



Sun, July 21, 2024

8:30 SERVICE

Rev. Dan Aikins preaching

Welcome & Call to Worship Rachel Poysky

***Songs of Praise** *All Creatures of Our God and King/Come Thou Found of Every Blessing*

***Prayer of Confession & Assurance** Beth Case

Song of Response *Praise to the Lord the Almighty*

Moment of Prayer Rachel Poysky

Offertory *A Thousand Hallelujahs*

Message **Unshakable Truth: Faith and Grace** ([Ephesians 2:1-10 ESV](#)) Dan Aikins

Song of Response *Amazing Grace*

9:45 SERVICE

Welcome & Call to Worship Meliza Gómez

Opening Songs *Praise*

Baptism
Hallie Russell Horacek, daughter of Sean Russell Horacek & Meredith Furst Horacek

Baptism Affirmation Dan Aikins

Songs of Worship *All Creatures of Our God and King/Come Thou Font of Every Blessing*

Moment of Confession & Assurance Kamryn Colazzi

Songs of Worship *A Thousand Hallelujahs/Worthy of it All*

Message **Unshakable Truth: Faith and Grace** ([Ephesians 2:1-10 ESV](#)) Dan Aikins

Offertory *Amazing Grace*

Moment of Prayer & Connection Christyn Knoop

Musicians at 8:30/9:45: Asher Pudlo, drums; Uvaldo Callejas, bass;
Tim Hughes, violin; Coppelia Acevedo & Meliza Gómez, worship leaders

11:15 SERVICE

Preludes *Then Sings My Soul and Oh, How I Love Jesus* arr. Gary Lanier (1943-2022)

Welcome & Call to Worship Rachel Poysky

Choral Introit *Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven* Carl Freeman

***Hymn of Praise #423** *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun* Vs. 1, 4 & 5 | DUKE STREET

***Prayer of Confession and Assurance** Clay Brown

***Affirmation of Faith from The Apostles' Creed**

Anthem *Credo (I Believe) from Coronation Mass* W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

Baptisms
Noah Uzoma Emihe, son of Charles Chikezie Emihe & Judene Elizabeth Hylton
Faith Annette Shindler, daughter of Will & Rebecca Shindler

Baptism Affirmation Clay Brown

Offertory *Grace Alone* Molly Ijames

Message **Unshakable Truth: Faith and Grace** ([Ephesians 2:1-10 ESV](#)) Dan Aikins

Hymn of Response #341 *Blessed Assurance* Vs. 1 & extra refrain | ASSURANCE

Musicians at 11:15: Charles Hausmann, conductor; Rasa Kalesnykaite, violin; Erika Johnson, Cello;
Kathryn White, piano

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

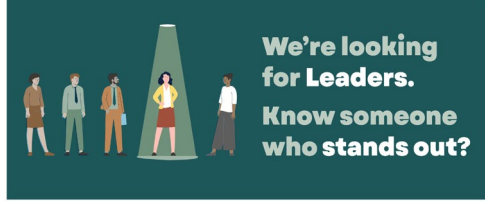
See more events at MDPC at events.mdpc.org.



Give Online
give.mdpc.org



Sun, Jul 21 • 9:45 or 11:15am • Amphitheater *Psalm of Lament* is the latest in the Building Your Faith series taught by Clay Brown and other MDPC pastors and seminarians. Learn more at BYF.mdpc.org.



OFFICER NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

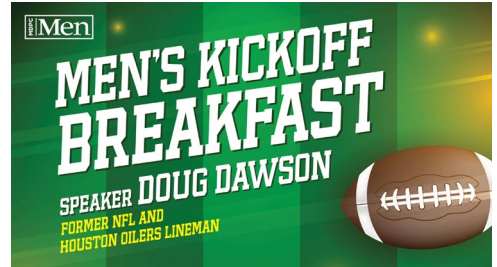
MDPC Officer Nominations Are Open

Do you know someone perfect to step into a leadership role at this church? Nominate them today! The nomination process is fast and easy: nominate.mdpc.org



