



**METROCREST**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**November 7, 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

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### Responsive Call to Worship from Ps. 33:6-9

Leader: By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,  
**Unison: And by the breath of His mouth all their host.**  
Leader: He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap;  
**Unison: He puts the deeps in storehouses.**  
Leader: Let all the earth fear the LORD;  
**Unison: Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him!**  
Leader: For He spoke, and it came to be;  
**Unison: He commanded, and it stood firm.**

## We Celebrate The Resurrection

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### “Blessed Be Your Name”

Blessed be Your name  
In the land that is plentiful,  
Where Your streams of abundance flow,  
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name  
When I'm found in the desert place,  
Though I walk through the wilderness,  
Blessed be Your name.

Every blessing You pour out I'll  
Turn back to praise.  
When the darkness closes in, Lord,  
Still I will say,

### (Refrain)

Blessed be the name of the Lord,  
Blessed be Your name.  
Blessed be the name of the Lord,  
Blessed be Your glorious name.

Blessed be Your name  
When the sun's shining down on me,  
When the world's all as it should be,  
Blessed be Your name.

Blessed be Your name  
On the road marked with suffering,  
Though there's pain in the offering,  
Blessed be Your name.

You give and take away;  
You give and take away;  
And my heart will choose to say,  
Lord, blessed be Your name.

## **Acknowledging God's Presence**

### **Worship Theme**

Love Made Manifest

### **Theme Verses**

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

1 John 4:9-11

### **“Come, Ye Sinners”**

Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched,  
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
Jesus ready stands to save you,  
Full of pity joined with power.  
He is able, He is able,  
He is willing, doubt no more;  
He is able, He is able,  
He is willing, doubt no more.

Come, ye needy, come and welcome,  
God's free bounty glorify;  
True belief and true repentance,  
Every grace that brings you nigh.  
Without money, without money,  
Come to Jesus Christ and buy;  
Without money, without money,  
Come to Jesus Christ and buy.

Come, ye weary, heavy laden,  
Bruised and broken by the fall;  
If you tarry till you're better,  
You will never come at all.  
Not the righteous, not the righteous;  
Sinners Jesus came to call;  
Not the righteous, not the righteous;  
Sinners Jesus came to call.

Let not conscience make you linger,  
Nor of fitness fondly dream;  
All the fitness He requires  
is to feel your need of Him.  
This He gives you, this He gives you,  
'Tis the Spirit's rising beam;  
This He gives you, this He gives you,  
'Tis the Spirit's rising beam.

Lo! The incarnate God, ascended,  
Pleads the merit of His blood;  
Venture on Him, venture wholly,  
Let no other trust intrude.  
None but Jesus, none but Jesus  
Can do helpless sinners good;  
None but Jesus, none but Jesus  
Can do helpless sinners good.

## We Confess Our Sins

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### Prayer of Confession

**Unison:** Heavenly Father, we confess that we have sinned against You. We confess that while You have faithfully reached out to us, we have been reluctant to heed Your call. We confess that we have too often ignored Your invitation to love, to follow, to serve. We confess that we have too often pretended that we were healthy when we knew in our hearts we needed You to heal us. Forgive us and open our hearts to Your love. Open our hands and open our eyes for opportunities to serve You.

*Silence is kept for personal reflection and confession.*

### Responsive Assurance of Pardon Based on 1 John 1:8-9

**Leader:** Hear the good news! If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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.

**Greet those nearby in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ**

### **“And Can it Be That I Should Gain”**

Trinity Hymnal #455, verses 1, 3-5

And can it be that I should gain  
An interest in the Savior's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain?  
For me, who Him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

### **(Refrain)**

Amazing love! How can it be  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above  
(So free, so infinite His grace!),  
Humbled Himself (so great His love!)  
And bled for all His chosen race.  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;  
For, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray;  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
My chains fell off, my heart was free;  
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!  
Alive in Him, my living Head,  
And clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,  
And claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

**Affirmation of Faith from Westminster Shorter Catechism,  
Q+A 32-33**

Leader: What benefits do they that are effectually called partake of in this life?

