

DOUBT

IT DOESN'T **HAVE TO BE FATAL** TO YOUR FAITH

8:30 AM Service
Sunday, May 9, 2021

Part 5: True Disciples
[John 8:31-38 \(NRSV\)](#)

Welcome & Call to Worship

Rachel Poysky

Songs of Praise

*He Is Exalted
Holy, Holy, Holy*

Twila Paris
TRADITIONAL

***Prayer of Confession & Assurance**

Dave Steane

Songs of Response

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Matt Maher

Moment of Prayer

Rachel Poysky

Songs of Preparation

Build My Life

House Fires

Message

DOUBT: Part 5
John 8:31-38 (NRSV)

Alf Halvorson

Song of Response

Be Thou My Vision

TRADITIONAL

Opportunity to Give & Benediction

Alf Halvorson

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Sunday Worship Playlist

[Click here to listen.](#)

Give Online
give.mdpc.org

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 to find this week's (three) prayer recipients.

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9:45 AM Service
Sunday, May 9, 2021

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Welcome & Call to Worship		Worship Leader
Song of Praise	<i>On Earth as in Heaven</i>	Red Rocks Worship
*Prayer of Confession & Assurance		Sarah Stone
Baptisms		Alf Halvorson
	Theodore Zadek Weber, son of Matthew and Nancy Weber	
	Eloise Grey Dickerson, daughter of Nicholas and Rachel Dickerson	
	Millie Louise Gasset, daughter of Mauro and Kathryn Gasset	
Songs of Preparation	<i>What a Beautiful Name</i> <i>Cornerstone</i>	Hillsong Worship
Message	DOUBT: Part 5 <i>John 8:31-38 (NRSV)</i>	Alf Halvorson
Song of Response	<i>Build My Life</i>	House Fires
Moment of Prayer		Beth Case
Opportunity to Give & Benediction		Alf Halvorson



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11:15 AM Service
Sunday, May 9, 2021

Part 5: True Disciples
[John 8:31-38 \(NRSV\)](#)

Prelude	<i>Contrapunctus 9</i>	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Welcome & Call to Worship		Beth Case
*Hymn of Praise	<i>All Creatures of Our God and King</i>	#455; Vs. 1, 6 LASST UNS ERFRUEN
*Prayer of Confession & Assurance		Dan Aikins
*Affirmation of Faith	from Heidelberg Catechism	
Baptism		Alf Halvorson
	Grace Catherine Billingsley, daughter of David and Caroline Billingsley	
Anthem	<i>The Church of God Is One</i>	Mary McDonald (b.1956)
Pastoral Prayer		Beth Case
Anthem of Preparation	<i>We Believe</i>	Dan Forrest (b.1978)
Message	DOUBT: Part 5 <i>John 8:31-38 (NRSV)</i>	Alf Halvorson
Hymn of Response	<i>O Jesus, I Have Promised</i>	#388; Vs. 1, 3 ANGEL'S STORY
Opportunity to Give & Benediction		Alf Halvorson
Postlude	<i>My Spirit Be Joyful</i>	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Musicians in this service: Charles Hausmann, conductor;

Danny Wilson, Andrew Wilson, trumpets; James Wilson, French horn; Rick White, trombone;
Dave Kirk, tuba; Julio Sanchez, timpani/percussion; Kathryn White, pianist/organist

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Sunday, May 9, 2021

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

To see more events at MDPC, visit events.mdpc.org.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE as of May 2, 2021

2021 Annual Budget	\$ 11,300,000
Income to Date	\$ 3,132,845
Needed to Meet Budget	\$ 8,167,155



Wednesday, May 12 • 4:30-6:00 PM

Texas is number one in the U.S. in food insecurity for children. You can help make sure there is one less hungry tummy! Come make sandwiches at MDPC for Kids' Meals. Learn more and sign up at kidsmeals.mdpc.org.



Saturday, May 22 • 10:00-11:30 AM

Did you know that Iran is hosting the fastest growing church in the world? Come learn about the ways God is at work among the Iranian people on a virtual mission trip! Learn more and sign up at virtualtrip.mdpc.org.



