

# GROUNDED

Following Jesus **NO** Matter What

Sun, Nov 24, 2024

8:30 SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson preaching

Welcome and Call to Worship		Rachel Poysky
Songs of Praise	<i>O Worship the King / How Great Thou Art</i>	
*Prayer of Confession and Assurance		Beth Case
Song of Response	<i>My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less</i>	
Moment of Prayer		Rachel Poysky
Song of Response	<i>Worthy Is Your Name / Is He Worthy</i>	
Message	<b>Grounded: Trust</b> <a href="#">Psalm 46 NRSV</a>	Alf Halvorson
Song of Response	<i>Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus</i>	

9:45 SERVICE

Welcome and Call to Worship		Michael Middleton
Songs of Praise	<i>This Is Our God / Trust in God</i>	
Moment of Confession & Assurance		Matthew Adair
Songs of Worship	<i>Worthy is Your Name / Is He Worthy</i>	
Message	<b>Grounded: Trust</b> <a href="#">Psalm 46 NRSV</a>	Alf Halvorson
Song of Response	<i>Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus</i>	
Moment of Prayer & Connection		Rachel Poysky

Musicians at 8:30/9:45: Asher Pudlo, drums; Chris Parrot, guitar; Nate Escobar, keys;  
Michael Middleton and Meliza Gómez, worship leaders

11:15 SERVICE

Prelude	<i>Variations on "Come, Thou Fount"</i>	Gordon Young (1919-1998)
Welcome and Call to Worship		Luke Funderburk
Choral Introit	<i>Rise Up, O Men of God</i>	Kenneth Jennings (1925-2015)
*Hymn of Praise #555	<i>Now Thank We All Our God</i>	Vs. 1, 2   NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
*Prayer of Confession and Assurance		Beth Case
*Affirmation of Faith from The Apostles' Creed		
Anthem	<i>Glory, Glory, Hallelujah</i>	Howard Helvey (b. 1968)
Moment of Prayer		Luke Funderburk
Anthem of Preparation	<i>Thou Art Holy</i>	Craig Courtney (b. 1948)
Message	<b>Grounded: Trust</b> <a href="#">Psalm 46 NRSV</a>	Alf Halvorson
*Hymn of Response	<i>He Leadeth Me</i>	Vs. 1, 2   HE LEADETH ME
Postlude	<i>Trumpet Tune</i>	Rob Landes (b. 1944)

Musicians at 11:15: Men's Chorus; Antoine Griggs; soloist;  
Charles Hausmann, conductor; Kathryn White, piano/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)



## Bless Friday, Nov 29

It's almost here! See how you can turn Nov 29 into a day about giving instead of getting. See this year's on-site and at-home projects at [blessfriday.mdpc.org](https://blessfriday.mdpc.org).



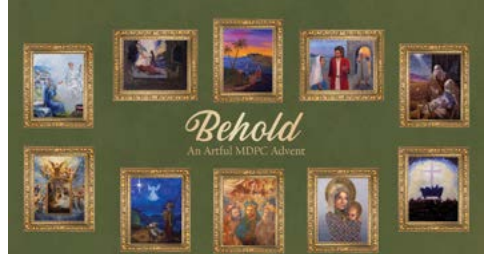
## Tue, Dec 3 • 9:30 Coffee, 6:30 HH

Come to one, or come to both! Invite your mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends. No need to RSVP for the coffee, but please do so for the happy hour: [coffee.mdpc.org](https://coffee.mdpc.org)



## Sun, Dec 8 • 3:30-5:30pm

A free community event! Bring the whole family to enjoy inflatables, games, and so much more. Please bring canned fruit to support our food pantry. [kids.mdpc.org](https://kids.mdpc.org)



**Advent Devotionals** will be available next Sunday. These beautifully crafted devos, written by Leigh McLeroy, follow along with Pastor Alf's advent series: *Artful Advent*. Details at [adventdevo.mdpc.org](https://adventdevo.mdpc.org).



## Sun, Dec 8 • 6pm • Sanctuary

Ring in Advent and the Christmas season with Handel's *Messiah*, Puccini's *Gloria*, and congregational carols. Free childcare: [concerts.mdpc.org](https://concerts.mdpc.org)



## Opens Next Sun, Dec 1!

Give the gift of hope when you purchase cards in honor of friends and loved ones! Learn which partners you can support and how it works: [missionmarket.mdpc.org](https://missionmarket.mdpc.org)



## Collecting through Dec 22

Help bring some Christmas cheer to an international seafarer in the Port of Houston this season! Item list and instructions for boxes at [seafarers.mdpc.org](https://seafarers.mdpc.org).



## Pickleball Courts Are Open!

MDPC's pickleball courts are free to use and open to the community. To see Open Play hours and learn how to reserve a court, visit [pickleball.mdpc.org](https://pickleball.mdpc.org).

Join Pastor Alf's 2024 Challenge



The New City Catechism

**Question 48:** What is the Church?

**Answer:** God chooses and preserves for Himself a community elected for eternal life and united by faith, who love, follow, learn from, and worship God together. God sends out this community to proclaim the gospel and prefigure Christ's Kingdom by the quality of their life together and their love for one another.

[2 Thessalonians 2:13](https://2thessalonians213.com)

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

## Financial Update as of Nov 17, 2024

2024 Annual Budget	\$ 13,723,677
Actual Income to Date	\$ 10,960,654
Needed to Meet Budget	\$ 2,763,023

## Births and Deaths

Maureen Wright passed away Nov 7.  
Ron Presswood passed away Nov 8.  
Cathy Garber passed away Nov 8.

More information at [memorials.mdpc.org](https://memorials.mdpc.org).

## **Grounded: Trust • [Psalm 46 NRSV](#)**

This is the third and final message in our Grounded Series, that bridges us nicely to Advent & Christmas starting December 1st. Today we look at one of the most magnificent expressions of trust ever penned. This was the first psalm John Calvin thought he should translate into French. And Martin Luther's great hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" is based on Psalm 46. Luther didn't follow the order of the psalm but simply its main theme. That enduring hymn has been translated into well over 200 languages.

1. When it comes to the subject of trust, do you give your trust easily or only after a lot of proving by the other party? Why do you think you are the way you are?
2. Read Ps. 46. It is divided into three main sections: God and the threats of nature (vv. 1-3); God and the threats of the nations (vv. 4-7); and God and the threats of war (vv. 8-11). Are nature, nations, and war your biggest worries? If not, what other threats make you anxious and fearful?
3. If you observe how the writer/prayer constructs this psalm, where do they place God in each section? When you face threats, where for you is God? Do you place God in the midst of each of the challenges or someplace else? Why does that positioning (in the midst) matter? How is that both an affirmation of faith and a way to trust God in those circumstances?
4. God is described as a refuge/fortress, a strength, a very present help in trouble, in the midst of the city, & with us, just to name a few. How do those names and qualities compare with how you usually see and describe God? These attitudes and attributes suggest that God is for us and with us—especially in the crises. Is that a new concept for you or an old familiar faith commitment by you?
5. In my sermon I suggested that this psalm asks us to do nothing other than trust God in the stresses of our real life. Vs. 2, 8, and 10 flesh that out. What do you think the writer means in those verses? Note: I shared a story of the trapeze artists 'The Flying Rodleighs.' And I shared the phrase, "We are never so vulnerable than when we trust; but paradoxically, if we can't trust, neither can we find life and love." Where might you relax, be still, and trust God this Thanksgiving Week and beyond?