



Sunday, June 3, 2018

# WRESTLING WITH SCRIPTURE

When You Eat It You Will Die | Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-6



## 8:30 AM BLENDED

WELCOME		Dave Steane
*SONGS OF PRAISE		
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE		Christyn Knoop
SONG OF PREPARATION		
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE		
MESSAGE	When You Eat It You Will Die	Alf Halvorson
RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE		

## 9:45 AM CONTEMPORARY

WELCOME		
*SONGS OF PRAISE		
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE		Phil Warman
SONG OF RESPONSE		
MESSAGE	When You Eat It You Will Die	Alf Halvorson
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE		

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	<i>Eternal Source of Light Divine</i>	George Frederick Handel (1685-1759)
WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP		Beth Case
CHORAL INTROIT	<i>If You Love Me</i>	Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)
*HYMN OF PRAISE	<i>Lord of All Hopefulness</i>	vs. 1, 2, 3   SLANE
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE		Trevor Harris
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the United Church of Canada		
*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE	<i>Blessed Assurance</i>	#341; Vs. 1   ASSURANCE
ANTHEM	<i>The Lord Bless You and Keep You</i>	John Rutter (b. 19435)
OFFERTORY	<i>The Tree of Life</i>	K. Lee Scott (b. 1950)
MESSAGE	When You Eat It You Will Die	Alf Halvorson
*HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah</i>	#281; Vs. 1, 2, 3   CWM RHONDDA
POSTLUDE	<i>Chanson de Matin</i>	Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1928)

Musicians in this service: Lisa Borik, soloist • Charles Hausmann, conductor • John Parker, trumpet • Kathryn White, organ  
Most of the music for 11:15 was played and sung at the Royal Wedding on May 19, 2018.

**TODAY IS**

**NATIONAL CANCER SURVIVORS DAY**

20  18

Visit our table in the Sanctuary Lobby following 8:30 and 9:45 AM worship.

Cancer affects everyone. With more than 15.5 million people living with and beyond cancer in the U.S. today, everyone knows someone whose life has been touched by cancer. National Cancer Survivors Day® acknowledges cancer survivors, raises awareness of the ongoing challenges cancer presents, and – most importantly – celebrates life! If you or someone you love has been affected by cancer, stop by our table this morning for recognition and light refreshments.

**All-Church Lunch Today**

Choose from Smothered Pork Chops or Beef Stroganoff, served with Honey-glazed Carrots, White Rice, Southern-style Green Beans, and Buttered Noodles. Just \$10/adult and \$4/child, and includes beverage, side salad, and dessert!

Served 11:00 AM-1:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

[food.mdpc.org](http://food.mdpc.org)

**Discover MDPC with Alf**

Want to know more about MDPC? Thinking about membership? This info meeting is about who we are and how we operate, within our walls and out in the world. No commitment required! Learn what it means to be part of our faith community.

Next Sunday, June 3 | 10:45-11:10 AM | The Nook

**Soccer Camp & VBS**

Girls and boys age 7 to 11 are invited to the annual Soccer Camp Vacation Bible School, hosted by MDPC's Fuente Hispanic Ministries.

June 18-22 | 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

Girls and Boys age 7-12 | \$5 per child

Contact Maria Castillo ([mcastillo@mdpc.org](mailto:mcastillo@mdpc.org), 832-358-8003) for details.

**Summer Alpha**

Explore Christian faith. Alpha is for everyone, but especially for those who are questioning, seeking, or even who would not call themselves Christian.

Tuesdays, June 5-August 7 | 6:30 PM

More info and registration: [alpha.mdpc.org](http://alpha.mdpc.org)

**Men's Summer Series: God Is...**

Scripture says that *God is love*; *God is light*; *God is Spirit*; *God is fire*. How do we personally see those differing characteristics as we walk with Him? Ken Harris and other teachers will lead men in discovering the amazing attributes of God revealed in His Word.

Tuesdays, June 5-26 | 6:30-7:45 AM | Amphitheater

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

**Summer Movie Series**

Prime Timers proudly hosts another summer film series! Beat the heat while enjoying popcorn and acclaimed films. Everyone is welcome, free of charge.

Select Wednesdays | 3:00 PM | Amphitheater

June 6: *Wonder* (PG; closed captioning provided)

Save the Dates: June 20, July 25, August 1

\*Visit [pluggedin.com](http://pluggedin.com) to review movie content.

