



August 23, 2026
11 A.M. Worship Service

Gathering Meditation

"Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all." ~ Dale Carnegie (AtoZQuotes.com)

Order of Worship

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Chiming the Hour

Let us take a quiet moment to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Welcome

Kathy Leslie

The Community Gathers

Prelude

Resting in God's Arms

arr. Mark Hayes

*Call to Worship

Gary Springer

Leader: In times of deep darkness, when powers oppress and hope seems thin,

People: God is watching, weaving a plan of deliverance.

Leader: From the courage of midwives to a mother's fierce love,

People: God works through the small, the brave, and the vulnerable.

Leader: From a tiny basket floating on dangerous waters,

People: God raises up leaders and rewrites our stories.

Leader: Come, let us worship the One who hears our cries and rescues us from the deep.

People: Praise be to God, our refuge and our deliverer! Amen.

*Opening Hymn 622

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

Invocation

Rev. Derek Wilkerson

Musical Response 281

*Creator, Spirit
Hear Us Sing*

TALLIS' CANON

Dismissal for Children's Church

Children ages five through fifth grade may leave with the adult leaders for Children's Worship. They are also welcome to remain in the sanctuary with their parents.

The Community Proclaims God's Word

Scripture Reading

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Gary Spriner

Now a new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians subjected the Israelites to hard servitude and made their lives bitter with hard servitude in mortar and bricks and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women and see them on the birthstool, if it is a

son, kill him, but if it is a daughter, she shall live.” But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this and allowed the boys to live?” The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women, for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” So God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every son that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every daughter live.” Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,” she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?” Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Yes.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, “because,” she said, “I drew him out of the water.”

(NRSVUE)

Pero llegó al poder en Egipto un nuevo rey que no había conocido a José y dijo a su pueblo: «¡Cuidado con los israelitas, que ya son más fuertes y numerosos que nosotros! Vamos a tener que manejarlos con mucha astucia; de lo contrario, seguirán aumentando y, si estalla una guerra, se unirán a nuestros enemigos, nos combatirán y se irán del país». Fue así como los egipcios pusieron capataces para que oprimieran a los israelitas. Les impusieron trabajos forzados, tales como los de edificar para el faraón las ciudades de almacenaje Pitón y Ramsés. Pero cuanto más los oprimían, más se multiplicaban y se extendían, de modo que los egipcios llegaron a tenerles miedo; por eso les imponían trabajos pesados y los trataban con crueldad. Les amargaban la vida obligándolos a hacer mezcla, ladrillos y todas las labores del campo. En todos los trabajos de esclavos que los israelitas realizaban, los egipcios los trataban con crueldad. Había dos parteras de las hebreas, llamadas Sifrá y Fuvá, a las que el rey de Egipto ordenó: —Cuando ayuden a las hebreas en sus partos, fíjense en el sexo: si es niño, mátenlo; pero si es niña, déjenla con vida. Sin embargo, las parteras temían a Dios, así que no siguieron las órdenes del rey de Egipto, sino que dejaron con vida a los varones. Entonces el rey de Egipto mandó llamar a las parteras y les preguntó: —¿Por qué han hecho esto? ¿Por qué han dejado con vida a los varones? Las parteras respondieron: —Resulta que las hebreas no son como las egipcias, sino que están llenas de vida y dan a luz antes de que lleguemos. De este modo los israelitas se hicieron más numerosos y más fuertes. Además, Dios trató muy bien a las parteras y, por haberse mostrado

temerosas de Dios, les concedió tener muchos hijos. El faraón, por su parte, dio esta orden a todo su pueblo: —¡Tiren al río a todos los niños hebreos que nazcan! A las niñas, déjenlas con vida. Hubo un levita que tomó por esposa a una mujer de su propia tribu. La mujer quedó embarazada y tuvo un hijo, y al verlo tan hermoso lo escondió durante tres meses. Cuando ya no pudo seguir ocultándolo, preparó una cesta de papiro, la embadurnó con brea y asfalto. Después puso en ella al niño y fue a dejar la cesta entre los juncos que había a la orilla del Nilo. Pero la hermana del niño se quedó a cierta distancia para ver qué pasaría con él. En eso, la hija del faraón bajó a bañarse en el Nilo. Sus doncellas, mientras tanto, se paseaban por la orilla del río. De pronto, la hija del faraón vio la cesta entre los juncos y ordenó a una de sus esclavas que fuera por ella. Cuando la hija del faraón abrió la cesta y vio allí dentro un niño que lloraba, le tuvo compasión y exclamó: —¡Es un niño hebreo! La hermana del niño preguntó entonces a la hija del faraón: —¿Quiere usted que vaya y llame a una nodriza hebrea, para que críe al niño por usted? —Ve a llamarla —contestó. La muchacha fue y trajo a la madre del niño, 9 y la hija del faraón le dijo: —Llévate a este niño y críamelo. Yo te pagaré por hacerlo. Fue así como la madre del niño se lo llevó y lo crio. Ya crecido el niño, se lo llevó a la hija del faraón y ella lo adoptó como hijo suyo; además, le puso por nombre Moisés, pues dijo: «¡Yo lo saqué del río!». (NVI)

