



METROCREST

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



January 24, 2021

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

Responsive Call to Worship from Ps. 34:1-3

Leader: I will bless the LORD at all times;
Unison: His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
Leader: My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
Unison: Let the humble hear and be glad.
Leader: Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
Unison: And let us exalt His name together!

We Celebrate The Resurrection

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Trinity Hymnal #295

Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon the throne.
Hark! How the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love;
Behold His hands and side;
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends His burning eye
At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of peace,
Whose pow'r a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
Absorbed in prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end;
And round His pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of years,
The Potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime:
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For Thou hast died for me:
Thy praise shall never, never fail
Throughout eternity.

Acknowledging God's Presence

Worship Theme

Made in the Image of God

Theme Verses

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Genesis 1:26-27

"In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my All in All;
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh;
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save,
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied;
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay;
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again.
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His, and He is mine;
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death;
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand,
Till He returns or calls me home;
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Affirmation of Faith from Heidelberg Catechism, Q+A 99-100

Leader: What is required in the third commandment?

Unison: We are not to blaspheme or to abuse the name of God by cursing, perjury, or unnecessary oaths, nor to share in such horrible sins by being silent bystanders. Rather, we must use the holy name of God only with fear and reverence, so that we may rightly confess Him, call upon Him, and praise Him in all our words and works.

Leader: Is the blaspheming of God's name by swearing and cursing such a grievous sin that God is angry also with those who do not prevent and forbid it as much as they can?

Unison: Certainly, for no sin is greater or provokes God's wrath more than the blaspheming of His name. That is why He commanded it to be punished with death.

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

Trinity Hymnal #521

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

(Refrain)

On Christ the solid rock I stand.
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil. **(Refrain)**

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. **(Refrain)**

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found;
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne. **(Refrain)**

We Confess Our Sins

Prayer of Confession

Unison: God of Grace, You love us, but we have not loved You. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. By our actions and attitudes, we condone what You condemn. Help us to admit our sin, so that as You come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to You, and receive forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Silence is kept for personal reflection and confession.

Responsive Assurance of Pardon Based on Rom. 8:1-2

Leader: Hear the good news! There is 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. Know that if you are a believer in Jesus, God embraces you, forgives you, and strengthens you to live a renewed life.

Unison: **Thanks be to God.**

Lord's Prayer

Unison: **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.**

“Before the Throne of God Above”

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a perfect plea:
A great High Priest, whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands.
My name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heaven He stands,
No tongue can bid me thence depart;
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look, and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin.
Because a sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God, the just, is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me;
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I Am,
The King of glory and of grace!
One in Himself, I cannot die;
My soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God;
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

Moment for Mission – Amber Wright, Someone Cares

Prayer of Intercession – MPC Elder – Bill Camp

We Reflect On God’s Word

Reading God’s Word – Genesis 16:1-16

Applying God’s Word

Colin Deay

“A God Who Sees”

Sermons can be listened to, or downloaded, through our web site

We Respond To God’s Grace

Investing In God’s Work (continue in silent prayer)

Closing Song – **“O Church Arise”**

O Church, arise, and put your armor on;

Hear the call of Christ our Captain.

For now the weak can say that they are strong,

In the strength that God has given.

With shield of faith and belt of truth,

We’ll stand against the devil’s lies;

An army bold, whose battle cry is love,

Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole,
We will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on every side,
We know the outcome is secure.
And Christ will have the prize for which He died,
An inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen.
And as the stone is rolled away
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day
Every eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in every stride,
Give grace for every hurdle;
That we may run with faith, to win the prize
Of a servant, good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls, and hunger for the day
When, with Christ, we stand in glory.

We Are Commissioned With God's Blessing

Benediction

Postlude and Meditation

“Crown Him with Many Crowns” Words by Matthew Bridges, Music by George J. Elvey. **“In Christ Alone”** Words and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend – © 2001 Thankyou Music. All rights reserved. CCLI Song # 3350395. **“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”** Words by Edward Mote, Music by William B. Bradbury. **“Before the Throne of God Above”** Words and music by Charitie Lees Bancroft and Vikki Cook - © 1997 Sovereign Grace Worship. All rights reserved. CCLI song # 2306412. **“O Church Arise”** Words and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend - © 2005 Thankyou Music. All rights reserved. CCLI song #4611992. CCLI License # 451603.

