

# Radical

EVIL

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-40

## 8:30 AM Service

Sunday, September 13, 2020

Alf Halvorson preaching

[Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43](#)

### Welcome & Call to Worship

Dave Steane

### Songs of Praise

*Glorious Day*  
*Here I Am to Worship*

Kristian Standfill  
Matt Redman

### \*Prayer of Confession & Assurance

Clay Brown

### Baptism

The McLearn Family

### Song of Response

*Jesus Paid It All*

Matt Redman

### Moment of Prayer

Dave Steane

### Song of Preparation

*See a Victory*

Chris Brown

### Message

*Radical Evil*

Alf Halvorson

### Song of Response

*See a Victory*

Chris Brown

### Opportunity to Give & Benediction

Alf Halvorson



## Sunday Worship Playlist

[Click here to listen](#)

### Remember Our Mission Partners on the Front Lines of Ministry

Each week, we pray for three of **MDPC's** local and global mission partners. During these difficult days, our partners truly covet your prayers! Visit [partners.mdpc.org](https://partners.mdpc.org) to find this week's (three) prayer recipients.



## 9:45 AM Service

Sunday, September 13, 2020

Alf Halvorson preaching

[Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43](#)

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### Welcome & Call to Worship

Worship Leader

### Song of Praise

*Glorious Day*

Kristian Standfill

### \*Moment of Confession & Assurance

Scott Fuller

### Kids' Moment

Laura Miller

### Baptism

The McLearn Family

### Songs of Response

*Never Gonna Stop Singing*  
*See a Victory*

Mosaic  
Chris Brown

### Message

*Radical Evil*

Alf Halvorson

### Song of Response

*See a Victory*

Chris Brown

### Moment of Prayer

Laura Miller

### Opportunity to Give & Benediction

Alf Halvorson



## Sunday Worship Playlist

[Click here to listen](#)

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# Radical

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Matthew 13:24-30, 36-40

## 11:15 AM Service

Sunday, September 13, 2020

Alf Halvorson preaching

[Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43](#)

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<b>Prelude</b>	<i>Fantasy in G</i>	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
<b>Welcome &amp; Call to Worship</b>		Dave Steane
* <b>Hymn of Praise</b>	<i>Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee</i>	HYMN TO JOY
* <b>Prayer of Confession and Assurance</b>		Dan Aikins
<b>Affirmation of Faith</b>	The Apostles' Creed	
<b>Baptism</b>	The McLearn Family	
<b>Anthem of Preparation</b>	<i>How Great Thou Art</i>	arr. Fred Bock (1939-1998)
<b>Pastoral Prayer</b>		Dave Steane
<b>Anthem of Preparation</b>	<i>This Is the Day</i>	John Rutter (b. 1945)
<b>Message</b>	<i>Radical Evil</i>	Alf Halvorson
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	<i>To God Be the Glory</i>	TO GOD BE THE GLORY
<b>Opportunity to Give &amp; Benediction</b>		Alf Halvorson
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>Prelude from the First Partita</i>	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

## Remember Our Mission Partners on the Front Lines of Ministry

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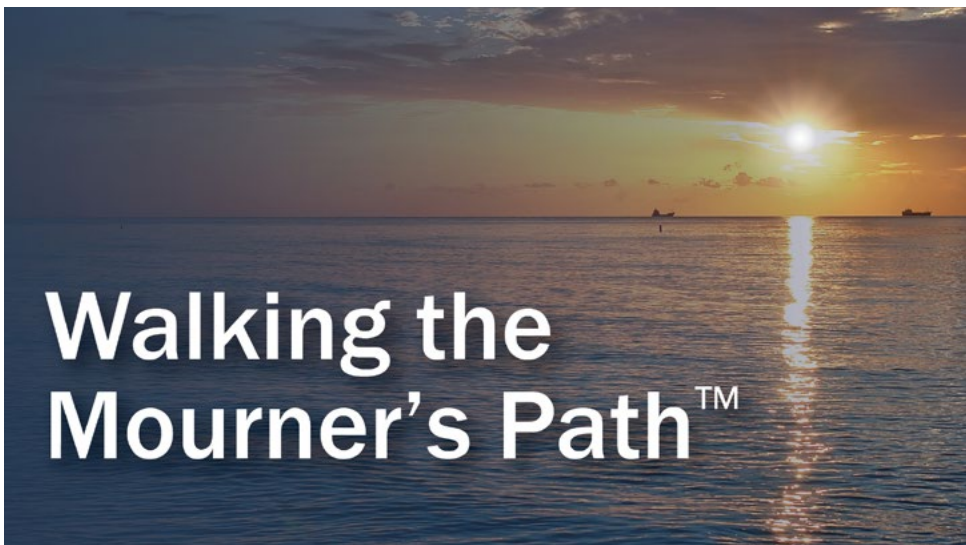
Sunday, September 13, 2020

# MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

To see all upcoming events, visit [events.mdpc.org](https://events.mdpc.org).

## WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE as of September 6, 2020

2020 Annual Budget	\$12,300,000
Income to Date	\$6,549,679
Needed to Meet Budget	\$5,750,321



While there is no timeline to grief, there is always hope. Walking the Mourner's Path is a Christ-centered eight-week grief program designed to help those dealing with the loss of a loved one. Learn more at [grief.mdpc.org](https://grief.mdpc.org).



Children's Ministries is excited to offer Virtual AWANA this Fall! It's a scripturally-based, high-energy, relationship-focused Bible Study. Learn more and sign up at [awana.mdpc.org](https://awana.mdpc.org).



MDPC is hosting another blood drive for Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center. All donations are tested for COVID-19 antibodies. Both MDPC and the blood bank are taking every precaution suggested by the CDC. Blood donations by appointment only, please. Register at [blooddrive.mdpc.org](https://blooddrive.mdpc.org).



This three-part book discussion is on *One Blood*, what *Christianity Today* describes as, "civil rights hero [John Perkins]... 'final manifesto' on race and the church's call to unity." Check out the book and [join us](#) via Zoom starting September 14.



Ladies, are you tired of waiting? For a nap, for a breakthrough, to be seen, to be heard? Join us at The Well on October 14 where we'll hear Jenny Nettles, Barbara Mueller, Stella Chen, and Rosy Silva share stories of how God has met them in their "waiting." Learn more and RSVP at [thewell.mdpc.org](https://thewell.mdpc.org)



So many people right now are searching. With social distractions taken away, they wonder, *Is what's left ... all there is?* Share with them the chance to ask questions and look for answers with folks experiencing the same doubts. Share Alpha. Starts September 22 via Zoom. Learn more: [alpha.mdpc.org](https://alpha.mdpc.org)



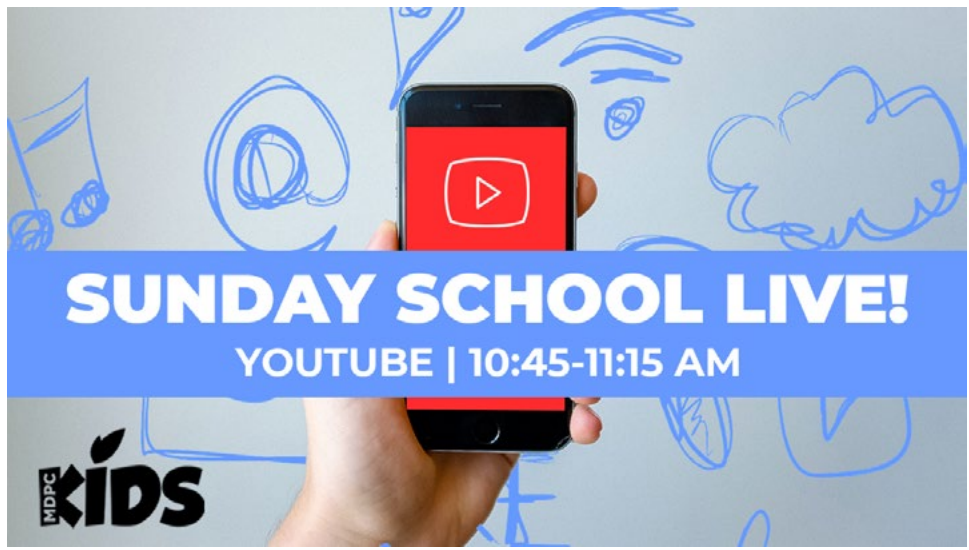
REACH classes this fall include Yoga, Tumbling & Gymnastics, Abrakadoodle, Piano, Tap & Jazz, Chess, and the MDPC seasonal favorite Gingerbread House Event! Learn more and sign up at [reach.mdpc.org](https://reach.mdpc.org).



