

# First Congregational Church

Admiral Boulevard at Highland Avenue

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

WILLIAM C. BURTON, D. D.  
MINISTER

March 21st, 1943.

Amon Carter,  
Fort Worth, Texas.  
My Dear Mr Carter:

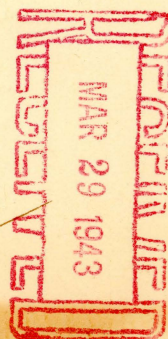
You very likely do not remember me as an individual, so may I indentify myself as the nephew of the late Dr William A. Durringer,--a great soul beneath a rough exterior and a great surgeon.

I have just learned thru a mutual friend of your anxiety concerning your son. I share with you this uncertainty and trust his fate is not so bad as you think. Of course it is human to worry, especially when matters concern our own flesh and blood. But sir, there "is a destiny that shapes our ends, rough hew them as we may",--some people call it God and it is faith in this God, or implicit confidence in the ultimate decency of things, that enables us to endure, even the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune".

We must have in these tragic days a spiritual capacity to interpret contemporary life with all its chaos, in terms of a better and more orderly life tomorrow!

Sincere personal regards and my remembrance of you in prayer.

*William C. Burton.*





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Kansas City, Missouri

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### THE SANCTUARY AND THE SERVICE

In the quiet and sacredness of this holy place may each person come to know the presence of God, and experience fellowship with Christ. In communion with the Infinite and in this comradeship with each other, may we get that courage and that undiscourageable faith so badly needed for these days. Utter a silent prayer for the service.

Let the organ prelude be a veil dropped between the every day life and the Sanctuary. Be silent, be reverent, be prayerful.

ORDER OF WORSHIP  
March 7, 1943

Organ Prelude -----"Reverie" ----- Nicode  
Mrs. Mamie Guy, Organist

Processional -----"For the Beauty of the Earth" ----- No.100

The Gloria

The Responsive Call to Worship, Lord's Prayer and Choral Response  
Minister: God and Father of us all, in spite of storms that rage without, grant us thy peace in the sanctity of this hour.

People: Help us, O God, to know that regardless of the trouble that so disturbs our world, we may find comfort in thy love and care.

Minister: Enable us to cease worrying, and in this time of fellowship and communion, renew our strength to carry on.

People: So with quiet and confident hearts, help us to face life's struggles, grateful for thy leadership and loving care.

\* \* \*

Hymn -----"Day of Rest and Gladness" ----- No.46

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The Quiet Meditation

In these bewildering days, our great need is FAITH, -- faith in God and man, faith in ourselves and in the final triumph of right.

"O for a faith that will not shrink, the pressed by many a foe,  
That will not tremble on the brink of poverty and woe.

That will not murmur nor complain, beneath the chastening rod,  
But in the hour of grief or pain, can lean upon its God.

A faith that sineth bright and clear as tempests rage without,  
That when in danger, knows no fear, in darkness feels no doubt".

If we would live fearlessly and victoriously during these trying days, we must pray for and practice faith.

Anthem -----"At the Gate of Heaven" ----- Spanish  
Junior Choir

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Responsive Reading ----"Under the Shadow of the Almighty" --- No.577

Our Silent Prayer, Minister's Prayer and Choral Amen

God of my life, grant me a portion of Christ, in whose valiant life I discover loyalty, in whose courageous soul I perceive heroism, in whose lovely spirit I discover the life of Thyself. Make me worthy of such a Master and grateful for His comradeship.

\* \* \*

Hymn -----"We are Living, We are Dwelling" -----No. 185

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The Reading from the Scriptures

Offering Received and Consecrated

Organ Interlude

Anthem -----"The Lord is Exalted" ----- West

The Sermon ----- "Where from Here" -----Dr. Burton

Recessional -----"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" -----No. 9

Benediction

Postlude -----"March in D" ----- Whitney  
(Ushers will seat people as indicated by \* \* \*)

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MEETING tonight at 7:00 o'clock.

F.C.C. CLUB will have a dinner and business meeting Monday evening March 8th, at the home of Miss Shirley Fisk, 914 E. 41st.

THE CONGREGATIONAL WOMEN'S NOONDAY CLUB will meet on Tuesday, March 9th, at Ivanhoe Park Church. All women of the churches are invited to attend an open meeting of the State Board at 11:30 a.m. for an informative program. Mrs. R.H. Jennings, who has spent some time in Jerusalem and Edinburgh, will speak on "An Old Testament Story in 1943". Call the church office for Reservations.

WEDNESDAY, RED CROSS SEWING, knitting and quilting at 1:00 o'clock.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER at 6:30 p.m.

#### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, FRIDAY, MARCH 12th.

All Christian peoples throughout the world are uniting in a day of prayer, to bring all nationalities, races and peoples together in love and understanding. First Church will be the meeting place for Kansas City Churches. Speaker, Rev. H.G. Hilscher, returned missionary from China. Time, 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. Please plan to attend.

## CHRISTIAN POISE IN A WORLD OF PANIC

We live in headline excitement to day as the aggressor's sword cuts a wider swath, and tyranny marches relentlessly on. Multitudes are afraid, but the Christian, even in these chaotic days, though at times confused, can experience confidence and poise.

Last week I saw the sun, like a great ball of fire, sink beneath the horizon, black, heavy clouds moved threateningly across the sky. Darkness came on, and the storm seemingly angry at the earth, began to lash with wind and rain everything in its path. The next morning I saw the same sun emerge over the horizon and cast its brilliant rays of golden light across the world. How like life that is, -- fading light, glowering clouds, the dark, the storm, and then a new and glorious day! Can we not have faith that the God who gives us the storm, will also give us sunshine on the morrow?

A while ago I received a letter from a loyal member of our church, a loyalty expressed by generous giving and consistent attendance at worship. I have read the letter many times and each time it brings encouragement, strengthens my faith, especially by this statement, "We believe in the ultimate triumph of right and truth; then why be so disturbed by the unsettled condition of world affairs?" My friend is right. Down through the centuries, civilization has been threatened. Pagan philosophies and tyrant leaders have beaten themselves to death against the irrevocable laws of God. Waves of hatred and strife are surging against humanity in attempts to destroy the spirit of love and fraternalism. But today, the church, in the name of brotherhood, must proclaim a New Order!

What is the mission of the church? The present situation in the world constitutes a profound spiritual test for churches everywhere. It is the business of the church to create and cultivate more Christians, insist upon a spiritual interpretation of social issues and urge the application of Christian principles throughout the realm of human relationships. The church must undertake the task of bringing out of the chaos of enmities, revengeful attitudes and hatreds, a new order founded upon and regulated by a spirit of kindness, mutual appreciation and love.

Christian poise in a world of panic can be a real experience, through faith in God and "in the ultimate triumph of right and truth." It is such a faith that will not only enable our disturbed world to weather the storm, but upon which we must build the better world of tomorrow.