Sermon Text: Genesis 16:1-16

1 Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. She had a female Egyptian servant whose name was Hagar. 2 And Sarai said to Abram, "Behold now, the Lord has prevented me from bearing children. Go in to my servant; it may be that I shall obtain children by her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. 3 So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife. 4 And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. 5 And Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my servant to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the Lord judge between you and me!" 6 But Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your servant is in your power; do to her as you please." Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her.

7 The angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. 8 And he said, "Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am fleeing from my mistress Sarai." 9 The angel of the Lord said to her, "Return to your mistress and submit to her." 10 The angel of the Lord also said to her, "I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude." 11 And the angel of the Lord said to her,

"Behold, you are pregnant
and shall bear a son.
You shall call his name Ishmael,
because the Lord has listened to your affliction.
12 He shall be a wild donkey of a man,
his hand against everyone
and everyone's hand against him,
and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen."

13 So she called the name of the Lord who spoke to her, "You are a God of seeing," for she said, "Truly here I have seen him who looks after me." 14 Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; it lies between Kadesh and Bered.

15 And Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. 16 Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

(notes on reverse side)

Sermon Title: A God of Seeing

I. An Unseen Servant

II. A God of Hearing

III. A God of Seeing

Living the Metrocrest Vision – Announcements for the Week

Our Mission: *In dependence on Christ, we worship God the Father, grow in the grace of His Son, and serve our community and the world in the power of His Spirit.*

To do this, we strive as a community to **Worship, Walk, and Work** together.

Opportunities for Worship

- **January 31, 2020:** Join us as Bill Lovell continues preaching in Philippians.
- Immediately following worship on **January 31st, we'll have a congregational meeting** for the purpose of voting on uniting Metrocrest and Christ Church Carrollton.
- **Life Change** for the month of January will support **InterVarsity**. Their vision is to encourage and equip graduate students and faculty to follow Christ as they seek to be a redeeming influence among the people, ideas, and structures of the university and beyond. If you're interested in learning more, you can reach Elizabeth at Elizabeth.Lloyd@InterVarsity.org.
- **Youth Ministry:** Tonight, *The Gathering*, our large group meeting for all middle and high school youth, meets from 6:00 - 7:30pm at the church. The youth group will continue in their study on homosexuality – what the Bible says about it and how we should respond.
- **Tabletalk Devotions** are available in the lobby free of charge to aid in your personal, daily worship of God. If you'd like a copy mailed to you, please contact Laura at the church office.

Opportunities to Walk and Work Together

- **Elders' Prayer Time:** Our Elders would like to invite you to pray with them, individually or as a group, on **Sunday mornings at 9:30** in the MPC multipurpose room. On the first Sunday of each month we'll have corporate prayer for the needs and ministries of the church at 9:15, also meeting in the multipurpose room. We look forward to joining with you in prayer!
- **Care Groups** are still meeting throughout the week and month. Please reach out to your care group leader for more details.
- **Women's Ministry:** On **Tuesdays from 10-11am**, there will be a **Ladies' Prayer Time** hosted by Gwen Sterenberg via Zoom. More details and the Zoom meeting invitation are available via Realm, or you may contact the church office for details.

Thank you for worshipping with us today! If you have a prayer request that you'd like to share, please click [here](#).

Investing in God's Work:

Last Week's Offering:	\$ 4,016	Projected Giving to Date:	\$ 200,274
January Total Giving:	\$ 12,095	Actual Giving to Date:	\$ 187,591
Difference to date + or - (- \$12,683)			

In order to fund our annual operating budget goal of \$359,090, our monthly giving should meet or exceed \$29,924, which comes to about \$6,906 per week. Our budget fiscal year is July 2020 - June 2021.



Let's get connected! **Realm** allows 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 through the church office at info@metrocrestchurch.org and we will help you get on your way!

Bill Lovell
Laura Stites
Colin Deay
Steve Thomas
Jay Marble

Pastor Elect
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Director of Music and Worship
Treasurer
Youth Ministry

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The Session (Elders)
Bill Camp
Troy Carter
David Sheets
James Woods

The Diaconate
Bill Greisser
Daniel Greisser
Tom Owen
Steve Thomas