



METROCREST

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The King & His Kingdom

**Holy Communion
Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 12, 2024**

Welcome!

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
To all who mourn and long for comfort;
To all who struggle and desire victory;
To all who sin and need a Savior;
To all who are strangers and want fellowship;
And to whoever will come –

*This church opens wide her doors and offers her welcome
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

God Calls Us To Worship

Welcome

Announcements

Call to Worship - Psalm 22:27-28

Leader: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.

Unison: For kingship belongs to the LORD, and He rules over the nations.

We Respond To God's Call

Easter Acclamation

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Unison: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Opening Hymn - "Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed"

How can it be the One who died
Has borne our sin through sacrifice,
To conquer every sting of death –
Sing, sing hallelujah!

For joy awakes as dawning light
When Christ's disciples lift their eyes.
Alive He stands, their Friend and King –
Christ, Christ, He is risen!

(Refrain)

Christ is risen, He is risen indeed.

Oh, sing hallelujah!

Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed:

Christ is risen, He is risen indeed.

Where doubt and darkness once had been,
They saw Him and their hearts believed.
But blessed are those who have not seen
Yet sing hallelujah!

Once bound by fear, now bold in faith,
They preached the truth and power of grace,
And pouring out their lives they gained
Life, life everlasting. **(Refrain)**

The power that raised Him from the grave
Now works in us to powerfully save.
He frees our hearts to live His grace –
Go, tell of His goodness! **(Refrain)**

He is risen – He's alive! He's alive!
Heaven's gates are opened wide.
He's alive! He's alive!
Now in heaven glorified.

Acknowledging God's Presence

Worship Theme - "The Resurrected King and Us"

Theme Verse - Matthew 28:20a

[Jesus said] "Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Hymn - "How Firm a Foundation"

Trinity Hymnal #94

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;
For I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call you to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply;
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

"E'en down to old age all my people shall prove
My sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,
Like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to His foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

We Confess Our Sins

Call to Confession

Confession of Sin

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against Your holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. Have mercy upon us, O Lord: spare all those who confess their faults, and restore all those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen.

Please take a moment to confess your individual sins to the Lord.

Assurance of Pardon - Romans 8:1-3a

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending His Own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh.

Hymn - "Abide with Me"

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

Thou on my head in early youth didst smile.
And, though rebellious and perverse, meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, oft as I left Thee;
On to the close, Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight; tears lose their bitterness.
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?
I triumph still – abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

We Profess Our Faith And Pray

Affirmation of Faith - Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father. By Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made man. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried. The third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will have no end. And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Greeting

Hymn - "O Love that Will Not Let Me Go"

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe,
That in Thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that follow'st all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to Thee.
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to Thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain;
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from Thee;
I lay in dust, life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

We Receive God's Word

Reading God's Word - Matthew 28:20b

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Unison: Thanks be to God.

Understanding and Applying God's Word

Pastor Bill Lovell

"The Resurrected King and Us"

We Commune At God's Table

Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Unison: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Unison: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Unison: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Unison: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Glory to You, O Lord, most high.

Words of Institution

Holy Communion

Please come forward as directed, and wait to consume the elements until all have been served. Please dispose of used cups in the receptacles as you leave.

Prayer after Holy Communion

Eternal God, heavenly Father, You have graciously accepted us as living members of Your family. Through Your Son Jesus Christ, You have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of His body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve You with gladness and singleness of heart. We ask in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Respond To God's Grace

Offertory Sentence - Hebrews 13:15-16

Closing Hymn - "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

Tune: Hyfrodol

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, His the throne.
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of resurrection
Thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of every nation
Has redeemed us by His blood."

Alleluia! Not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now.
Alleluia! He is near us;
Faith believes, nor questions how.
Tho' the cloud from sight received Him
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget His promise,
"I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
Here on earth our food, our stay.
Alleluia! Here the sinful
Flee to You from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.

God Sends Us Out With His Blessing

Blessing - Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in you that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

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Sermon Text

English Standard Version - Matthew 28:20b

28:20b [And Jesus said to his disciples] "Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Sermon Notes

Matthew 28:20b

Pastor Bill Lovell

"The Resurrected King and Us"

Sermon Series: "The King & His Kingdom"

"You were closer to me than I am to myself." ~ St. Augustine

Church Life Notes

Today – May 12, 2024

1. **Seventh Sunday of Easter:** Today is the seventh (and last) Sunday of Easter 2024. Next Sunday, May 19, is Pentecost, when we will celebrate the promised coming of the Holy Spirit. May 26 is Trinity Sunday.
2. **Holy Communion:** We will share the Lord's Supper today. All who know and worship the Lord Jesus, and are in communion with His church, are invited to come to His table.
3. **Happy Mother's Day:** We extend love, thanks and very best wishes to all MPC moms. Thank you for all you do!
4. **Children's Sunday School Graduation:** To mark the end of the term, our younger Sunday School kids will be recognized.
5. **Serving Today:** Our scheduled Liturgy Leader is James Woods. Our scheduled Prayer Leader is Hayden Bernays.
6. **Giving Online:** To access our secure online giving portal, you may use the QR code on the back of the bulletin.
7. **MPC Youth Ministry:** Tonight, our large group meeting for middle and high school youth will meet from 6:00-8:00pm at the church. If any youth are interested in singing or playing an instrument in youth group, join us at the church at 5:15pm.

