SERMON NOTES | Acts 3:1-4:31

Sun, Oct 11, 2026

Written by Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson

Acts chapters 3–4 show how the risen Jesus works through ordinary people who are willing to be interrupted. As you discuss this message, consider where God may be inviting you to notice someone in need, point others to Jesus, remain faithful under pressure, and depend on prayer for courage.

1. When has an unexpected interruption become an opportunity for God to work in or through you?

2. Read Acts 3:1–4:31. In Acts 3:1–10, what need interrupts Peter and John? What do they offer the man—and what do they not offer?

3. Who is easy for you to overlook or pass by? How might God be asking you to stop, see that person, and treat them with greater dignity?

4. In Acts 3:11–26, Peter points the crowd away from himself and toward Jesus. When God gives us influence or attention, what helps us resist taking the credit and use that opportunity to point others to Jesus?

5. In Acts 4:1–22, who opposes Peter and John, and why? How do Peter and John respond to the pressure they face?

6. Where are you experiencing pressure to stay quiet or compromise your faithfulness to Jesus? In Acts 4:23–31, how do prayer and community strengthen Peter, John, and the other disciples? What would it look like for you to pray for boldness with others—and then act with courage—this week?

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Helping Your College Student
Tue, Oct 13 | 7pm | Middle School Room
Parents, come hear from Maddie Stiers, PhD, LCSW-S, who will lead a discussion on *When They're Struggling: Helping Your College Student Navigate Mental Health & Crisis.* Learn more and RSVP: **youthevents.mdpc.org**

How to Study Your Bible
Wed, Oct 14-21 | 10-11:30am | Parlor
Join other MDPC women as Pastor Beth digs into the book of Colossians while highlighting different methods of study. Be inspired by this uplifting book that reminds us of the supremacy of Christ and the incredible hope we have in Him!

Date Change: Kids' Meals
Moved to Wed, Oct 21 | 4:30pm
The Kids' Meals service project scheduled for this week will now take place on Oct 21. If you registered for the 14th, please re-register for the new date: **km.mdpc.org**

Thanksgiving Meal in a Bag
Collecting Oct 18-Nov 15
Our goal this year is 1,300 bags, and we need your help! Pick up a grocery bag on campus, fill it with specific items, and return to MDPC. You'll be helping local families celebrate Thanksgiving! Learn more and see the item list: **meal.mdpc.org**

Aging Roadmap
Thursdays, Oct 29, Nov 5 & 12 | 1-3pm | Rm 122
The key to aging well is planning your aging journey. This free three-week program will help you determine your next steps! Details and registration: **roadmap.mdpc.org**

Parent Night: Reaching Gen Alpha
Fri, Nov 6 | 7-8pm
Join us for a free Parent Presentation with Kara Powell, PhD, as she shares practical insights for understanding, supporting, and connecting with Gen Alpha and the next generation.

Sharing the BIG Story
Sundays thru Nov 8 | 11:15am | Summit Room
Sharing the Big Story of the gospel doesn't have to be big and scary. Come be equipped with simple, practical skills for sharing the love of Christ with others in a way that aligns with how God created you. Learn more: **sharing.mdpc.org**

Children's Choir
Sundays, 12:30pm | Choir Room
Children ages 5-11 are welcome to join Children's Choir! In a fun and encouraging Christian environment, children will learn music, grow in their faith, and share the joy of singing with others. Learn more: **childrenschoir.mdpc.org**

Youth Connection
Every Sunday | 11:15am-12:15 pm
Students come together for fellowship, teaching, and worship. Middle and high school meet separately. All ages, come to the Youth Loft upstairs in the CLC and we'll get you sorted!

Adults 55+ Fellowship
Dinners, lunches, fellowship events, and get-togethers over games and puzzles. All adults 55+ are welcome! Find details on all activities at **adults55plus.mdpc.org.**



As you enter worship, we kindly ask that you silence your cell phones.

