

ALL Together

The Holy Spirit | Acts 2:1-13
Alf Halvorson preaching

8:30 AM Service

Kickoff Sunday, August 16, 2020

Alf Halvorson preaching

[Acts 2:1-13](#)

Welcome & Call to Worship

Dave Steane

Songs of Praise

Here For You
Praise to the Lord (Joyful, Joyful)

Chris Tomlin
Hymn

Prayer of Confession & Assurance

Clay Brown

Songs of Response

Spirit of the Living God

Daniel Iverson

Moment of Prayer

Dave Steane

Song of Preparation

I Have Decided/My Testimony

Elevation Worship

Message

The Holy Spirit

Alf Halvorson

Song of Response

I Need a Ghost

Brandon Lake

Opportunity to Give & Benediction

Alf Halvorson

Welcome & Call to Worship

Meliza Gómez



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



Together ALL

The Holy Spirit | Acts 2:1-13
Alf Halvorson preaching

9:45 AM Service

Kickoff Sunday, August 16, 2020

Alf Halvorson preaching

[Acts 2:1-13](#)

Song of Praise	<i>Here for You</i>	Chris Tomlin
Kids' Moment		Children's Ministry
Moment of Confession & Assurance		Amy Delgado
Songs of Response	<i>I Have Decided/ My Testimony Holy Spirit</i>	Elevation Worship Jesus Culture
Message	<i>The Holy Spirit</i>	Alf Halvorson
Song of Response	<i>I Need a Ghost</i>	Brandon Lake
Moment of Prayer		Amy Delgado
Opportunity to Give & Benediction		Alf Halvorson



Sunday Worship Playlist

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Together ALL

The Holy Spirit | Acts 2:1-13
Alf Halvorson preaching

11:15 AM Service

Kickoff Sunday, August 16, 2020

Alf Halvorson preaching

[Acts 2:1-13](#)

Prelude	<i>This Is My Father's World</i>	arr. Brant Adams (b. 1944)
Welcome & Call to Worship		Dave Steane
Choral Introit	<i>All Creatures of Our God and King</i>	arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)
Hymn of Praise	<i>Standing on the Promises</i>	PROMISES
Prayer of Confession and Assurance		Almir Diaz
Anthem	<i>Steal Away</i>	arr. Howard Helvey (b. 1968)
Pastoral Prayer		Dave Steane
Anthem of Preparation	<i>I Am Not My Own</i>	Craig Courtney (b. 1948)
Message	<i>The Holy Spirit</i>	Alf Halvorson
Hymn of Response	<i>Spirit of the Living God</i>	LIVING GOD
Opportunity to Give & Benediction		Alf Halvorson
Postlude	<i>Sacred Harp Medley</i>	arr. Brant Adams (b. 1944)

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MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Kickoff Sunday, August 16, 2020

It's Kickoff Sunday, and even though it looks differently this year, there are still many programs and studies starting up again. Look over the featured opportunities here, or to view all upcoming events, visit events.mdpc.org.



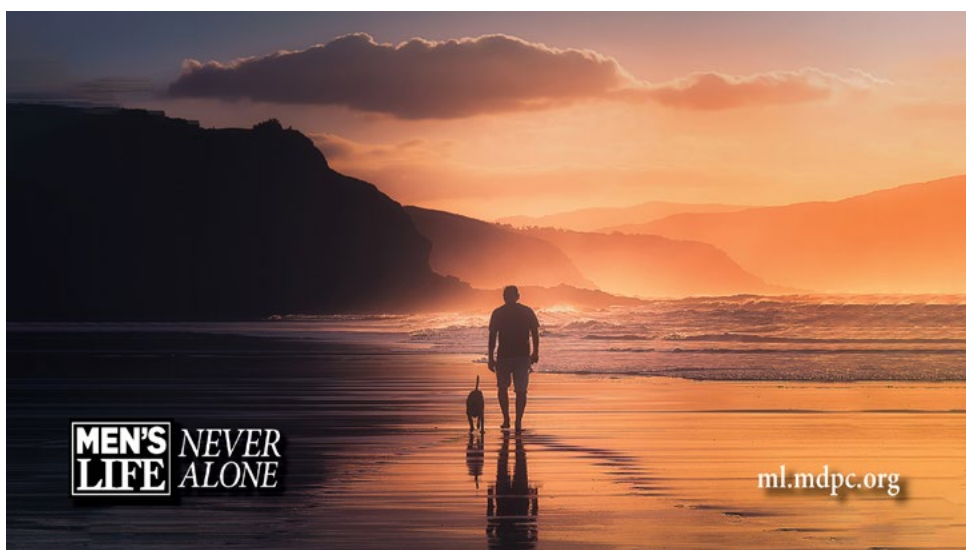
MDPC's annual MAM Back to School drive is happening now, and your support is needed this year more than ever! Please visit mambts.mdpc.org to learn more and support local kids.



You aren't alone! Join other widows on August 19 for a time of fellowship and support. All women are welcome (no matter where you are on the journey), so come for connection and for new friends and laughter, too. This will be the first of future gatherings. [Register here](#) for the Zoom link.



Even in these difficult times, our MDPC Mission Partners are still hard at work providing needed services to their clients and sharing the love of Jesus. To hear some of their stories, visit stories.mdpc.org.



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.



Our church family has so many stories of God's faithfulness and action and presence...we want them to be heard. Life Is More is an effort to collect these stories to encourage individuals, and to grow the Kingdom. Will you share? Visit lifeismore.mdpc.org to learn more.



