

Words of Woe

Sun, Mar 30, 2025

8:30 SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson preaching

Welcome and Call to Worship

Marcus Vajdos

Songs of Praise *Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us / Cornerstone*

*Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Rachel Poysky

Song of Response

How Great Thou Art

Ministry Moment

Hannah Warren, Drew Tingleaf, and Miah Collins

Song of Preparation

Holy Forever

Message

Words of Woe

Alf Halvorson

[Matt. \hew 23:27-28](#)

Song of Response

Oh but God

9:45 SERVICE

Welcome and Call to Worship

Michael Middleton

Song of Praise

This Is Amazing Grace / Cornerstone

Moment of Connection & Assurance

Matthew Adair

Song of Worship

Holy Forever

Message

Words of Woe

Alf Halvorson

[Matthew 23:27-28](#)

Song of Response

Oh But God

Ministry Moment

Hannah Warren, Drew Tingleaf, and Miah Collins

Moment of Prayer & Connection

Sally Henien

Musicians at 8:30/9:45: Asher Pudlo, drums; Chris Parrott, guitar; Uvaldo Callejas, bass;
JJ Blanco, keys; Michael Middleton & Angel Uribe, worship leaders

11:15 SERVICE

Prelude

Meditation

George Dyson (1883-1964)

Welcome and Call to Worship

Amanda Grace Morris

*Hymn of Praise #376

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Vs. 1, 3 | HYFRYDOL

*Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Dan Aikins

*Affirmation of Faith from the Apostles' Creed

Anthem

Lord, Bow Thine Ear from Elijah

Felix Mendelssohn

Ministry Moment

Hannah Warren, Drew Tingleaf, and Miah Collins

Anthem of Preparation

If With All Your Hearts and Yet Doth the Lord from Elijah

Felix Mendelssohn

Message

Words of Woe

Alf Halvorson

[Matthew 23:23-26](#)

Hymn of Response

Ah, Holy Jesus

Vs. 2, 3, 4 | HERZLIEBSTER JESU

Postlude

Ah, Holy Jesus

arr. Peter Stearns (1931-2016)

Musicians at 11:15: Sanctuary Choir; Jeremy Lopez, soloist; Cassandra Black & Kelli Estes, duet;
Charles Hausmann, conuctor; Kathryn White, organ

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

See more events at MDPC at events.mdpc.org



Give Online

give.mdpc.org

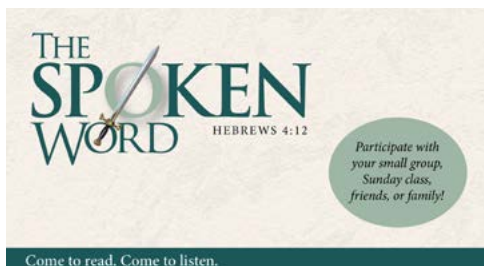
Today!

Tonight!

H-TOWN FAITH & WORK FELLOWS at MDPC

Sun, Mar 30 after 9:45 Service

Are you a professional wondering about the purpose of your work in God's world? Join us in the courtyard to learn about H-Town Fellows. Learn more: fellowships.mdpc.org



Mon-Thu, Apr 14-17 • Chapel

Whether you are five or eighty-five, 15 minutes in The Spoken Word will enrich your Holy Week in an amazing way! Learn more and sign up at tsw.mdpc.org.



Thu, Apr 3 • 6:45-8:30pm • Chapel

All college students and young adults are welcome to join us for a musical worship night. Light refreshments before the event in the Chapel. RSVP: yaevents.mdpc.org



Order deadline: Palm Sun, Apr 13

Dedicate Easter Lilies in memory of and/or in honor of loved ones. Dedications may be purchased online at flowers.mdpc.org or in person at the Front Office.

2024 Outreach Giving Update

In addition to our regular 2024 partner gifts, our outreach committees worked diligently to find unique and impactful ways to bless our partners and those they serve with a special, one-time gift. The list, viewable at gifts2024.mdpc.org, shows how MDPC was able to bless our partners through these gifts, supporting critical projects and urgent needs. It is due to your giving beyond our 2024 annual budget that we can see lives being transformed. Thank you for your generosity!

Financial Update as of Mar 23, 2025

2025 Annual Budget	\$ 14,203,292
Actual Income to Date	2,638,149
Needed to Meet 2025 Budget	11,565,143

Easter Lily Dedications Available Now!

Dedicate Easter Lilies in memory of and/or in honor of loved ones. Dedications may be purchased online at flowers.mdpc.org or in person at the Front Office through Apr 13.



Sun, Mar 30 • 6pm • Free Admission

MDPC and A&M United Methodist choirs and the Texas Southern University Singers present Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, with baritone Michael Vaughn. concerts.mdpc.org



Wed, Apr 2-16 • 10am-12pm

This free program will help you define your support network, get your documents in order, determine your next steps, and more. Register: caring.mdpc.org



Fri PM, Apr 4 and Sat AM, Apr 5

This class is how you can become an MDPC member or simply learn more about our church and ministries. Evening + morning, no overnight. Details: membership.mdpc.org



Thu, Apr 10 • 6:30-8pm • Parlor/Chapel

Join us as all ages and stages gather to hear the stories from women just like you! Refreshments at 6pm, followed by the program in the Chapel: thewell.mdpc.org

Births and Deaths

Mary Ruth Valerius passed away March 19.
John Ikard passed away March 24.

More information at memorials.mdpc.org.

Words of Woe • [Matthew 23:27-28](#)

This is our fifth message in our Lenten series. We focus on Woe #6 today. It is very similar to Woe #5 which talked about cleaning the outside of the cup but leaving the inside full of greed and self-indulgence. Because the point is so important to Him, Jesus extends the contrast here in Woe #6 that the scribes and Pharisees look like "saints" on the outside, but they are really phonies, frauds, not good people on the inside. They are "whitewashed tombs," Jesus says.

1. When did something or someone in your life look much better on the outside than they or it did on the inside?
2. Read Matt. 23:27-28. How are these verses like and different from Matt. 23:25-26?
3. Define the words hypocrisy and lawlessness in verse 28.
4. Read Numbers 19:11-22 or if you are crunched for time, just Num. 19:11, 13, & 16.
5. In my message, I talked about how touching the dead or even touching tombs could make a person unclean. So, leading up to the great festivals in Jerusalem, they would paint or put bright white chalk on the graves so that pilgrims did not accidentally touch them, thus preventing them from offering their sacrifices to God at the temple. What point is Jesus trying to make, comparing the scribes and Pharisees to "whitewashed tombs"?
6. In my sermon, I spent quite a bit of time trying to answer these questions: How does someone get your attention when they want to tell you something important about yourself? How does God get our attention when God wants us to discover something about ourselves? How should someone communicate something important but potentially uncomfortable, even shameful? I said that in Scripture, God often uses stories. They are one step away from direct confrontation, and they often help us see that we are caught up in the same problems or dilemmas that the main character in the story is caught up in themselves. I shared several Scriptures to attempt to support my thesis. Did my argument make sense or not? How so? Or why not?
7. I've shared each week that Jesus is talking about the scribes and Pharisees, but He is talking to the crowd and disciples. If Jesus wants His disciples and the crowd to own the sin that the scribes and Pharisees have been committing, too, how might we (by faith) admit that we need a Savior? That it is our sin, self-centeredness, broken promises, rebellion, regret, hypocrisy, lawlessness, and shame that sent Jesus to the cross?