew 5:8 NRSV](#)

This is the sixth in our post-Easter sermon series on the Beatitudes of Jesus from Matthew's Gospel. We have moved from the first four, focusing on our needs before God, to the last few, focusing on qualities and actions that help the wider community and world. Last week Clay helped us with the idea of being merciful; today we wrestle with what it means to be "pure in heart."

1. Do you believe that humans can ever be pure in our motives, or are we always shackled by mixed motives, divided hearts, and distracted loyalties? When was a time you received something from someone that appeared to be from a pure heart? And when is the closest you have ever had a pure heart?
2. Read Ex. 25:11,17, 24, 29, 31a, 36, 38-39. In the tabernacle and then the temple, the gold was to be pure gold. Why do you think that was so?
3. What do Ps. 24:1-4 & Prov. 29:9 say about humans and having pure hearts?
4. Read Matt. 5:8 along with Ps. 86:11, James 4:8, and James 1:5-8. What do you think Jesus is after here regarding us having "pure hearts"? How did Jesus model with His life and teachings living an undivided life? No mixed motives, no divided loyalties or heart. How does Jesus give us a new heart, a pure heart?
5. I talked in my sermon about some key takeaways from Jamie Smith's book, *You Are What You Love*. Smith says, "You are what you love because you live toward what you want." What resonated with you from his insights? If we are what we love, what do you love? What do you want most in your life? Do you sense conflict about what you want/love or is there alignment there?
6. Kierkegaard said, "Purity of heart is *to will one thing*." How does Jesus saying, "Love God with all your heart, soul, and mind and your neighbor as yourself" help you know what Jesus intends by purity of heart? How can classes, study, work, kids, leisure, service, status, power, etc. be **means** to loving God and neighbor instead of **ends** in and of themselves? If sanctification is our purification from the dross and alloy in our life through the Spirit's help, to leave pure gold, what disciplines like worship, prayer, Scripture reading, study, radical generosity, service, fellowship, etc. are helping you toward that reality now? Is there something you need to stop or start to assist you in the sixth beatitude?