



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 Ps. 149:1-4

Leader: Praise the LORD!

Unison: Sing to the LORD a new song, His praise in the assembly of the godly!

Leader: Let Israel be glad in His maker;

Unison: Let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

Leader: Let them praise His name with dancing,

Unison: Making melody to Him with tambourine and lyre!

Leader: For the LORD takes pleasure in His people;

Unison: He adorns the humble with salvation.

We Celebrate The Resurrection

“Thine Be the Glory”

Trinity Hymnal #274

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded graveclothes where Thy body lay.

(Refrain)

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth: death hath lost its sting. **(Refrain)**

No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life;
Life is naught without Thee: aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conqu'rors, through Thy deathless love:
Bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above **(Refrain)**

Acknowledging God's Presence

Worship Theme

Grace Upon Grace

Theme Verses

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. For from His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. John 1:14,16-17

“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)

Affirmation of Faith from Heidelberg Catechism, Q+A 50-52

- Leader: What does it mean that Christ *sits at the right hand of God*?
- Unison: **Christ ascended into heaven to manifest Himself there as Head of His church, through whom the Father governs all things.**
- Leader: How does the glory of Christ, our Head, benefit us?
- Unison: **First, by His Holy Spirit He pours out heavenly gifts upon us, His members. Second, by His power He defends and preserves us against all enemies.**
- Leader: What comfort is it to you that Christ *will come to judge the living and the dead*?
- Unison: **In all my sorrow and persecution I lift up my head and eagerly await as judge from heaven the very same person who before has submitted Himself to the judgment of God for my sake, and has removed all the curse from me. He will cast all His and my enemies into everlasting condemnation, but He will take me and all His chosen ones to Himself into heavenly joy and glory.**

“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.

We Confess Our Sins

Prayer of Confession

Unison: **Almighty God, 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 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.**

“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)**

Old Testament Reading – 2 Sam. 7:4-14

4 But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, 5 “Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in? 6 I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. 7 In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”” 8 Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. 9 And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like

the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰ And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹ from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. ¹² When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son.

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

Reading God's Word – Acts 13:13-52

Applying God's Word
Colin Deay
"A History of Grace"

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 – "Come, Thou Almighty King"

Trinity Hymnal #101

Come, Thou Almighty King,
Help us Thy name to sing,
Help us to praise.

Father, all glorious, O'er all victorious,
Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.
Come, Thou Incarnate Word,

Gird on Thy mighty sword,
Our prayers attend.
Come, and Thy people bless, and give Thy Word success;
Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart,
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.

To the great One in Three
Eternal praises be,
Hence evermore.
His sovereign majesty may we in glory see,
And to eternity love and adore.

We Are Commissioned With God's Blessing

Benediction

Postlude and Meditation

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Sermon Text: Acts 13:13-52

13 Now Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. And John left them and returned to Jerusalem, 14 but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. 15 After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, say it." 16 So Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said: "Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen. 17 The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. 18 And for about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. 19 And after destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance. 20 All this took about 450 years. And after that he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. 21 Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. 22 And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, 'I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.' 23 Of this man's offspring God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised. 24 Before his coming, John had proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. 25 And as John was finishing his course, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but behold, after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.' 26 "Brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation. 27 For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand the utterances of the prophets, which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled them by condemning him. 28 And though they found in him no guilt worthy of death, they asked Pilate to have him executed. 29 And when they had carried out all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb. 30 But God raised him from the dead, 31 and for many days he appeared to those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. 32 And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, 33 this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus, as also it is written in the second Psalm,

"You are my Son,
today I have begotten you.'

34 And as for the fact that he raised him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, he has spoken in this way,

"I will give you the holy and sure blessings of David.'

35 Therefore he says also in another psalm,

"You will not let your Holy One see corruption.'

36 For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep and was laid with his fathers and saw corruption, 37 but he whom God raised up did not see corruption. 38 Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, 39 and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses. 40 Beware, therefore, lest what is said in the Prophets should come about:

41 “Look, you scoffers,
be astounded and perish;
for I am doing a work in your days,
a work that you will not believe, even if one tells it to you.”

42 As they went out, the people begged that these things might be told them the next Sabbath. 43 And after the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who, as they spoke with them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.

44 The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. 45 But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him. 46 And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, “It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. 47 For so the Lord has commanded us, saying,

“I have made you a light for the Gentiles,
that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.”

48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. 49 And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region. 50 But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. 51 But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. 52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Sermon Title: A History of Grace

- I. The history of God's grace

- II. Defending God's grace

- III. Inheriting God's grace

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

- **August 23, 2020:** Join us as Elder Bill camp preaches on Acts 14:1-28.
- **Life Change** for the month of August will support the ministry of Paul Hartgrove. Paul is on the staff of Faculty Commons (a ministry of Cru), bringing gospel resources to Christian professors on public university campuses. Faculty Commons staff members reach out to faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students to present the gospel of Jesus and also provide resources for discipleship. Paul joined the staff of Faculty Commons in 2000, and works with Christian professors to help them share their faith through the website www.meettheprof.com. In addition, he has connected with Christian professors at campuses in the DFW metroplex. He and his wife Judy have been members of Metrocrest since 1994.
- **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 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

- **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.
- **CCA:** On **Wednesday, August 19th** we will be serving CCA's drive-thru pantry. If you signed up, please arrive at **5:30pm**. For additional details or questions, please contact Paul Hartgrove (972-816-2205).

Coming Soon

- **Men's Book Club:** Who has poured into your life with a positive impact? Who has helped you grow in your spiritual walk? How have others helped you? We all need examples to learn how to help others, to be encouraged and to be an encourager, and to build up others. We

have the book for you... ***The Mentor Leader* by Tony Dungy**. To give you a little taste of the book here's a short quote from Coach Dungy: "Remember that mentor leadership is all about serving. Jesus said, "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45)." Let's learn practical ways to build each other up with an eternal perspective of serving one another. We will have our first virtual meeting on **Tuesday, September 8 at 7pm via Zoom**. Please sign up on Realm or contact Paul Hartgrove for more information.

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:	\$ 9,588	Projected Giving to Date:	\$ 41,436
August Total Giving:	\$ 14,969	Actual Giving to Date:	\$ 32,797
Difference + or - (- \$8,639)			

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!

Paul Miller
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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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