

Sunday, April 8, 2018



# PRAY LIKE JESUS

LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LORD'S PRAYER



Hallowed Be Thy Name | Matthew 6:5-9

## 8:30 AM BLENDED

WELCOME

Dan Aikins

\*SONGS OF PRAISE

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

SONG OF RESPONSE

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE

Hallowed Be Thy Name (Matthew 6:5-9)

Alf Halvorson

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

## 9:45 AM CONTEMPORARY

WORSHIP INVITATION

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

\*MOMENT OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Phil Warman

MESSAGE

Hallowed Be Thy Name (Matthew 6:5-9)

Alf Halvorson

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

Kyle Collins

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Musicians in these services: Meliza Gómez and Michael Middleton, worship leaders • Daniel Amaya, bass • George Heathco, guitar • Daniel Martinez, keys • Asher Pudlo, drums

## 11:15 AM TRADITIONAL

PRELUDE

*The Lord Heard My Cry*

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Dan Aikins

CHORAL INTROIT

*Lift Up, Lift Up Your Voices Now*

Larry Shackley (b. 1956)

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*How Firm a Foundation*

#361; Vs. 1, 2, 3, 5 | FOUNDATION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the Apostles Creed

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*The Gloria Patri*

Hymn #579

ANTHEM

*Laudate Dominum (Praise the Lord) from Solemn Vespers*

W. A. Mozart (1756-1791)

OFFERTORY

*The Majesty and Glory of Your Name*

Tom Fette (b. 1941)

MESSAGE

Hallowed Be Thy Name (Matthew 6:5-9)

Alf Halvorson

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

#466; Vs. 1, 2 | AZMON

POSTLUDE

*Processional Trumpet*

John G. Barr (b. 1938)

Musicians in this service: Charles Hausmann, conductor • Amanda Menzie, soloist • Kathryn White, organist

\*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374



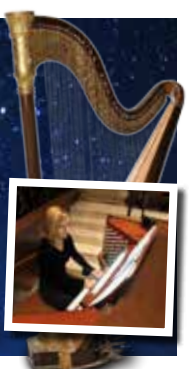
## MDPC Concert Series 2017-2018

Two full choirs and a professional orchestra perform

# Bernstein & Duruflé

Tonight at 6:00 PM • Sanctuary

Free • Open to the community • [concerts.mdpc.org](http://concerts.mdpc.org)



THE WELL WOMEN'S SPEAKER SERIES

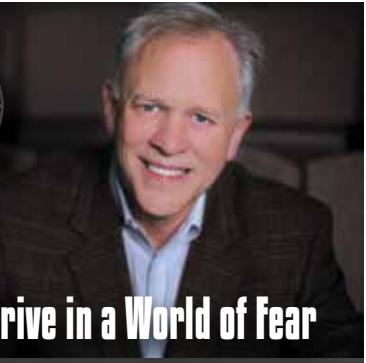
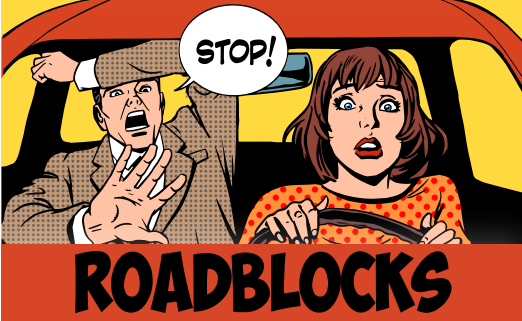
Women of all ages and life stages: Hear from a panel of real, honest women how the "roadblocks" they've encountered prepared them for the rest of their lives.

**WED, APRIL 18 • 6:30 PM • CHAPEL**

Light snacks at 6:00 PM in the Parlor.

Please RSVP: [thewell.mdpc.org](http://thewell.mdpc.org)

Childcare by reservation: [childcare.mdpc.org](http://childcare.mdpc.org)



**How to Thrive in a World of Fear**

Dr. Mark Labberton, Fuller Theological Seminary President and professor of preaching, talks about how Christian faith and community can help us find and live with courage and freedom.

