



# METROCREST

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**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

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## Responsive Call to Worship from Ps. 33:20-22

Leader: Our soul waits for the LORD;  
**Unison: He is our help and our shield.**  
Leader: For our heart is glad in Him,  
**Unison: Because we trust in His holy name.**  
Leader: Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,  
**Unison: Even as we hope in You.**

## We Celebrate The Resurrection

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### “Holy! Holy! Holy!”

Trinity Hymnal #100

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Who wert and art, and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee  
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Acknowledging God's Presence

### Worship Theme

The Certainty of God's Love

### Theme Verses

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else

in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39

**“Jesus Messiah”**

He became sin who knew no sin  
That we might become His righteousness.  
He humbled Himself and carried the cross;  
Love so amazing! Love so amazing!

**(Refrain)**

Jesus Messiah, name above all names,  
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel,  
The rescue for sinners, the ransom from heaven,  
Jesus Messiah; Lord of all.

His body the bread, His blood the wine,  
Broken and poured out all for love.  
The whole earth trembled, and the veil was torn;  
Love so amazing! Love so amazing! **(Refrain)**

All our hope is in You. All our hope is in You.  
All the glory to You, God; the Light of the world. **(Refrain)**

**Affirmation of Faith from Heidelberg Catechism, Q+A 75-76**

- Leader: How does the Lord's supper signify and seal to you that you share in Christ's one sacrifice on the cross and in all His gifts?
- Unison: **In this way: Christ has commanded me and all believers to eat of this broken bread and drink of this cup in remembrance of Him. With this command He gave these promises: First, as surely as I see with my eyes the bread of the Lord broken for me and the cup given to me, so surely was His body offered for me and His blood poured out for me on the cross. Second, as surely as I receive from the hand of the minister and taste with my mouth the bread and the cup of the Lord as sure signs of Christ's body and blood, so surely does He Himself nourish and refresh my soul to everlasting life with His crucified body and shed blood.**
- Leader: What does it mean to eat the crucified body of Christ and to drink His shed blood?
- Unison: **First, to accept with a believing heart all the suffering and the death of Christ, and so receive forgiveness of sins and life eternal. Second, to be united more and more to His sacred body through the Holy Spirit, who lives both in Christ and in us. Therefore, although Christ is in heaven and we are on earth, yet we are flesh of His flesh and bone of His bones, and we forever live and are governed by one Spirit, as the members of our body are by one soul.**

## **“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”**

Trinity Hymnal #252

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

## We Confess Our Sins

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### **Prayer of Confession**

**Unison:** Heavenly Father, we acknowledge and confess before You our sinful nature prone to evil and slothful in good, and all our shortcomings and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned; in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your love. But, O Lord, have mercy on us, who are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease You. Teach us to hate our errors; cleanse us from our secret faults; and forgive our sins for the sake of Your dear Son. Now help us, most holy and loving Father, to live in Your light and walk in Your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Silence is kept for personal reflection and confession.*

### **Responsive Assurance of Pardon Based on Rom. 5:6-8**

**Leader:** Hear the good news! While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person one would

dare even to die – but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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.**

**“Revelation Song”**

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain;  
Holy, holy is He.  
Sing a new song to Him who sits on  
Heaven’s mercy seat. **(Repeat)**

**(Refrain)**

Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God Almighty,  
Who was, and is, and is to come.  
With all creation I sing praise to the King of Kings;  
You are my everything, and I will adore You.

Clothed in rainbows of living color;  
Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder.  
Blessing and honor, strength and glory and power be  
To You the only wise King. **(Refrain)**

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder,  
At the mention of Your name.  
Jesus Your name is power; breath and living water;  
Such a marvelous mystery. **(Refrain)**

**Old Testament Reading – Genesis 17:1-8**

<sup>1</sup> When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, <sup>2</sup> that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.” <sup>3</sup> Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, <sup>4</sup> “Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup> No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup> I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup> And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. <sup>8</sup> And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.”

Prayer of Intercession – MPC Elder – James Woods

**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.**

## We Reflect On God's Word

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Reading God's Word – Philippians 1:1-6

Applying God's Word  
Pastor Bill Lovell  
**“Assured of What?”**

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

## We Respond To God's Grace

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

Closing Song – **“Blessed Assurance”**

Trinity Hymnal #693

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

**(Refrain)**

This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels, descending, bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. **(Refrain)**

Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love. **(Refrain)**

# We Are Commissioned With God's Blessing

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Benediction

Postlude and Meditation

## **Sermon Text: Philippians 1:1-6**

<sup>1</sup> Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:

<sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup> always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup> And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

### **Sermon Title: Assured of What?**

I. The church Paul loved (vv 1-5; Acts 16)

II. The God Paul trusted (v 2; Acts 16:31)

III. The assurance Paul proclaimed (v 6)

Each of us

All of us

## 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

- **November 22, 2020:** Join us as we welcome back Bill Lovell. Bill is the founding pastor of Christ Church Carrollton. Originally ordained in 1989, he served Episcopal churches in Boston, MA, Vancouver, Canada, and Dallas, before being received into the PCA in 2011. His ministry influences include R.C. Sproul, J.I. Packer, and a London preacher named Dick Lucas. Bill and his wife Leslie have been married 32 years and are very grateful for their five kids and five grandkids. If he weren't a pastor, Bill says he would likely be either working in politics, serving time in prison, or some combination of both.
- **Congregational Meeting:** Immediately following worship on **November 22<sup>nd</sup>**, we'll have a congregational meeting for the stated purpose of voting whether or not to issue a call to Bill Lovell to serve as our Senior Pastor.
- **Life Change** for the month of **November** will help replenish our Assistance Fund. The Assistance Fund allows us to help those who need assistance with food, utility bills, gas, etc. throughout the year.
- **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. This week, we will begin our discussion of the Gospel Centered Life. This study builds on itself each week and paints a beautiful picture of how we can make the gospel real and alive in our lives. It helps us identify how we really view ourselves and God.
- **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.

- **Christian Community Action:** Our CCA Christmas Giving Tree located in the lobby helps CCA provide Christmas presents for children of families in need. Gifts should be returned to the church unwrapped with the CCA tag attached **no later than November 29<sup>th</sup>**. **We are still serving CCA's food pantry, but we have enough volunteers for this month.** Stay tuned for more ways you can serve at CCA.

### Coming Soon

- Save the date! On Saturday, **November 28<sup>th</sup>** we will be decorating the church for Advent and are in need of a few extra people to help us out. Stay tuned for more details!
- **Men's Ministry:** On **Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm**, you're invited to a very special event -- "Learning to Reach the Least of These Christ's Brothers". Paul Miller, our Interim Pastor, will give us an overview of his role as the Regional Director for PCA Metanoia Prison Ministries in Texas. We'll also give an overview of the book "The Mentor Leader". (You'll be surprised to learn the connection between the two.) The same COVID-19 protocols that are in place for the Sunday worship service will be in place during this event. **Please RSVP via Realm** so that we know how many to prepare for.

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:	\$ 8,394	Projected Giving to Date:	\$ 131,214
November Total Giving:	\$ 15,851	Actual Giving to Date:	\$ 106,682

Difference to date + or - ( - **\$24,532**)

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](mailto:info@metrocrestchurch.org) and we will help you get on your way!

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**Paul Miller**  
**Laura Stites**  
**Colin Deay**  
**Steve Thomas**  
**Teresa Abood**  
**Jay Marble**

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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