

HOPE



A Living Hope | 1 Peter 1:1-12

Pentecost Sunday, June 5, 2022

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson preaching

8:30 SERVICE

Welcome & Call to Worship (In-person / Online) Meliza Gómez / Rachel Poysky

Songs of Praise *All Creatures of Our God and King / Spirit of the Living God*

*Prayer of Confession & Assurance Clay Brown

Song of Response *King of Kings*Message **HOPE: A Living Hope (1 Peter 1:1-12)** Alf HalvorsonCommunion *All who confess their faith in Christ are welcome to the table.*Communion Meditation *Communion*

Benediction

9:45 SERVICE

Welcome & Call to Worship (In-person / Online) Meliza Gómez / Laurien Hook

Songs of Praise *Here for You / Rest on Us*

*Moment of Confession & Assurance Amy Delgado

Songs of Preparation *King of Kings / Spirit of the Living God*Message **HOPE: A Living Hope (1 Peter 1:1-12)** Alf HalvorsonCommunion *All who confess their faith in Christ are welcome to the table.*Communion Meditation *Communion / Living Hope*

Benediction

Musicians at 8:30/9:45: Asher Pudlo, drums; Daniel Martinez, keys; Chris Parrott, guitar;
Uvaldo Callejas, bass; Perla Cantu-Arroyo and Meliza Gómez, worship leaders

11:15 SERVICE

Prelude *Sonata in F* C.P.E. Bach (1714-1788)

Welcome & Call to Worship Christyn Knoop

Choral Introit *Behold Now, Praise the Lord* Everett Titcomb (1884-1968)*Hymn of Praise *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* #263; Vs. 1, 3, 4 | ST. DENIO

*Prayer of Confession & Affirmation of Faith Dave Steane

Anthem of Preparation *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* arr. John Ferguson (b.1941)Message **HOPE: A Living Hope (1 Peter 1:1-12)** Alf HalvorsonCommunion *All who confess their faith in Christ are welcome to the table.*Communion Music *Kyrie (Lord, Have Mercy)* John Leavitt (b.1956)

Benediction

Postlude *Rondeau* John-Joseph Mouret (1682-1738)

Musicians at 11:15: Charles Hausmann, conductor; Kathryn White, organ



A Living Hope: [1 Peter 1:1-12](#)

By Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson

According to how he is portrayed in the Gospels, Peter was a natural leader, commanding the respect of his peers by sheer force of personality. In every listing of Jesus' disciples, Peter's name is always first; after Jesus and Paul, Peter is the most visible figure in the New Testament. In Eugene Peterson's introduction to 1 Peter in *The Message*, he says about Peter, "the way Peter handled power is even more impressive than the power itself. He stayed out of the center, didn't 'wield' power, and maintained a scrupulous subordination to Jesus. Given his charismatic personality and well-deserved position at the head, he could easily have taken over, using the prominence of his association with Jesus to promote himself. That he didn't do it, given the frequency with which spiritual leaders do exactly that, is impressive. Peter is a breath of fresh air."

We know much about the letter but there are some things that are debated. For most of its existence, the letter was accepted as having been written by Peter from Rome, probably between 64-67 AD. Emperor Nero was a persecutor of Christians after the fire in Rome, and life in the realm could be difficult at times for followers of Jesus. However, because the Greek is sophisticated and "higher brow" than some scholars believe Simon Peter the fisherman could produce, some experts date the letter to the 90's AD, saying perhaps a disciple of Peter or someone in the School of Peter wrote it. At this time, too, under Emperor Domitian's Persecution of the Church, believers had to endure abuse.

For our purposes, the "when" of the letter does not really matter. If it was Peter himself, you can affirm his impressive Greek was added "through Silvanus" who, according to 1 Peter 5:12, served as scribe and more for the writing of the letter. From other NT references, we know Silvanus was an impressive leader and theologian in his own right. If it was not Peter himself, others had heard him teach and preach so regularly that they were able to reproduce his thoughts with integrity just a couple of decades after his death. He, like his Savior, had suffered for the faith; and current believers in Asia Minor (modern Turkey) needed encouragement to find meaning in suffering, mutual support to carry on, and their ultimate hope in the promises of God.