**Next New Member Class**

Taught by our Pastors and Elders, this class is for anyone considering MDPC membership. The June session is an "Intensive," condensing the normally four-Sunday course into one evening and one morning.

June 8, 6:30-9:00 PM & June 9, 9:00 AM-Noon

Visit [membership.mdpc.org](http://membership.mdpc.org) to register.

**June Is MAM Month at MDPC**

MAM's Home Care Closet is a resource that makes such a difference in supplementing struggling families' grocery budgets! Currently, the greatest needs are for:

- Deodorant
- Shampoo (full or travel-size)
- Toothbrushes
- Disposable razors
- Size 4, 5, 6 diapers

Contact Jan Roe: [jroe@mdpc.org](mailto:jroe@mdpc.org)

**The Outreach Foundation Trip to Cuba**

September 6-14, 2018 (approx.)

MDPC Global Partner, the Outreach Foundation, is hosting a trip to Cuba to visit the Evangelical Theological Seminary at Matanzas and all three Presbyteries. We will also meet with church leaders and congregations of the Presbyterian Reformed Church in Havana and Santa Clara. Come see God at work through the church in Cuba, absorb the history and culture that shape the ministry context, and learn how changes in relations between our nations will affect them. Space is limited and on a first-come basis.

Registration deadline is Monday, June 25.

Contact Kelsi McCormack: [kmccormack@mdpc.org](mailto:kmccormack@mdpc.org)

**The White Rose is in memory of**

- Margaret Ann Dwyer, who passed away May 23, 2018.
- Virginia Upchurch, who passed away May 28, 2018.

**Today's Chancel Flowers are given**

in celebration of the marriage of Courtney Stephens and Dylan Stout.

**WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE**

2018 Operating Budget	\$ 11,600,000
Expected Income to Date	\$ 3,665,979
Actual Income to Date (5/27/18)	\$ 3,859,702
Current Income Surplus	\$ 193,723
Needed to Meet 2018 Budget	\$ 7,740,298

**Please Pray for MDPC Ministry Partners**

This week, join us in lifting in prayer these MDPC partners in ministry:

**His Grace Foundation** provides physical, emotional, and financial support to children receiving bone marrow transplants at Texas Children's Hospital. It also provides critical support to patients' families during the 100-day post-transplant phase, serving approximately 150 patients and families per year.

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

**Home Encouragement** strengthens marriages and encourages strong families in the Greater Houston area. They offer a monthly dinner for married couples, a premarital training class, and other enrichment opportunities.

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

God is at work in the world in unprecedented ways, and **Frontier Fellowship** is privileged to help churches join in what He is doing. It works with congregations and individuals to help them understand God's passion for unreached peoples, what God is doing in the world, and how they can be involved. Frontier Fellowship's goal is to see every ethnic group have its own church, reflecting its own cultural characteristics.

[frontierfellowship.com](http://frontierfellowship.com)



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

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# WRESTLING WITH SCRIPTURE

## When You Eat It You Will Die

Gen. 2:15-17; 3:1-6 | Alf Halvorson preaching

This is the first in our Summer Series on the tough texts of the Bible. Several of you submitted passages that have confused or troubled you. The summer preachers will be taking on as many of those texts as possible this summer, either in sermons or through podcasts.

1. All Christians encounter texts that are tough. What do you do with the tough texts of the Bible? I mentioned three main options in my sermon: dismiss them, like Thomas Jefferson; accept all at face value, like the fundamentalists; or wrestle with them, which is the classic Reformed Christian response. What are the strengths and weaknesses of each approach?
2. Read Genesis 2:15-17 and 3:1-6. Why didn't Adam and Eve drop dead after they ate the apple? Did the snake tell the truth and God lie?
3. And why would God put a tree that you can't eat from in the garden in the first place?
4. I talked about Walter Brueggemann's approach to this passage: that humans are characterized "by vocation, permission, and prohibition." In other words, we are to have purpose, freedom, and boundaries. If those three are not held in good tension, our lives fall to pieces. Give some examples of permission without prohibition, or prohibition without vocation and permission.
5. I shared the three types of death in Scripture. How did that help in this discussion of what kind of death Adam and Eve experienced or would experience?
6. I read two poems. In what ways were they helpful examples and explanations of purpose, permission, and prohibition?
7. Where have you cut the cord with God? Talk about how God in scripture keeps reaching out to humans after repeated sinning. How might you reattach to the cord and the One who holds the cord?

