



LIFE'S 4 BIG QUESTIONS

On What Will I Build My Life? • **Psalm 1**

8:30 SERVICE

Welcome & Call to Worship		Rachel Poysky
Songs of Praise	<i>He Has Made Me Glad / Joyful, Joyful Amazing Grace</i>	
*Prayer of Confession & Assurance		Beth Case
Song of Preparation	<i>Firm Foundation</i>	
Message	On What Will I Build My Life?	Alf Halvorson
Communion	<i>All who confess their faith in Christ are welcome to the table.</i>	
Songs of Response	<i>My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less / Firm Foundation</i>	

9:45 SERVICE

Welcome & Call to Worship		Meliza Gómez
Song of Praise	<i>This Is Amazing Grace</i>	
Moment of Confession & Assurance		Dan Aikins
Songs of Preparation	<i>King of Kings / What a Beautiful Name</i>	
Message	On What Will I Build My Life?	Alf Halvorson
Communion	<i>All who confess their faith in Christ are welcome to the table.</i>	
Songs of Response	<i>My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less / Firm Foundation</i>	

Musicians in these services: Asher Pudlo, drums; Daniel Martinez, keys;
Uvaldo Callejas, bass; Chris Parrott, guitar; Nani Nicole & Meliza Gómez, worship leaders

11:15 SERVICE

Prelude	<i>Fantasia in A</i>	César Franck (1822-1890)
Welcome & Call to Worship		Beth Case
Choral Introit	<i>Sing, Ye Righteous</i>	Ludovico Viadana (1560-1627)
*Hymn of Praise	<i>Take the Name of Jesus with You</i>	Vs. 1, 2 PRECIOUS NAME The Hymnal for Worship and Celebration #116
*Prayer of Confession & Affirmation of Faith		Beth Case
Anthem	<i>I Shall Not Be Moved</i>	arr. Alice Parker (b.1925)
Message	On What Will I Build My Life?	Alf Halvorson
Communion	<i>All who confess their faith in Christ are welcome to the table.</i>	
Communion Music	<i>Beneath the Cross of Jesus</i>	arr. Benjamin Harlan
Postlude	<i>Chaconne</i>	Louis Couperin (1626-1661)

Musicians in this services: Charles Hausmann, conductor; Kathryn White, organ/piano



LIFE'S 4 BIG QUESTIONS

Sunday, Jan 30, 2022

On What Will I Build My Life?

[Psalm 1](#) • Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson

This is the first in a four-week series on some of the most important questions we must answer in our lives like, *On What Will I Build My Life? With Whom Will I Spend My Life? What Will I Live For? What Will I Leave Behind?*

Sometimes we think through these areas very intentionally, but too often people fail to ask and answer these questions directly. They unconsciously go through life without (in the first case) establishing or tying into a solid, stable, and sustainable foundation.

I look forward to wrestling with these crucial questions with you and our community over the next few weeks.

1. [Read Psalm 1](#). What contrasts do you notice in the psalm?
2. The first word in the psalm is *blessed* or *happy*, depending upon your translation. What kind of expectations should that bring to our lives if we follow one of the ways as opposed to the other way? Look at [Matthew 5:1-11](#). How does Jesus play off this same idea of being *blessed* or *happy* in His famous Sermon on the Mount?
3. What significance do you see in the progression from *walk* to *stand* to *sit* in verse 1? What does the progression suggest? Detail a time when you or someone you know followed that path in that way.
4. The writer describes the person who *delights* in God's law (v. 2). What is your emotional response to Scripture—not what you *believe* about it, but how you *feel* about it? What are some things you *delight* in right now? How did I talk about this delight and meditating on the Word in my sermon?
5. *Tree* is the central metaphor of the psalm (v. 3). Put your imagination to use regarding an arid, desert-like climate. How are law-delighting, Word-delighting people like trees?
6. In what ways are the wicked like chaff (vv. 4-6)? How might these two radically different portraits (the tree-righteous and the chaff-wicked) motivate you to delight in God's Word, and the Word-made-flesh, Jesus?
7. Since the Book of Psalms is the prayer book of the Bible, how does meditation—listening to God speak to us through Scripture—prepare us for prayer?
8. How can you install a procedure for meditation in your life, so that you have a firm foundation? What other foundations have you dabbled with or been tempted by in your life? What other options in my sermon did I suggest are common? Why don't they really work as foundations? What is your foundation? Have you tied into the Word made flesh (Jesus) and the words of Scripture? What does that look like for you?



MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

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

GIVING: Weekly financial updates will be printed here after the 2022 budget is approved by Session in January.

[Give Online](https://give.mdpc.org)
give.mdpc.org



Sat & Sun, Feb 26 & 27

CITC is when MDPC leaves the pews to serve our city! There are project options on both Sat and Sun. For details and registration, visit citic.mdpc.org.



Sun, Jan 30-Feb 20 11:00am-12:15pm

Interested in membership? Or could you use a refresher on what it means to be a Presbyterian? Join us for this 4-Sunday course! Visit discover.mdpc.org.



Use your gift of hospitality! The Sunday Welcome Team at MDPC shares the love of Jesus both in-person and online. Contact Dan Aikins (daikins@mdpc.org) to learn how you can use your gifts to serve the Kingdom.



Tue, Feb 1-22 • 10:00am-Noon

A 4-week research-based workshop to address the most common memory complaints. Learn more and reserve your spot at memory.mdpc.org.



Wed, Feb 2 • 6:00-8:30pm

Dan Gerhartz's mastery of light and anatomy transforms his paintings into powerful visual experiences. Don't miss this free live demo by the artist in the MDPC Amphitheater.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS:

Rev. Robert (Bob) Ball passed away Jan 15, 2022.

Remember Our Mission Partners on the Front Lines

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.



Softball • Baseball • Volleyball

Registration open now! Practices begin the week of March 21, with games on Saturdays. Learn more and sign up at sports.mdpc.org.



Want to learn more about our partners and play a crucial role in MDPC's radical giving? We'd love to have you on an **outreach committee**! Email Melissa Peter for details: mpeter@mdpc.org



Every Sun, 9:45 or 11:15am Amphitheater

Weekly biblical lessons taught by a pastor or someone else with seminary training. No signup, no class roll, and drop-ins are welcome! Details at byf.mdpc.org.



Mon-Thu Lunch • Sun Mornings Fellowship Hall

MDPC Café offers an extensive lunch menu, plus a pantry of fresh-frozen items to simplify your dinners! See the menu and hours at cafe.mdpc.org.



Are you looking for a way to help? To **make a positive impact on the community**, and others' lives? There is plenty of need in Houston! For ways to get involved, visit action.mdpc.org.



Need a soft place to land? Unsure of where to go next? Learn more about our **short-term counseling ministry** by emailing MDPC counselor-in-residence Amanda Grace Caldwell, or visit counseling.mdpc.org.



Tue, Feb 8-22 • 6:30-7:45am

MDPC Dads exists to encourage, educate, and support fathers in all seasons of life. Join other dads for this **three week training session**, where you'll grow as a father and a follower. Register at springtraining.mdpc.org.