Tue, Aug 6 • 6-9pm • HRC

Join us at the Houston Racquet Club for sports on the big screen, drinks, and Tex-Mex. Invite a friend, you don't want to miss it! RSVP: mensnight.mdpc.org



Sat, Aug 24 • 8am • Fellowship Hall

Join MDPC Men for an entertaining Kickoff Breakfast with former NFL and Houston Oilers lineman Doug Dawson! Learn more and RSVP: breakfast.mdpc.org



MDPC Kids Need Volunteers for Fall Sun mornings and Wed evenings in preK and elementary. Activities/supplies are prepared - you just show up ready to hang out! Contact Keri Mosk: kmosk@mdpc.org



Are You Going Through a Difficult Time?

Stephen Ministers listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support. To learn more about receiving a Stephen Minister's confidential care, contact Beverly Fluke: bfluke@mdpc.org

Join Pastor Alf's 2024 Challenge



The New City Catechism

Week 30 Question: What is faith in Jesus Christ?

Answer: Faith in Jesus Christ is acknowledging the truth of everything that God has revealed in His Word, trusting in Him, and also receiving and resting on Him alone for salvation as He is offered to us in the Gospel.

[Galatians 2:20](https://Galatians2:20)

Learn more: 52Qs.mdpc.org

Financial Update as of July 14, 2024

2024 Annual Budget	\$13,723,677
Actual Income to-date	\$6,713,647
Needed to Meet 2024 Budget	\$7,010,030

Births and Deaths

Reagan Burch passed away July 15, 2024.

More information at memorials.mdpc.org.

Unshakable Truth • [Ephesians 2:1-10 ESV](#)

We continue our summer sermon series on the New City Catechism with the seventh installment this week. A catechism is a question-and-answer document (not unlike a FAQ) written to instruct children, new believers, and old-timers alike in the basics of the Christian faith. The six questions we consider this week are about faith, grace, works, and sanctification. The answers set our attention on the gratuitously abounding mercy, grace, and benevolence of our awesome God. Once understood, our response can be nothing else but a life lived in full surrender and gratitude.

1. Where do you go when you have questions about the Bible, theology, doctrine, or how God is calling us to live? How do you know when a source is legitimate or misleading? How do you avoid the Burger King approach (“have it your way”) to building a biblical worldview?
2. Consider your days before you were a Christian (or if you were saved very young, consider your early days of following Jesus). Where do you see God’s handiwork in getting your attention, drawing you to Jesus, and shaping you into a mature disciple?
3. Before reading the answer to Question 30, share or jot down your definition for “faith in Jesus.” What level of difficulty did you have in forming that definition? What was hard or easy about it?
4. Now, read the answer to Question 30 and compare it to your definition(s). How did you do? What would you now change about your definition? Is there something missing from the catechism’s answer?
5. Question 32 teaches that justification is defined by “declared righteousness” and sanctification is defined by “growing righteousness.” What is the difference? Also, what does Questions 32 teach about the source or the cause of justification and sanctification?
6. Consider this quote from Dallas Willard in *Life without Lack*:
“Deny yourself and follow Christ, or deny Christ and follow yourself. Those are the options. . . If we are going to follow Christ and gain our real life, we must take up our own cross. That is, we must experience crucifixion. Crucifixion is an interesting thing. It is hard to do by yourself. In fact, it is impossible. . . The crucifixion of the self is a cooperative affair between us and the Lord” (143).
What is your first response to the quote? How does the crucifixion of the self relate to justification and sanctification? What can we learn from this quote about the relationship between grace and works?
7. There is a quote, often attributed to Jonathan Edwards (but never with a citation!) that goes: “The only thing you contribute to your salvation is the sin which made it necessary.” I’ve heard people ask questions like these in response to this quote: *If salvation is “through faith,” then isn’t faith something we contribute to salvation? Is having faith a “work”? How can we bring faith to the table, so-to-speak, while not contributing something to our salvation? How would you respond to these questions based on the answers of Questions 30-35?*