

Words of Woe

Sun, Apr 6, 2025

8:30 SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson preaching

Welcome and Call to Worship		Beth Case
Songs of Praise	<i>Christ, Our Hope in Life and Death / Holy, Holy, Holy</i>	
*Prayer of Confession and Assurance		Laurien Hook
Song of Response	<i>In Christ Alone</i>	
Moment of Prayer		Beth Case
Song of Preparation	<i>Oh But God</i>	
Message	Words of Woe Matthew 23:29-36	Alf Halvorson
Song of Response	<i>I Surrender All</i>	

9:45 SERVICE

Welcome and Call to Worship		Meliza Gómez
Song of Praise	<i>A Thousand Hallelujahs</i>	
Baptisms		Alf Halvorson
	Smith Ellis Durham, son of Joshua & Kaitlyn Durham Gracie Caroline Endsley, daughter of Michael & Mariah Endsley Oliver Louis Reed, son of James & Jessica Reed	
Song of Praise	<i>In Christ Alone</i>	
Moment of Confession & Assurance		Miah Collins
Song of Preparation	<i>Christ, Our Hope in Life and Death / Oh But God</i>	
Message	Words of Woe Matthew 23:29-36	Alf Halvorson
Song of Response	<i>I Surrender All</i>	
Moment of Connection		Sally Henien

Musicians at 8:30/9:45: Asher Pudlo, drums; Chris Parrott, guitar; Uvaldo Callejas, bass;
JJ Blanco, keys; Meliza Gómez & Vasti Adkins, worship leaders

11:15 SERVICE

Prelude	<i>Fantasy in G minor</i>	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Welcome and Call to Worship		Beth Case
Choral Introit	<i>I Will Praise Thee, O Lord</i>	Robert Baker (b. 1941)
*Hymn of Praise #85	<i>What Wondrous Love Is This</i>	Vs. 1, 2 WONDROUS LOVE
*Prayer of Confession and Assurance		Christyn Knoop
*Affirmation of Faith from the Heidelberg Catechism		
Anthem	<i>Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us</i>	Lloyd Larson (b.1954)
Moment of Prayer		Beth Case
Anthem of Preparation	<i>Mercy</i>	Craig Courtney (b. 1948)
Message	Words of Woe Matthew 23:29-36	Alf Halvorson
*Hymn of Response #282	<i>If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee</i>	Vs. 1, 3 WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT
Postlude	<i>Crown Imperial March</i>	Sir William Walton (1902-1983)

Musicians at 11:15: Sanctuary Choir; Christine Oakes, soloist;
Charles Hausmann, conuctor; Kathryn White, organ

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

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



Give Online

give.mdpc.org



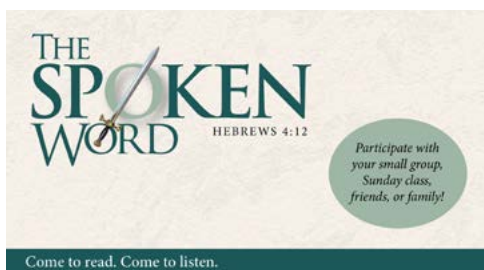
Sun, Apr 6 • 11am-1:30pm

Join us in Fellowship Hall this Sunday after services for **All-Church Lunch** with your MDPC family! To see the menu and pricing, visit acl.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



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.



Join us for Holy Week and Easter at MDPC! More events at easter.mdpc.org.

Maundy Thursday, Apr 17

7pm • Sanctuary

Good Friday, Apr 18

Noon • Sanctuary

Spanish-language • 7pm • Chapel

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.

Financial Update as of Mar 30, 2025

2025 Annual Budget	\$ 14,203,292
Actual Income to Date	3,143,372
Needed to Meet 2025 Budget	11,059,920

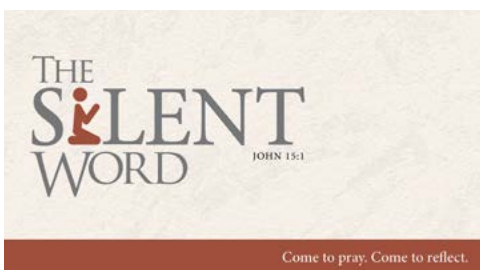


Next Sunday, Apr 13, is our annual collection benefiting MDPC partner Living Water International. Enclose your gift in an LWI envelope (checks made out to MDPC, memo LWI), or give online: LWgift.mdpc.org



Sat, Apr 12 • 10am-Noon

Families, come celebrate the joy of Easter with us at our Easter Festival! Please bring a canned good to benefit the MDPC Food Pantry. Details at eastervillage.mdpc.org.



Mon-Sun, Apr 14-20 • Parlor

As you interact with Scripture and other tactical elements, you will experience different ways to engage prayerfully with God. Learn more: silentword.mdpc.org

Easter Sunday, Apr 20

7am Courtyard

8:30am Contemporary • Sanctuary

9:45am Family-friendly • Sanctuary

11:15am Traditional • Sanctuary

Spanish-language • 11:15am • Chapel

Portuguese-language • 6pm

Births and Deaths

Ed Stasney passed away March 30.

Katherine Sabom passed away March 31.

More information at memorials.mdpc.org.

Words of Woe • [Matthew 23:29-36](#)

This is the second to last message in our Lenten sermon series on the seven woes from Mathew chapter 23. Jesus does not hold back with His last indictment. In effect, He calls the scribes and Pharisees murders; and specifically, He also calls them hypocrites, snakes, a brood of vipers, and "bent-on-hell" people who shed innocent blood. In what way can a word to them be also a word to us? I will attempt to answer that question in my sermon.

1. In your life, have you ever thought or said, "If I lived at that time, I wouldn't have made the same mistake that those people made"? Or "If I lived in that person's shoes, I would have taken a different path from what they did"? Share and explain...
2. Read Matt. 23:29-36. If you have *The Message* version of the Bible, read the verses in that rendition. Or use the YouVersion Bible app on your phone or tablet to read the text in that version. It is just clearer than many translations. Does Jesus come to the end of His diatribe with a whimper or a bang/shout? Why or why not? How would you summarize His attack?
3. In verses 29-31, Jesus suggests the people honor the prophets and martyrs of the past that their parents killed and say they would have done differently if they had lived in those times. Why does Jesus not "buy their act," but instead says they are "cut from the same cloth" as their ancestors?
4. In what way(s) are verses 32-34 like what Moses said in Exodus 20:4-6?
5. Jesus says that all the righteous blood from generation to generation will be heaped on their generation, the generation of scribes and Pharisees during Jesus' time. Why do you think that is so? How is the death and resurrection of Jesus the end of one age and the beginning of the last days, which we are living in now?
6. I ended my sermon talking about how each of us bless or curse the people in our lives with our words and deeds. I shared some examples. Is there a marker event or rite of passage coming up that would provide a good opportunity for a blessing to take place toward someone that matters a lot to you? What might you say or what might the encounter look like?