Upcoming Activities & Events

8. **Children's Sunday School:** After today, on break until September 8.
9. **Youth Sunday School:** Continues through the summer. Sunday mornings between 9:00-10:00am. Grades 6-12. Mature reflection on the Bible and the Westminster Shorter Catechism.
10. **Adult Sunday School:** Continues through the summer. Sunday mornings between 9:00-10:00am. All ages welcome.
11. **Women's Bible Study:** For info on future plans, please contact Melodie Bajema (214-669-7135 or rbajema5@sbcglobal.net).
12. **Men's Book Group:** For info on future plans, please contact Paul Hartgrove (972-816-2205 - paul.hartgrove@gmail.com).
13. **Monthly Play Date:** On the first Friday of each month, MPC moms and kids are invited to a monthly play date. Our next one is scheduled for Friday, June 7, at 10:00am, at Ashley Marble's home.
14. **Vacation Bible Schools:** MPC families have been invited to participate in two local VBS programs.
 - **Trinity PCA in Plano** - Monday-Friday, June 24-28, mornings. For further details, contact Sarah Scott (214-537-8351, sarah.scott@trinityplano.org).
 - **Blessing Church at MPC** - Monday-Thursday, July 15-18, evenings. For further details, contact Khang Nguyen (714-248-5237, khangnguyen@gmail.com).

News & Needs

15. **Shepherding Elders:** Every member of MPC has an Elder who is available as a resource in your walk with Christ. If you want further info, speak to Pastor Bill Lovell or Ruling Elder Larry Perry.

High Fives & Thanks

16. **New Intern:** Congratulations and high-five to Hayden Bernays, who was approved last weekend to come under care in the North Texas Presbytery and to begin an internship here at Metrocrest. These are critical steps in the process of ordination in the PCA.

Prayer Requests

17. For The World:

- **Those in Positions of Authority** - For God to grant wisdom to Joe Biden, Donald Trump, and all others involved in this year's Presidential election in the US; and to the leaders of all nations.
- **Campus Unrest** - For God to bring peace on our campuses.
- **Armed Conflicts** - For God's mercy on the suffering people in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Russia, Sudan, Yemen, Iran, and Haiti.

18. For Our Church's Mission and Ministry:

- **Witness** - For God to help us grow as obedient servants.
- **Church Finances** - For God's generous provision.

19. For One Another:

- **All MPC Moms** - For God's special blessing on moms, grandmoms, expectant moms, and all those women who are praying to be moms.
- **Expecting Couples** - For God's blessing on Dorian & Joseph Marble, Rachelle & Ben Fant, Olivia & Avery Berg, Maurane & Colton Huckaby, Sam & Josh Wyman, and Nikki & Stephen Grzybowski.
- **Health Issues** - For God's blessing on Yvonne Alford (Bill Lovell's friend), Gwenda Bennett (Laura Stites' mom), Connie Bielefeld (Margaret Marrs' grandmother), Linda Bull (Scott Marrs' friend), Gary Collum (Paul Hartgrove's friend), Max Kizziar, Suzanne Larsen, Cherry Leslie, Ruth Lerner (Elinor Hites' sister), Ariel Lopez, Ashley Marble, Alana Marion, Mike Marion, Tom Mayfield, Ryan & Dianna Muller (friends of Alana Marion), Kristen Novak (Steve & Liz Wallin's daughter), Chip Sayers, David Wamsley, Lori Winn, and Norm Winn.

Welcome to Metrocrest! Please take a moment to leave your contact information with Pastor Bill or a member of the Welcome Team. We would love to know that you worshiped with us today.



How can we pray for you? MPC is a praying church! You can share your prayer requests with us by (1) using one of the cards found in the lobby; or (2) pointing your smartphone camera at this QR code to access a digital card. Please indicate whether your request is private or public. You may also request to pray with an Elder.

Do you want to make a donation? To fund MPC's mission and ministry, we depend on God's provision through you. If you'd like to make a donation this morning, you can do so by (1) placing it in the collection basket during the Offertory; or (2) pointing your smartphone camera at this QR code to access our secure online giving portal.



Thank you for your financial support! At MPC, we aim for financial transparency. Here's where we stand this fiscal year (July-June): Last week's giving - \$11,153; weekly giving goal - \$7,885; actual giving to-date - \$350,769; and projected giving to-date - \$354,808. Please be as generous as you can in your personal stewardship, and please pray for God's faithful provision.



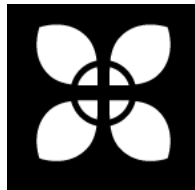
Let's get connected! MPC uses an app called Realm to allow you to update your personal information, communicate with groups and teams, follow church announcements, look up members, manage online giving, and join events. To get started, contact us at info@metrocrestchurch.org

The Session (Elders)

Rick Bajema
Bill Camp
John Fowler
Paul Hartgrove
Bill Lovell, Moderator
Larry Perry, Clerk
James Woods

The Board of Deacons

Dalton Dallas, President
Vianny D'Souza, Clerk
Will Grover, Treasurer
Brian Ray



Bill Lovell

Laura Stites
Nick Rhodes
Will Grover
Joseph Marble
Paul Hartgrove
Diane Kizziar

Pastor

Administrative Assistant
Music Director
Treasurer
Youth Director
Safeguarding Committee
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