8:30 BLENDED SERVICE

GATHERING

Call to Worship — Brett Hurst

*Songs of Praise — *Everlasting God* | *How Great Thou Art*

Confession & Assurance — Matthew Adair

Song of Response — *Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me*

Prayer — Brett Hurst

Worship Song — *Cornerstone*

HEARING THE WORD

Message — **Interrupted & Sent: The Church Before the Building When Growth Creates Pressure** (Acts 3-4) — Alf Halvorson

RESPONDING

Hymn of Response — *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* | Vs. 1, 2, 3

SENDING

*Benediction — Alf Halvorson

9:30 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

GATHERING

Call to Worship — Michael Middleton

*Songs of Praise — *Great Things Medley*

Confession & Assurance — Matthew Adair

Baptisms — Dan Aikins, Alf Halvorson

Andrew Jesse Torres, son of Edgar and Ellie Torres
Oliver Daniel Torres, son of Edgar and Ellie Torres
Miller Ted Sheets, son of Colton and Holly Sheets
Truman David Kingsley, son of John and Thora Kingsley
Briar Emerson Kingsley, daughter of John and Thora Kingsley

Congregational Response

Connecting Moment — Dan Aikins

Worship Songs — *The Joy* | *Cornerstone*

HEARING THE WORD

Message — **Interrupted & Sent: The Church Before the Building When Growth Creates Pressure** (Acts 3-4) — Alf Halvorson

RESPONDING

Song of Response — *Washed*

Baptisms — Rachel Poysky, Alf Halvorson

Mackenzie Kate Mora, daughter of Eric and Sidnie Mora
Madeline Nicole Mora, daughter of Eric and Sidnie Mora
John Henry Kingsley III, son of John and Thora Kingsley
Ava Catherine Drum, daughter of Hayden and Laura Drum

SENDING

*Benediction — Alf Halvorson

†Blended and Contemporary Worship Leaders
MDPC Worship Team: Uvaldo Callejas, David Cavazos, Asher Pudlo, Will Story,
Meliza Gómez, Contemporary Worship Director | Michael Middleton, Generational Worship Director
†Kathryn White, organist

* Please stand, if comfortable.

11:15 TRADITIONAL SERVICE

GATHERING

Preludes — *Sonata No. 3 in A Major* — Felix Mendelssohn (1809-18479)

Call to Worship — Christyn Knoop

Choral Introit — *Arise, All Ye People* — Michael Jothen (b. 1944)

*Hymn of Praise — *Crown Him with Many Crowns* | Vs. 1, 3, 4 — #151 | Diademata

*Confession and Assurance of Pardon — Paul Ehrsam

*Affirmation of Faith from The Apostles' Creed

*Congregational Response

Psalm 34 – I'll Bless the Lord from Day to Day — #466 | Azmon

HEARING THE WORD

Anthem of Preparation — *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* — arr. Eric Nelson (b. 1959)

Message — **Interrupted & Sent: The Church Before the Building When Growth Creates Pressure** (Acts 3-4) — Alf Halvorson

RESPONDING

*Hymn of Response — *Thine Is the Glory* | Vs. 1 — #122 | Judas Maccabeus

Prayer — Christyn Knoop

Anthem of Response — *There Is a Balm in Gilead* — arr. Bruce Saylor (b. 1946)

SENDING

*Doxology — *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* — #592 | Old 100th

*Benediction — Alf Halvorson

Postlude — *Molto Moderato from Sonata No. 1* — Giovanni Pergolesi (1710-1736)

Traditional Worship Leaders
Gabrielle Tyler, soloist | Sanctuary Choir | Kathryn White, organist
Charles Hausmann, Traditional Worship Director

* Please stand, if comfortable.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Campus Closure: Oct 12

The MDPC campus and schools are closed on **Mon, Oct 12**. There will be no programming or lunch service.

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Sign up to receive the weekly email with Sunday information and upcoming events, and download the MDPC app for past sermons, event registrations, and more, right in your pocket! Scan the QR code or visit **mymdpc.mdpc.org**



Remember Our Frontline Mission Partners

MDPC partners in local and global ministry truly covet your prayers! Find out this week's prayer recipients by picking up the prayer booklet available around campus or visit **partners.mdpc.org**.

Financial Update as of Oct 4, 2026

2026 Annual Budget	$ 14,728,728
Actual Income to Date	9,893,498
Needed to Meet 2026 Budget	4,835,230

Births and Deaths

Dick Harvin passed away October 2.
Nancy Laughbaum passed away October 2.
More information at memorials.mdpc.org.