Unison: **They that are effectually called do in this life partake of justification, adoption, and sanctification, and the several benefits which in this life do either accompany or flow from them.**

Leader: What is justification?

Unison: **Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein He pardons all our sins, and accepts us as righteous in His sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.**

**"He Will Hold Me Fast"**

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast.  
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path,  
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

**(Refrain)**

He will hold me fast.  
He will hold me fast;  
For my Savior loves me so,  
He will hold me fast.

Those He saves are His delight; Christ will hold me fast.  
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last.  
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast. **(Refrain)**

For my life He bled and died; Christ will hold me fast.  
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life; He will hold me fast.  
Till our faith is turned to sight when He comes at last.

**(Refrain)**

**Prayer of Intercession** – MPC Deacon – Daniel Greisser

**We Reflect On God's Word**

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**Reading God's Word** – 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

**Applying God's Word**

Colin Deay

**"The Character of Love"**

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

# Holy Baptism

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## Instructions

We celebrate this morning the baptisms of Walter Charles Dallas and Knox Michael Gruben.

## Review of God's Covenant Promises

**Acts 2:39** - For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Himself.

**Genesis 17:7** - 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.

**Acts 16:31** - Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.

## Introduction of the Dallas Family & the Gruben Family

Children in the congregation will be invited to come forward to watch the baptisms.

## Examination & Profession of Faith

Leader: Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?

Parents: We do.

Leader: Do you claim God's covenant promises in his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?

Parents: We do.

Leader: Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon God's grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy faith, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Parents: We do.

## Commitment by the Congregation

Leader: Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

**Unison:** We do.

# Administration of the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

## Prayer for the Newly Baptized

### We Respond To God's Grace

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

##### **"His Mercy is More"**

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?  
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum;  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,  
Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.

##### **(Refrain)**

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more!  
Stronger than darkness, new every morn,  
Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?  
What Father so tender is calling us home;  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more. **(Refrain)**

What riches of kindness He lavished on us;  
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost.  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;  
Our sins they are many; His mercy is more. **(Refrain)**

### We Are Commissioned With God's Blessing

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#### Closing Blessing

#### Postlude and Meditation

**"Blessed Be Your Name"** Words and Music by Beth Redman and Matt Redman – © 2002 Thankyou Music (admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Word Music (Admin. by WB Music Corp.). CCLI Song # 106879. **"Come Ye Sinners"** Words by Joseph Hart, Music arr. LW Brodine. **"And Can it Be that I Should Gain"** Words by Charles Wesley, Music by Thomas Campbell. **"He Will Hold Me Fast"** Words and music by Ada Ruth Habershon and Matthew Merker – © 2013 Getty Music Publishing, Matthew Merker Music. All rights reserved. CCLI song # 7016161. **"His Mercy is More"** Words and music by Matt Boswell and Matt Papa – © 2016 Getty Music Hymns and Songs, Getty Music Publishing, Love Your Enemies Publishing, Messenger Hymns (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.). All rights reserved. CCLI License # 451603.

## **Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7**

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

## **Sermon Title: The Character of Love**

I. The Love of Jesus

II. Why We Fall Short

III. Being Conformed to His Image

## Life at Metrocrest – Announcements for the Week – 11/07/2021

*Discovering God's love and sharing it with others.*

### Today

1. **Today is the 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost:** Pentecost is the longest season of the church calendar, running this year for 27 weeks! Advent begins on Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup>.
2. **New Sermon Series:** What is love, and what is love not? How do we love others, and how has God loved us? Our Director of Music and Worship, Colin Deay will be preaching on "Discovering Love," from 1 Corinthians 13, looking at how Paul's tough answers to these questions challenge us and build us up in the image of our loving God.
3. **Holy Baptism:** We celebrate this morning the baptisms of **Walter Charles Dallas**, born to Dalton and Cassidy Dallas on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020, and **Knox Michael Gruben**, born to Aaron and Joy Gruben on August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. We welcome their friends and family who have joined us. Just prior to the baptisms, children in the congregation will be invited to come forward.
4. **Reception for Jay Marble:** Metrocrest is so grateful to Jay Marble for his ministry as Youth Director. For eight years, Jay poured himself into the lives of our teenagers, partnering with their parents to teach them about Jesus and helping them to learn to walk with Him! You're invited to a special reception immediately following worship today, as we say Thank You to Jay and Ashley and their family. In their honor, we'll share fellowship in Christ and serve finger foods, cake, and light refreshments. Please join us!
5. **Hope Korean Presbyterian Church:** Hope KPCA will meet this afternoon in the Multipurpose Room, beginning at 2pm.
6. **Youth Ministry:** Tonight our large group meeting for all middle and high school youth, meets from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at the church. We'll be beginning our new study on John.