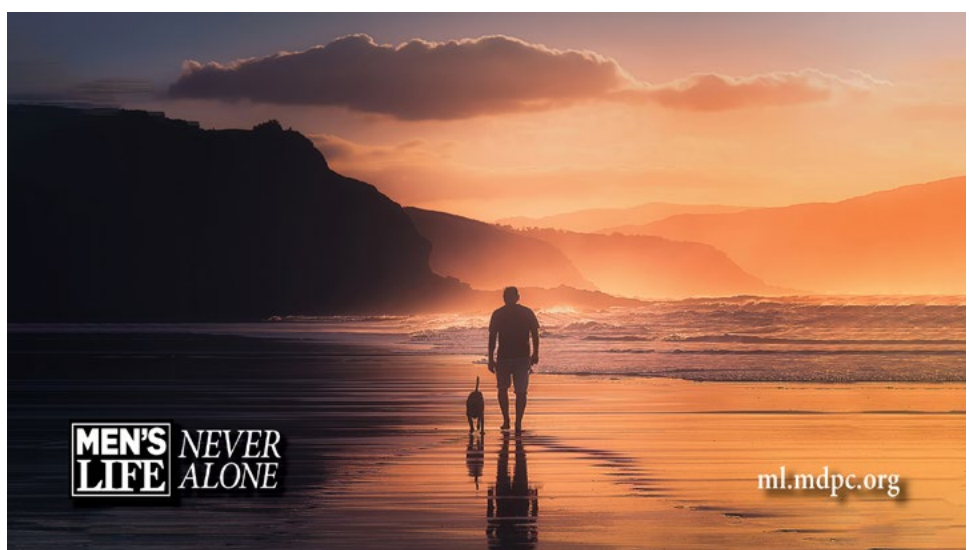
Registration is now open for the fall series of Word & Worship. This year's study of the Book of Hebrews will leave us with a deeper knowledge of Jesus and more complete understanding of the Bible as a whole. Learn more at [hebrews.mdpc.org](https://hebrews.mdpc.org).



Two all-new courses to choose from begin September 23 via Zoom. Pastor Clay Brown will teach on *Apologetics*, and Laurien Hook on *Theology For Everyone*. Learn more and sign up at [theologymatters.mdpc.org](https://theologymatters.mdpc.org).



Children's Ministries Sunday School is moving to YouTube! We will have Sunday School for Preschool and Elementary Kids on our YouTube channel from 10:45-11:15 AM for our Preschool and Elementary Kids. [Click here](#) to learn more.



Join us this fall for Men's Life: Never Alone, an impactful 11-week uncovering the realities of loneliness in America and what men can do about it. These should be life-changing conversations! Learn more and sign up at [ml.mdpc.org](https://ml.mdpc.org).





For the next eight weeks, we will look at how the Gospel is “radical” and addresses “radical” things like Evil, Joy, Humility, Preparation, Response, Generosity, etc. MDPC has talked about a commitment to *Radical* Generosity from its inception. *Radical* connoted far-reaching and thorough, even drastic. It can mean extreme change in a negative sense or, on the other side, people committed to some good thing, possibly even to the point of putting your reputation or life on the line for that greater positive—a willingness to sacrifice something valuable for something else even better. In our series, *Radical*, we are suggesting the second rather than the first definition. A while back, people would say that something was “rad,” meaning something even better than excellent or awesome. Let’s look at how a radical Savior addresses Radical Evil this week.

1. For many non-Christians, the biggest obstacle to faith is the presence of suffering and evil. How could a loving and all-powerful God allow evil? Have you ever felt that way? How do you think the Gospel addresses that problem?
2. Read [Matthew 13:24-30](#). Whom do the servants blame for the weeds in verse 27? What is the owner’s explanation from verse 28? Also, in verse 28, the servants propose a solution. What is it? Does the owner agree? What is his solution in verses 29-30?
3. Read [verses 36-43](#). It is not every day that Jesus explains a parable to His followers, but He, in response to the disciples’ request, offers His answer. According to Jesus, who sows the seed? What is the field? Who are the good seeds? Who are the weeds? Who is the enemy? What is the harvest? Who are the reapers? And what is the final outcome for the weeds and the wheat?
4. What is comforting from Jesus’ explanation? Is there anything that is troubling? Explain and discuss.
5. In the last part of my sermon, I talked about one or two explanations of suffering and evil—at least one coming from our parable and its interpretation by Jesus. Where, if anywhere, were they helpful? And where do you still have questions? Do you have another explanation for suffering and evil that is significant and satisfying to you? Share it so we can learn and have more arrows in our quiver for when the question is asked of us by friends or opponents of our faith.

For further reading, Rebecca McLaughlin has a chapter on this subject of suffering and evil in *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World’s Largest Religion*. Tim Keller does, as well, in *The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism*. Enjoy.