**Thursday, April 26 | 7:00 PM**

For details and to RSVP for this free event: [speakers.mdpc.org](http://speakers.mdpc.org)

**First Communion Retreat**

This special event is for 1st-5th graders and parents, designed to prepare children for First Communion and give them a clear understanding of this important sacrament.

**Wednesday, April 25 | 6:00-8:00 PM | The Galaxy**

**First Communion: Sunday, April 29**

Register: [communion.mdpc.org](http://communion.mdpc.org)

**Does the OT Have a Dark Side?**

Guest speakers tackle Old Testament topics like Oppression, Rituals & Sacrifices, and Slavery. There'll be time for Q&A. This class is for ALL ages and stages of faith.

**Sundays through April 29 | 11:00 AM | Amphitheater**

Details: [darkside.mdpc.org](http://darkside.mdpc.org)

**MVPD Spring Picnic Fundraiser**

Enjoying a delicious plate of BBQ supports your Memorial Villages Police Officers' Association! Let's show our force that we care.

**Saturday, April 28 | 10:00 AM-2:00 PM**

**MDPC North Parking Lot | \$10/plate**

For details: [info@memorialvillagespoa.org](mailto:info@memorialvillagespoa.org), 713-365-3700

**Married Life Prep**

Are you engaged? Did you get married in the last 2 or 3 years? Then grab your spouse(-to-be) and join us for Married Life Prep! Taught at MDPC by Brett and Kellie Hurst of Home Encouragement, it combines Biblical teaching with the best current marriage research.

**Sundays, July 8-29 | 10:00 AM-12:00 PM | CLC 171/172**

Register: [mlp.mdpc.org](http://mlp.mdpc.org)

Email Anna with questions: [avickers@mdpc.org](mailto:avickers@mdpc.org)

**Summer Camps & Classes**

Nip summer boredom in the bud by signing up now! You and your family will get moving, get creative, and get musical. Kids' camps include sports, music, art, and more! Adults can enjoy strength training, yoga, voice, and piano.

Details and registration: [reach.mdpc.org](http://reach.mdpc.org)

**Theology On Tap: Heaven & Hell**

What do we know? What don't we know? Young adults (20s-30s) are invited to come hear Old and New Testament scholars share their views on the afterlife. There'll be time to text your own questions in to a panel of pastors and professors. Event sponsored by Perkins School of Theology.

**Tuesday, April 17 | 7:00-9:00 PM**

**Kindred, Montrose (2515 Waugh)**

**Free craft beer & food (suggested donation: \$5)**

[facebook.com/TheologyOnTapHouston](https://facebook.com/TheologyOnTapHouston)

**Home Encouragement Annual Luncheon**

The fundraiser guest speaker will be Reid Ryan, President and CEO of the 2017 World Series Champion Houston Astros. Business attire or your "Astros best"!

**Friday, May 4 | Hotel Sorella City Centre**

To purchase tickets, visit [homeencouragement.org](http://homeencouragement.org) or contact Kellie Hurst ([kellie@homeencouragement.org](mailto:kellie@homeencouragement.org)).

**Prime Timers Welcome Captain Jamie White**

Capt. White has sailed on too many square-rigged and traditional ships to list - and served as consultant on two *Pirates of the Caribbean* movies! Come hear his stories.

**Tuesday, April 17 | 11:00 AM | Parlor**

Call Evelyn Cook with questions: 713-504-2919

**Please Pray for MDPC Ministry Partners**

This week, we're lifting in prayer these MDPC partners:

**East Spring Branch Food Pantry** is a small, completely volunteer-run organization. Located at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, they distribute food five days per week to families residing in zip codes 77055, 77043, 77024, 77092, and 77080. [eastspringbranchfoodpantry.com](http://eastspringbranchfoodpantry.com)

**Easter Seals** ministers to adults with a range of physical and cognitive disabilities, most of whom are low to extremely low income and have few (if any) opportunities for activities or social engagement. They meet weekly at MDPC for yoga, art projects, speakers, and lunch. The needs of mentally and physically disabled adults in Houston far exceed the available resources.