Special Music *Lead Me, Guide Me, Along the Way* Doris Akers

Sermon "Imagining Anew" Rev. Derek Wilkerson

Musical Response 294 *Here We Gather as God's People* NETTLETON

Prayers of the People Rev. John O'Neal

The Lord's Prayer Congregation

Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to Giving Rev. Dr. Roger Wedell

Responsive Hymn 379 *Accept, O God, the Gifts We Bring* ELLACOMBE

The Community Is Empowered at the Table

Passing of the Peace Rev. Derek Wilkerson

Communion Hymn 384 *Here at Thy Table, Lord* BREAD OF LIFE

Invitation to the Table Tinker Miller

Prayer over the Elements Tinker Miller

Words of Institution Rev. Derek Wilkerson

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing the Cup

Those who are able are invited to come forward down the center aisle, receive the elements and partake by intinction. Those serving will tear a piece of bread. You will dip it in the cup. You may return to your seat via the side aisles. The Table of the Lord is open to all. Christ invites us into communion.

The Community is Sent to Restore God's World

Invitation to Join

Tinker Miller

***Invitation Hymn 452**

Here I Am, Lord

HERE I AM, LORD

***Benediction**

Rev. Derek Wilkerson

Postlude

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

arr. John Purifoy

*Please rise in either body or spirit.

INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP

You are invited to meet after worship with the Elder offering the invitation,
or contact the church office any time.

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

"Reaffirming our own faith in Jesus Christ, we welcome you into this expression of God's universal church. We meet you with love, we commit ourselves to your care, and we celebrate your presence in our congregation. Through the power of God's spirit, let us together do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God, who strengthens us to serve one another."

BIENVENIDA CONGREGACIONAL

"Reafirmando nuestra propia fe en Jesucristo, les damos la bienvenida a esta expresión de la iglesia universal de Dios. Los recibimos con amor, nos comprometemos a su cuidado y celebramos su presencia en nuestra congregación. Mediante el poder del espíritu de Dios, hagamos juntos justicia, amemos la misericordia y caminemos humildemente con Dios, quien nos fortalece para servirnos unos a otros."

VISION STATEMENT

Midway Hills Christian Church seeks to **be inclusive, do justice and embrace diversity**. We are an Open and Affirming congregation, unified in our love for Jesus Christ and his teachings. We understand biblical shalom as a call to act for justice and to respect God's creation. We cherish the gift of life and support each other in our spiritual journey. Grounded in worship, Bible study, and prayer, we seek to be instruments of God's healing through efforts to eliminate poverty, injustice, hunger and social issues that affect our community locally and globally. We seek to transform our world as we build bridges across all barriers that divide God's people.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

(See The Echo newsletter and Friday Flash emails for details and more.)

We welcome Rev. Derek Wilkerson as guest preacher today.

Rev. Derek is a Disciples of Christ ordained minister, who has served congregational and specialized settings throughout North Texas.

Help us stay connected.

Please review the contact information Midway Hills has for you and your household. Visit <https://midwayhills.churchcenter.com/me>, sign in if prompted, and select Profile & Household. Keeping your email address, phone number, and household information current helps us stay connected with you.

First Tuesday Ladies Who Lunch meets September 1 at 11:30 a.m.

Join us at Casa Navarro, 11742-A Marsh Lane, at Forest Lane.

Have you heard about the family internment camps in Texas?

Adult Sunday School is reading and discussing *The Train to Crystal City*, by Joe Jarboe Russell, which describes the motivations of our government and the lives of those impacted by this 1942 era program. Learn about parallels with our present time, and possible responses, both then and now. Join us in Room 1 at 10:00 a.m. Sundays.

Mark your calendar:

Mission & Outreach Committee - August 23, 12:15 p.m.

Elders Meeting - August 30, 12:30 p.m.