### Upcoming Activities & Events

7. **Holy Communion:** We are scheduled to share the Lord's Supper together next Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.
8. **Session & Board of Deacons:** The Session is scheduled to meet at 6pm on Wednesday night, November 10<sup>th</sup>, in Room D-03. The Board of Deacons is scheduled to meet in Room D-01.
9. **Adult Bible Class: Adult Bible Class 1**, taught by Elder James Woods in Room D-04, is continuing a study of the Gospel of Mark. **Adult Bible Class 2**, led by Deacon Will Grover in Room D-03, is continuing a study of C.S. Lewis' "Mere Christianity."
10. **Children & Youth Sunday School:** Children and youth meet for Sunday School every Sunday at 9am.
11. **Men's Book Group:** Please join us at the church on **Tuesday evenings at 7pm** as we consider Alistair Begg's book, "Brave by Faith: God-Sized Faith in a Post Christian World". More details are available via Realm and

on the flyer in the lobby. Please reach out to Paul Hartgrove via text, call, or email (972-816-2205, paulhartgrove@gmail.com) if you have questions.

12. **Women's Ministry:** On **Wednesdays 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.
13. **Christian Community Action: CCA's food pantry has resumed in person activities!** Join us **Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>** from 5:30 - 8:00pm as we help with shopping, bagging, loading cars, and working the registers. We need about 8-10 volunteers. CCA is located at 200 South Mill Street in Lewisville. Stay tuned for more details via Realm.
14. **2021 CCA Giving Tree:** The other opportunity to serve with CCA this month is by **purchasing a gift from one of the tags on the CCA Giving Tree located in the lobby**. This program, which MPC has participated in for years, 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 Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup>**.

## News & Needs

15. **Life Change** for the month of December will support the PCA Ministerial Relief Fund. The Ministerial Relief Fund assists needy, retired, and disabled pastors, missionaries, church lay workers, their widows, and dependent children.
16. **MPC Mission Survey:** The Mission Team is putting together a brief survey on interest in mission, so that they may plan for future opportunities. Stay tuned for more details on how you can participate!
17. **Large Print Bibles:** We have several large print Bibles that are available if needed.

## High Fives & Thanks

18. **Jay Marble Reception Team:** Thanks to **Joe and Kristen McAnally** who organized today's reception honoring outgoing Youth Director Jay Marble and his wife Ashley. The McAnallys also worked with Youth Group parents to organize a special gift for Jay and Ashley.
19. **Presbytery Meeting:** Thanks to RE **Larry Perry** who represented MPC at this weekend's quarterly meeting of the North Texas Presbytery.

Please click [here](#) to fill out our Welcome Card or to submit a prayer request. We would love to know that you worshipped with us today!

### Investing in God's Work:

|  |           |                           |            |
|--|-----------|---------------------------|------------|
| Last Week's Offering:                  | \$ 5,914  | Projected Giving to Date: | \$ 160,512 |
| October Total Giving:                  | \$ 52,441 | Actual Giving to Date:    | \$ 177,553 |
| Difference to date + or - (+ \$17,041) |           |                           |            |

In order to fund our annual operating budget goal of \$463,700, our monthly giving should meet or exceed \$38,642, which comes to about \$8,971 per week. Our budget fiscal year is July 2021 - June 2022.



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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**Bill Lovell**  
**Laura Stites**  
**Colin Deay**  
**Steve Thomas**  
**Joseph Marble**

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

**The Board of Deacons**  
Dalton Dallas  
Daniel Greisser  
Will Grover  
Justin Sterenberg  
Josh Wyman

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