[eastersealshouston.org](http://eastersealshouston.org)

**The Antioch Partners (TAP)** equips and sends cross-cultural servants into the world who demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ in tangible ways. TAP's goals are to see people become followers of Jesus and to foster the formation of worshipping communities among the unreachd.

[theantiochpartners.org](http://theantiochpartners.org)

**WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE**

2018 Operating Budget	\$ 11,600,000
Expected Income to Date	\$ 2,740,330
Actual Income to Date (4/8/18)	\$ 2,838,549
Current Income Surplus	\$ 98,219
<b>Needed to Meet 2018 Budget</b>	<b>\$ 8,761,451</b>



Loving God. Proclaiming Christ. Living Generously. Engaging All.

11612 Memorial Drive | Houston, Texas 77024 | [mdpc.org](http://mdpc.org) | 713-782-1710



**“Our Father, Who Art in Heaven,  
Hallowed Be Thy Name...”**

Matthew 6:5-9 • Alf Halvorson Preaching

Notes written by Rev. Beth Case

1. In the opening phrase of The Lord’s Prayer, Jesus uses four words that are foundational to our relationship with God. What significance does each have as it pertains to prayer?  
Our  
Father  
Heaven  
hallowed
2. When you pray, how do you begin? Do you use a particular name for God? Do you address Him in a particular way? Does this differ when you pray with others, or on your own? What might your answer tell you about your perspective of God?
3. Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, **“This is pure grace that God tells us how we can speak with him and have fellowship with him.”** What does this tell you about our relationship with God?
4. Rosalind Rinker, in a book entitled *Prayer: Conversing with God*, wrote, **“Prayer is a dialogue between two persons who love each other.”** Do you agree or disagree? Support your answer.

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*During this current sermon series, Pray Like Jesus, these notes will discuss various models of prayer. Following a brief introduction and discussion of the week’s prayer practice, you will find some practical suggestions for exercising that model of prayer. We encourage you to try these individually, or as a small group. The prayer practice for this week is...*

## **Conversational Prayer**

The word “conversation” has been defined as “an informal interchange of thoughts, information, etc., by spoken words” (dictionary.com). In healthy conversations, all parties listen to each other, and share freely with one another. Prayer can be a free-flowing conversation with God. We speak with God just as we would with a friend. We pause to listen, just as we would with a friend.

Another way to pray conversationally is to speak sentence-length prayers while praying with others.

1. Have you tried conversational prayer in a group? If so, which of the following is most true to your experience? When prayer is a conversation:
  - there is no need for one person to cover every topic, or to worry about how you sound
  - there is no need to wax eloquent, one sentence is enough
  - there is time to listen to God and to each other
  - everyone can participate; children, adults, new believers, and seasoned believers can all utter phrases of gratitude or petition

2. Do you enjoy being in conversation with others? When is it comfortable? When does it stretch you?
3. What is it like to pray with others? Where does it bring joy? Where does it ignite fear?
4. When Rosalind Rinker was asked why praying together in groups is advisable, she recalls Jesus' words in Matthew 18:19-20: **"if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in My Name, I am there among them."** How might this inform your thoughts on conversational prayer?

### **Put It Into Practice:**

1. Pick one different way to address God in prayer. For example, if you often say "Heavenly Father," trying beginning with, "Good Morning, God!" or "Almighty God." Utilize this distinct address once a day this week. What difference does it make in your prayer, or in your perspective?
2. As a family, take turns praying sentence prayers (or "popcorn prayers"). Kids can do this, too. Encourage them to listen as they wait for their turn. It might help to suggest topics (pray for teachers, grandparents, mommy & daddy, siblings, kids who don't have enough to eat, etc.).
3. If you need a little extra encouragement to pray out loud, ask one person to pray with you using 1-sentence prayers. Take turns praying for things that matter to you.
4. Next time you are in a small group, or Sunday School class, close with conversational prayer. Indicate to the group that everyone can pray, as many times as they wish. But set a limit of 1-2 sentences per prayer.

*"Be not forgetful of prayer. Every time you pray, if your prayer is sincere, there will be new feeling and new meaning in it, which will give you fresh courage, and you will understand that prayer is an education."* – Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*