MDPC is seeking its next class of Elders and Deacons. Who do you know who's equipped to lead our church into the new-normal future we're facing? Visit nominations.mdpc.org to submit your nominations by August 25.



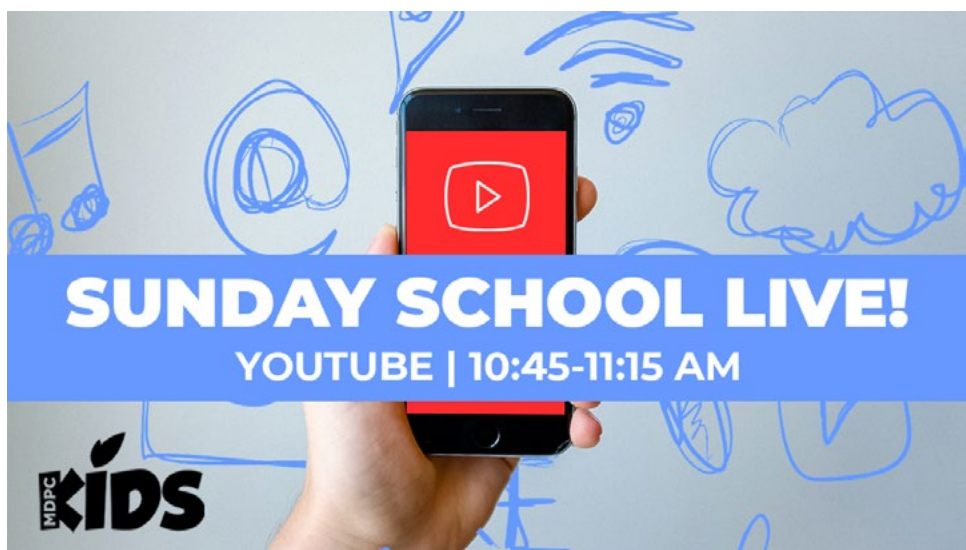
Churches across the nation are coming together, in whatever ways we can, to invite God's kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven. Click [here](#) to learn more and sign up to join us on August 20.



Are you wanting to go deeper in your knowledge of the Bible and theology? Rev. Dr. Clay Brown and Laurien Hook are teaching two new Zoom classes on Wednesday nights starting August 19. Visit theologymatters.mdpc.org for more information and to register!



This fall, MDPC will study the Book of ACTS, beginning the week of August 16, and will include existing Sunday School classes, Sunday morning [pastor-led classes](#), and a Wednesday night small group. Visit [ACTS.mdpc.org](https://acts.mdpc.org) for details. No registration required.



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.



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.



This is the first of four messages in our Fall Kick-Off Series on Acts [chapter 2](#) & [chapter 8](#) (to complement what most of our Sunday School Classes and Small Groups are doing by studying Acts 1-14 this Fall and Winter. A couple of contextual helps first. Acts was most likely written around 62 AD. The range could be as late as 85AD, but there is no outcome of Paul's trial of around 64 AD listed; no mention of Nero's persecution which began in 64 AD; and no reference to the great Temple in Jerusalem being sacked in 70 AD. Those omissions suggest an early date.

The author is Luke, who was a physician who uses technical medical terms for blood and surgery in the Gospel of Luke and Acts. He was a travelling companion and friend of Paul's and eyewitness of much of what is recorded in Acts, esp. [Acts 16-28](#) where Luke uses the pronoun 'we' to suggest that he was with Paul during these incidences and at these speeches, etc. Finally, the audience is a man named Theophilus. Most scholars believe that this is a real person (a high ranking Roman Governmental Official; but theo=God and philein=love, so it could mean 'lover of God' in general. To unbelieving Jews and Romans, Christianity was a disorderly sect, one that disrupted Judaism, threatened Roman Worship of multiple gods, and affirmed Jesus as Lord not Ceasar. So, opponents of Christianity said it "hated the human race." One reason for Acts is to affirm that Christianity loved all people and would have a good effect or bear good fruit if you embraced it. God is on a mission to all nations. The momentum of Acts is outward—geographically and ethnically. Acts 1:8 says, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts plays this thesis out in its chapters and stories and speeches. It has much to teach us today. I could not be more excited to have us start our Fall seeing how the church was formed and how they lived to carry out Christ's mission to and in the world.

1. Read [Acts 1:4-5](#), [14](#) & [2:1-13](#). What has "all together" meant to you during COVID-19? Have you been with a lot of people and wish you had some 'alone time,' or have you been isolated and crave connection? What do you think was the "state of mind" of the disciples as they waited for the gift of the Holy Spirit?
2. Describe what happened when the Spirit arrived. What were the sounds and sights? What did the indwelling and filling produce? How did the Jews and proselytes (Gentiles who were converting to the Jewish Faith) react, especially look at verses 7 and 12-13?
3. Look for every occurrence of these words in the passage: each, every, own, and all. Why does Luke emphasize these words? What is the point he is trying to make geographically, ethnically, and theologically? Why do we need to hear this point today?
4. Read or recite from memory [John 3:16](#). If the Good News of Jesus Christ is only for a few, is it really 'Good News' or just bad news? If "*God so loved the world....*", what is our responsibility to the world as followers of the Triune God? How does our answer to this pivotal issue influence our ethics, our attitude toward grace and truth, our commitment or lack of commitment to social justice & mission, and our zeal and passion (or lack of both) regarding evangelism and outreach? Pray that the Spirit might empower you individually and us as a church to be witnesses to the Wonders of God in our day.