Cabinet Meeting - September 3, 7:00 p.m.

Finance Committee - September 10, 7:00 p.m.

Board Meeting - September 20, 12:15 p.m.

All Church Prayer - Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. on Zoom

Prayer Alcove - Thursdays, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Adult Book Discussion - Sundays, 10:00 a.m., room 1

Scan this QR code
to make a financial
contribution to
Midway Hills
Christian Church:



Prelude: *Resting in God's Arms*, arr. Mark Hayes. ©2018 Lorenz Publishing Co.

Special Music: *Lead Me, Guide Me, Along the Way*, arr. Doris Akers. ©1953 Unichappel Music, Inc.

Postlude: *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*, arr. John Purifoy. ©2002 Lorenz Publishing Co.

We record our services live and for social media use. Music reprinted and streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-711616 and Christian Copyright Solutions license #15197. Hymns (unless noted) from Chalice Hymnal ©1995 Chalice Press. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVUE) ©2021 National Council of Churches and the Society of Biblical Literature. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Scripture quotations from La Santa Biblia, Nueva Versión Internacional® NVI® Copyright 1999 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

JOYS, CONCERNS AND PRAYERS

Please pray for these in our church family:

Don and Elaine Manworren; Chris and Jayne Sparrer; Dan Gaylord

Please pray for our extended church family concerns:

James Lackey's sister Jessica; Robin Copeland's brother Wade Keller; Jack van Wunnik —surgery recovery; Mary Ludwick's sister, Alice Collins; Rev. Robert Schomp; David Hammons' wife, Joan

Please pray for those with ongoing concerns:

Nina Boothe	Gay and Jim Gilmore	Bryen Lackey
Frank and Millie Martin	Jeryl Crawford	Lynne Stokes
Judy Mank		

Sympathy to:

- ❖ Mary Ludwick and family on the death of her brother, John Croix.
- ❖ Roger Wedell and family on the passing of his nephew, Brett Wedell.
- ❖ Dan Gaylord and family on the passing of his aunt and uncle.
- ❖ Laura Mitchell and family on the passing of her sister, Mercedes Alcazar, June 20.

Let's celebrate with joy:

- Our guests/visitors in worship in the sanctuary and online

Please pray for our city and state:

- Those facing the difficulties of losing their employment
- Administrators, teachers and students returning to the classroom
- Muslim community
- Religious freedom legislation
- Legislative sessions
- Texas faith-based non-profits serving immigrants and refugees

Please pray for our nation and world:

- **Being inclusive, pursuing justice, embracing diversity**
- Those working for peace in places of conflict and those caught in the cycles of violence
- Justice for the people of Ukraine and others struggling against oppression
- Justice for the Palestinian people
- Those who have limited access to health care and those working to expand access
- Those experiencing discrimination and oppression because of their gender identity, sexual orientation or gender expression
- Those struggling with food insecurity and those working to overcome it
- Those who work to create a larger Welcome Table

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 23, 2026

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 23

9:45 a.m. Choir practice 11:00 a.m. Children's Church
10:00 a.m. Adult Book Discussion, room 1 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
12:15 p.m. Mission & Outreach Committee, conference room

Tuesday

August 25

9:00 a.m. Master Gardeners (until 4:00) exterior gardens
7:30 p.m. AA-PPG & Al-Anon, community hall & classroom 1

Thursday

August 27

8:30 a.m. All Church Prayer, on Zoom
6:00 p.m. Prayer Alcove
7:30 p.m. AA-PPG & Al-Anon, community hall & classroom 1

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 30

9:45 a.m. Choir practice 11:00 a.m. Children's Church
10:00 a.m. Adult Book Discussion, room 1 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
12:15 p.m. John O'Neal & Lowery Ferguson Going Away Party, gathering area
12:30 p.m. Elders Meeting

MIDWAY HILLS STAFF

Jeff Crouse
Director of Music Ministries

David Hammons
Administrative Assistant

Douglass Anne Cartwright
Bookkeeper

TECH CREW
James Lackey
John Leslie

GRAPHICS, WEBSITE
Kate Lynch

AUGUST DEACON
Sara Leslie

AUGUST 23 ELDER
Tinker Miller

Bulletin cover: "Shiphrah, Puah, Jocheved, Miriam, Pharoah's Daughter, and the infant Moses," from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/55961>. Original source: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Dura_Europos_fresco_Moses_from_river.jpg.

Midway Hills Christian Church • 11001 Midway Road, Dallas, TX 75229
www.midwayhills.org • 214-352-4841