Monday-Friday, July 12-16 • 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

This week-long event is for elementary kids, but we need lots of adult and teen volunteers to make it a success! No teaching is required, and we have roles for every person's unique gifts. Visit summercel.mdpc.org to find out more.



7th & 8th Grade: San Antonio, Texas
May 30-June 5 • Blueprint Ministries

High School: John Brown University (June 14-19) and/or **WayForward in Colorado** (June 26-July 2)

6th Grade: Houston, Texas
June 25-26 • A weekend of serving our hometown



CONNECTION is our Sunday program for Middle and High School students where we come together for fellowship, teaching, and worship. 11:15 AM in the Youth Loft; more info at connection.mdpc.org.



Sunday, May 23 • 9:45 COMBINED, 11:15 AM (Spanish)

Plan to be here for an OUTDOOR worship experience! The 8:30 and 9:45 services will be combined into one service at 9:45 AM. Visit outdoor.mdpc.org to learn more.



Sunday, May 16 • 10:00 AM-2:15 PM

As we follow Christ's call to love our neighbors, blood donations continue to be highly important! To help with COVID protocols, register for a time slot at blooddrive.mdpc.org.



Friday, May 14 • 8:00-9:00 PM

Join Kellie & Brett Hurst for a virtual date night. Bring your dinner, glass of wine, or dessert to your computer screen and enjoy some good conversation. \$10 donation per couple. Visit datenight.mdpc.org to sign up now!



Sundays, July 11-August 1, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Research shows marriage prep programs can be particularly effective at preventing divorce - plus, MLP's approved by *Together in Texas*, so graduates can have their Texas marriage license fee waived! Go to mlp.mdpc.org to learn more.



Ladies, connect with God and connect with others this summer! With **day and evening, weekday and weekend events from May to August**, there's something for everyone. Learn more and sign up at stc.mdpc.org.



Sunday childcare currently is available for children five and under. Visit children.mdpc.org to see our Sunday morning health and safety protocols. For The Galaxy elementary Sunday school, just text Galaxy F2F to the number 94000 so we know you are coming!

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Part 5 • [John 8:31-32](#)

This is the fifth and final in our spring sermon series on *Faith and Doubt*. We all want to know God's Will or Truth—with a capital T. And we sense somehow that things are “not the way they were supposed to be;” we are not “all we were supposed to be;” we are enslaved to sin, unproductive habits, and sometimes others (and even our own) unreasonable expectations. How can we be free for God and others?

1. Read John 8:31-32. Jesus is talking to people who believed but now are wavering. He begins with an *invitation*. What is His invitation? What is His criteria for being a true disciple? In my sermon I talked about what it means to *continue* or *remain* or *dwell*. How was that helpful? What might you do to “make your house” in Jesus' Words?
2. If these short verses begin with an invitation, they end with a two-fold *promise*. What are the promises? Have you been seeking those promises? What do they mean to you?
3. It is not a huge price to *dwell in the home* of His Word, though it requires discipline and cultivation of the habit, often and with others—but there are breathtaking benefits. How might you dwell in the home of His Word this summer and beyond?
4. As we dwell in His Word, we will have questions. Below is a list of helpful books I have read and recommended to those who have doubts or questions. Which book or books have you read that were helpful to you when you had questions? Is there a book below you might add to your summer reading list?
5. Jude verse 27 says, “Be merciful to those who doubt.” How can you be gentle with yourself and others as you seek God's Word and answers to your biggest questions? Remember, much doubt is not the opposite of faith, but an element of it. May your doubts push you to God's Word and resources that can strengthen your faith and walk.

Note: Here are some excellent guides to help you answer many of your questions about God, the Christian faith, and misunderstandings or attacks from skeptics:

Tim Keller, *The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism* and *Making Sense of God: Finding God in the Modern World*

C. S Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, *The Abolition of Man*, and *The Screwtape Letters*

Alister McGrath, *Intellectuals Don't Need God & Other Modern Myths*, *Understanding the Trinity*, *The Mystery of the Cross*, *The Dawkins Delusion*, *Science & Religion*, and *Doubting: Growing through the Uncertainties of Faith*

Rebecca McLaughlin, *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion*, *10 Questions Every Teen Should Ask (and Answer) about Christianity*, and *The Secular Creed: Engaging Five Contemporary Claims*

