



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

Responsive Call to Worship from 1 Chronicles 16:23-27

Leader: Sing to the LORD, all the earth!
Unison: Tell of His salvation from day to day.
Leader: Declare His glory among the nations,
Unison: His marvelous works among all the peoples!
Leader: For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
Unison: And He is to be feared above all gods.
Leader: For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,
Unison: But the LORD made the heavens.
Leader: Splendor and majesty are before Him;
Unison: Strength and joy are in His place.

We Celebrate The Resurrection

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Trinity Hymnal #170

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
And all the twinkling, starry host;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine.

Acknowledging God's Presence

Worship Theme

Joy in Trials

Theme Verses

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. James 1:2-4

“Isaiah 43”

When you pass through the waters I will be with you;
And the waves will not overcome you.
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name; you are Mine.

(Refrain)

Men

For I am the Lord your God
For I am the Lord your God

Women

I am the Lord your God
I am...

Unison

The Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

For I am the Lord your God
For I am the Lord your God

I am the Lord your God
I am...

Unison

The Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

For I am the Lord
For I am the Lord
For I am the Lord
For I am the Lord

Do not fear
Do not fear
Do not fear
Do not fear

When you walk through the fire, you'll not be burned,
And the flames will not consume you.
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name; you are Mine **(Refrain)**

Affirmation of Faith from Heidelberg Catechism, Q+A 37-39

Leader:

What do you confess when you say that Jesus *suffered*?

Unison:

During all the time He lived on earth, but especially at the end, Christ bore in body and soul the wrath of God against the sin of the whole human race. Thus, by His suffering, as the only atoning sacrifice, He has redeemed our body and soul from everlasting damnation, and obtained for us the grace of God, righteousness, and eternal life.

Leader:

Why did He suffer *under Pontius Pilate* as judge?

Unison: **Though innocent, Christ was condemned by an earthly judge, and so He freed us from the severe judgment of God that was to fall on us.**

Leader: Does it have a special meaning that Christ was crucified and did not die in a different way?

Unison: **Yes. Thereby I am assured that He took upon Himself the curse which lay on me, for a crucified one was cursed by God.**

“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”

Trinity Hymnal #254

Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
And did my Sovereign die!
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I!

Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree!
Amazing pity! Grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide,
And shut His glories in,
When Christ, the mighty Maker, died
For man the creature's sin.

Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears;
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes in tears.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away,
'Tis all that I can do.

We Confess Our Sins

Prayer of Confession

Unison: **Almighty and most merciful God, 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. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults.**

Restore those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared unto the world in Jesus Christ our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may live a holy, just, and joyful life to the glory of Your holy name.

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.**

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

Trinity Hymnal #32

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

(Refrain)

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see:
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided.
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **(Refrain)**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **(Refrain)**

Prayer of Intercession – MPC Elder – Bill Camp

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

Reading God's Word – Acts 11:19-30

Applying God's Word
Colin Deay
“Called Christians”

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 – **“Jesus I My Cross Have Taken”**

Jesus I my cross have taken,
All to leave and follow Thee,
Destitute, despised, forsaken,
Thou from hence my all shalt be.
Perish every fond ambition.
All I've sought or hoped or known.
Yet how rich is my condition,
God and heaven are still my own.

Man may trouble and distress me,
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast;
Life with trials hard may press me,
Heav'n will bring me sweeter rest.
Oh 'tis not in grief to harm me,
While Thy love is left to me;
Oh 'twere not in joy to charm me,
Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Haste thee on from grace to glory,
Armed by faith and winged by prayer.
Heav'n's eternal day's before thee;
God's own hand shall guide thee there.

Soon shall close thy earthly mission,

Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days.
Hope shall change to glad fruition;
Faith to sight and prayer to praise.

We Are Commissioned With God's Blessing

Benediction

Postlude and Meditation

“Fairest Lord Jesus” Words and Music Anonymous. **“Isaiah 43”** © Hillsong. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. **“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”** Words by Isaac Watts, Music by Hugh Wilson, Arr. by Robert A. Smith. **“Great is Thy Faithfulness”** Words by Thomas O. Chisholm, music by William M. Runyan – © 1923, renewal 1951, Hope Publishing Co., all rights reserved. **“Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken”** Words by Henry Lyte, music by W.A. Mozart, alt. by Bill Moore – © 2001 Bill Moore Music, used by permission, all rights reserved. CCLI License # 451603.

Sermon Text: Acts 11:19-30

19 Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews. 20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus. 21 And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord. 22 The report of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. 23 When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, 24 for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. 25 So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, 26 and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians.

27 Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. 28 And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius). 29 So the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brothers living in Judea. 30 And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

Sermon Title: Called Christians

I. Affirming Outreach to the Gentiles

II. Called Christians

III. Unity in a Crisis

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

- **Life Change** for the month of **June** will support MPC's youth ministry. Money raised will help offset the cost of camps, retreats, and mission trips. If you'd like to contribute, you can do so by giving cash/checks during the Sunday offering, place change in the bucket located at the back of the sanctuary, or by selecting the Life Change fund on the giving module in Realm.
- **July 5, 2020:** Join us as we welcome our new Interim Pastor, Paul Miller. Upon graduating from Westminster Theological Seminary, Paul served seven years as the founding RUF campus minister at Texas A&M Corpus Christi. During his time there he was invited to join a local prison ministry. Though he was very anxious at the thought of entering a maximum-security prison, he was excited about the opportunity to share the gospel with those incarcerated. After much counsel and prayer, Paul decided to accept the call to be the first Regional Director for Metanoia Prison Ministries in Texas. The Millers are very excited for this new opportunity to share the glorious gospel of Christ's saving grace throughout the prisons in Texas. Paul and his wife Laura met in Dallas, marrying in 2003. Their son Jack came along in 2009 and is their greatest blessing. You can learn more about Metanoia Prison Ministries by going to www.pcamna.org/metanoia-ministries/
- **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.
- **Tabletalk Devotions** are available free of charge in the lobby 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

- **Women's Ministry:** On **Tuesdays from 10-11 AM**, 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.
- **Care Groups** are still meeting throughout the week and month. Please reach out to your care group leader for more details.
- **Women's Ministry:** Join us this summer as we study the book of Ephesians virtually with all of the ladies in the PCA. For information

on signing up and on purchasing a study book, please go to <https://pcacdm.org/hbs/> or to Realm.

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:

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|---|-----------|---------------------------|------------|
| Last Week's Offering: | \$ 8,099 | Projected Giving to Date: | \$ 399,676 |
| June Total Giving: | \$ 13,560 | Actual Giving to Date: | \$ 378,443 |
| Difference to date + or - (- \$21,233) | | | |

In order to fund our annual operating budget goal of \$407,508, our monthly giving should meet or exceed \$33,959, which comes to about \$7,837 per week. Our budget fiscal year is July 2019 - June 2020.



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!

Paul Fowler
Laura Stites
Colin Deay
Steve Thomas
Teresa Abood
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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

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