



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. 47:5-9

Leader: God has gone up with a shout,
Unison: The LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
Leader: Sing praises to God, sing praises!
Unison: Sing praises to our King, sing praises!
Leader: For God is the King of all the earth;
Unison: Sing praises with a psalm!
Leader: God reigns over the nations;
Unison: God sits on His holy throne.
Leader: The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham.
Unison: For the shields of the earth belong to God; He is highly exalted!

We Celebrate The Resurrection

“The Love of God”

The love of God is greater far
Than tongue or pen could ever tell;
It goes beyond the highest star
And reaches to the lowest hell.
The guilty pair, bowed down with care,
God gave His Son to win;
His erring child He reconciled,
And pardoned from his sin.

Could we with ink the ocean fill,
And were the skies of parchment made,
Were every stalk on earth a quill,
And every man a scribe by trade,
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole
Though stretched from sky to sky.

O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure,
The saints' and angel's song. **(Repeat)**

Acknowledging God's Presence

Worship Theme

Peace, Grace, and Hope

Theme Verses

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.
Romans 5:1-5

“Abide with Me”

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

Thou on my head in early youth didst smile.
And, though rebellious and perverse, meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, oft as I left Thee;
On to the close Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight; tears lose their bitterness.
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?
I triumph still – abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

Affirmation of Faith from Heidelberg Catechism, Q+A 53

Leader: What do you believe concerning *The Holy Spirit*?

Unison: **First, He is, together with the Father and the Son, true and eternal God. Second, He is also given to me, to make me by true faith share in Christ and all His benefits, to comfort me, and to remain with me forever.**

“There is a Fountain Filled with Blood”

Trinity Hymnal #253

There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Immanuel’s veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains.
Lose all their guilty stains,
Lose all their guilty stains,
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see
That fountain in his day;
And there have I, as vile as he,
Washed all my sins away.
Washed all my sins away,
Washed all my sins away.
And there have I, as vile as he,
Washed all my sins away.

E’er since by faith I saw the stream
Your flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die.
And shall be till I die,
And shall be till I die,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die.

Then in a nobler, sweeter song
I’ll sing your pow’r to save,
When this poor lisping, stamm’ring tongue
Lies silent in the grave.
Lies silent in the grave,
Lies silent in the grave,
When this poor lisping, stamm’ring tongue
Lies silent in the grave.

Dear dying Lamb, Your precious blood
Shall never lose its pow’r,
Till all the ransomed church of God
Be saved to sin no more.
Be saved to sin no more,
Be saved to sin no more,
Till all the ransomed church of God
Be saved to sin no more.

We Confess Our Sins

Prayer of Confession

Unison: Heavenly Father, our thoughts and motives cannot be hidden from Your sight. Our self-pity and pride, our cowardice and sloth, our anger and envy are laid bare before Your eyes and ours. We open ourselves to You and ask that You forgive us and cover us in Christ. Let us hear Your voice telling us that His blood is our peace, His death our freedom, His smiting our safety. And let our hearts know that Your service is perfect freedom.

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.**

“Trust and Obey”

Trinity Hymnal #672

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word,
What a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will, He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.

(Refrain)

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Not a shadow can rise, not a cloud in the skies,
But His smile quickly drives it away;
Not a doubt or a fear, not a sigh nor a tear,
Can abide while we trust and obey. **(Refrain)**

Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
But our toil He doth richly repay;
Not a grief nor a loss, not a frown or a cross,
But is blest if we trust and obey. **(Refrain)**

But we never can prove the delights of His love
Until all on the altar we lay;
For the favor He shows and the joy He bestows,
Are for them who will trust and obey. **(Refrain)**

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet,
Or we'll walk by His side in the way;
What He says we will do, where He sends we will go,
Never fear; only trust and obey. **(Refrain)**

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 14:1-28

Applying God's Word
Bill Camp
"Mere Mortals"

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 – **"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"**
Trinity Hymnal #38

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the ancient of days,
Almighty, victorious; Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Not wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above,
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see,
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

We Are Commissioned With God's Blessing

Benediction

Postlude and Meditation

“The Love of God” Words and music by Frederick M Lehman, Bart Millard, Nathan Cochran, Mike Scheuchzer, Jim Bryson, Robby Shaffer and Pete Kipley. © 2002 Simpleville Music, CCLI Song #3912874. **“Abide with Me”** Words by Henry Lyte, alt. by Justin Smith, Music by Justin Smith – © 2007 Justin Smith Music. Used by permission. All rights reserved. **“There is a Fountain Filled with Blood”** Words by William Cowper, Music by Lowell Mason. **“Trust and Obey”** Words by John H. Sammis, music by Daniel B. Towner. **“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”** Words by Walter Chalmers Smith, Traditional Welsh Hymn Melody. CCLI License # 451603.

Sermon Text: Acts 14:1-28

1 Now at Iconium they entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed. 2 But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. 3 So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands. 4 But the people of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews and some with the apostles. 5 When an attempt was made by both Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to mistreat them and to stone them, 6 they learned of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country, 7 and there they continued to preach the gospel.

8 Now at Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet. He was crippled from birth and had never walked. 9 He listened to Paul speaking. And Paul, looking intently at him and seeing that he had faith to be made well, 10 said in a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And he sprang up and began walking. 11 And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in Lycaonian, "The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!" 12 Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. 13 And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was at the entrance to the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds. 14 But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their garments and rushed out into the crowd, crying out, 15 "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. 16 In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways. 17 Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness." 18 Even with these words they scarcely restrained the people from offering sacrifice to them.

19 But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having persuaded the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead. 20 But when the disciples gathered about him, he rose up and entered the city, and on the next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe. 21 When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God. 23 And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

24 Then they passed through Pisidia and came to Pamphylia. 25 And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia, 26 and from there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had fulfilled. 27 And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. 28 And they remained no little time with the disciples.

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 30, 2020:** Join us Interim Pastor Paul Miller continues his sermon series *Encountering Christ*.
- **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.

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:	\$	3,559	Projected Giving to Date:	\$	48,342
August Total Giving:	\$	18,528	Actual Giving to Date:	\$	36,356

Difference + or - (- \$11,986)

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
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