1. In general, how have you suffered in the last few years? For example, COVID-19 isolation, etc. As a Christian, have you ever been ridiculed or abused or discriminated against because you were a follower of Jesus? Explain. Where are places right now in the world where it is especially difficult to be an apprentice of our Savior and Lord?
2. Read 1 Peter 1:1-12 in the NRSV or NIV or ESV and also in *The Message* paraphrase by Eugene Peterson. (Note: These all are contained in the free [YouVersion Bible app](#). I recommend this very helpful bible reading tool.) What strikes you from your first reading(s)?
3. What do you learn from verses 1-2 about the author and audience?
4. What is the "inheritance" Christians receive according to verses 3-5? Discuss and ponder these promises deeply from the first five verses.
5. Verses 6-10 tell us to rejoice, even in the middle of various trials. How and why can we do that, according to Peter? How well do you do that in your own life? What might help you?
6. In verses 10-12, what came from the OT that the recipients of Peter's letter (and we) are more privileged than the angels of God to receive? In what ways did my illustrations regarding present suffering but future blessing, or present trouble but another plane of present rejoicing, provide help and hope to what Peter is trying to say in this opening passage?



MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

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

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



Sun, Jun 12 • Lunch 11:45, Prog 12:30

Executive Pastor Dave Steane and his wife, Jenny, are moving to Colorado! RSVP to their going-away party and see how to celebrate them in other ways at dave.mdpc.org.



Sun, Jun 5 • 8:30am • Parlor

Has the empty nest stage of life snuck up on you? Brett & Kellie Hurst of Home Encouragement will lead conversations that will create intentional love and joy between spouses! More at emptynest.mdpc.org.



Rotating Volunteer Opportunity

A new bite-sized “serve-ing” is offered every month! The next one up is **Tue, Jun 14, 7:00-10:00am** at our partner ECHOS. Learn more and sign up at bites.mdpc.org.



Sun, Jun 26 • 10:00am-2:30pm

Looking for a way to serve - while saving lives? Donate blood at MDPC! Visit blooddrive.mdpc.org to sign up. Successful donors get a GCR Blood Center beach towel!



Sun, Jul 10-31 • 10:00am-Noon

Research shows marriage prep programs can be effective at preventing divorce and increasing satisfaction. Learn more at mlp.mdpc.org. Engaged couples and those married up to 3 years are encouraged to join us!



Maybe it's Your Spouse...

Who would you recommend to be an MDPC officer? They'll help guide the course of this church while being personally enriched. Learn more and nominate at nominate.mdpc.org.



The Faith Is Strong in You..

To be able to have as many kids participate as possible, we need LOTS of teen and adult volunteers! Please consider serving with us (**9:30am-12:30pm, July 11-15**). Learn more and sign up at summercel.mdpc.org.



Select Wednesdays • 3:00pm

On four Wednesdays this summer (Jun 15 and 29, Jul 20, Aug 3), come enjoy a free movie and popcorn in the Amphitheater! The series kicks off on **Jun 15** with *The Music Man*.



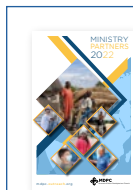
Events are happening now!

Ladies, we've planned a summer packed with fun things to do, so try something new and meet someone new, or bring a friend to something you love. Sign up at stc.mdpc.org.



This Summer in Sunday Services

The Apostle Peter's ancient prescription for facing struggles is as applicable today for our modern troubles! Come be strengthened this summer by a verse-by-verse examination of the rich lessons in 1 Peter.



Remember Our Mission Partners on the Front Lines

Each week, we pray for three of MDPC's partners in ministry, both local and global. They truly covet your prayers! Find this week's prayer recipients at partners.mdpc.org, or pick up one of the prayer booklets available around campus.

FINANCIAL UPDATE as of May 29, 2022

2022 Annual Budget	\$12,294,000
Income to Date	\$4,063,655
Needed to Meet Budget	\$8,230,345

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Sylvia Brandt passed away May 21.
John Martinson passed away May 24.
Nora McGowan passed away May 29.
Robert "Ted" Smith passed away May 29.