



METROCREST

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**Morning Worship
Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Pentecost
November 19, 2023**

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

Call to Worship - Psalm 5:11-12

Leader: Let all who take refuge in You rejoice; let them ever sing for joy,

Unison: And spread your protection over them, that those who love Your name may exult in You.

Leader: For You bless the righteous, O LORD; You cover him with favor as with a shield.

We Respond To God's Call

Opening Hymn - "Come, People of the Risen King"

Come, people of the Risen King,
Who delight to bring Him praise.
Come all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in.

(Refrain)

Rejoice! Rejoice! Let ev'ry tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice, O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun,
And those weeping through the night;
Come, those who tell of battles won,
And those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
And His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace. **(Refrain)**

Come, young and old from ev'ry land,
Men and women of the faith;
Come, those with full or empty hands,
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world His people sing,
Shore to shore we hear them call
The truth that cries through ev'ry age:
Our God is all in all. **(Refrain)**

Acknowledging God's Presence

Worship Theme - "Jesus Tells His Disciples To Have No Fear"

Theme Verses - Matthew 10:29-30

Jesus said, "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."

Hymn - "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)**

We Confess Our Sins

Prayer of Confession - Adapted from Psalm 51:1-17

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin! For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Against You, You only, have we sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You

may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment. Hide Your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Cast us not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. For You will not delight in sacrifice, or we would give it; You will not be pleased with a burnt offering. Our sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise. Amen.

Please take a moment for personal reflection and confession.

Assurance of Pardon - 1 John 1:8-9

Leader: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Unison: Thanks be to God.

Hymn - "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.
Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

We Profess Our Faith And Pray

Affirmation of Faith - Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Greeting

Hymn - "Only a Holy God / Holy, Holy, Holy!"

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?
Who else could make every king bow down?
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles?
Only a Holy God.

What other beauty demands such praises?
What other splendor outshines the sun?
What other majesty rules with justice?
Only a Holy God.

(Refrain)

Come and behold Him, the One and the Only;
Cry out, sing holy; forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.

What other glory consumes like fire?
What other power can raise the dead?
What other name remains undefeated?
Only a Holy God. **(Refrain)**

Who else could rescue me from my failing?
Who else would offer His only Son?
Who else invites me to call Him Father?
Only a Holy God.
Only a Holy God. **(Refrain)**

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!

Lord's Prayer

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.

Prayers of Intercession

We Receive God's Word

Reading God's Word - Matthew 10:26-33

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Unison: Thanks be to God.

Understanding and Applying God's Word

Pastor Bill Lovell

"Jesus Tells His Disciples To Have No Fear"

Sermon Series - "The King & His Kingdom"

We Respond To God's Grace

Closing Hymn - "On Jordan's Stormy Banks"

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand
And cast a wishful eye
To Canaan's fair and happy land,
Where my possessions lie.

All o'er those wide extended plains
Shines one eternal day.
There God the Son forever reigns
And scatters night away.

(Refrain)

I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for the Promised Land.
I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for the Promised Land.

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath
Can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death
Are felt and feared no more. **(Refrain)**

When shall I reach that happy place,
And be forever blessed?
When shall I see my Father's face,
And in His bosom rest? **(Refrain)**

God Sends Us Out With His Blessing

Closing Blessing - 1 Thessalonians 5:24

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

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Sermon Text

English Standard Version - Matthew 10:26-33

26 "So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. 27 What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. 28 And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. 29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. 30 But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. 32 So everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before My Father who is in heaven, 33 but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny before My Father who is in heaven."

New International Version - Matthew 10:26-33

26 "So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. 27 What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. 28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. 29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care.[a] 30 And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

32 "Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. 33 But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven."

Greek New Testament - Matthew 10:26-33

26 Μὴ οὖν φοβηθῆτε αὐτούς· οὐδὲν γὰρ ἔστιν κεκαλυμμένον ὃ οὐκ ἀποκαλυφθήσεται, καὶ κρυπτὸν ὃ οὐ γνωσθήσεται. 27 ὃ λέγω ὑμῖν ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ, εἶπατε ἐν τῷ φωτί· καὶ ὃ εἰς τὸ οὐχ ἀκούετε, κηρύξατε ἐπὶ τῶν δωματίων. 28 καὶ μὴ φοβεῖσθε ἀπὸ τῶν ἀποκτενόντων τὸ σῶμα, τὴν δὲ ψυχὴν μὴ δυναμένων ἀποκτείνειν· φοβεῖσθε δὲ μᾶλλον τὸν δυνάμενον καὶ ψυχὴν καὶ σῶμα ἀπολέσαι ἐν γενένη. 29 οὐχὶ δύο στρουθία ἀσσαρίου πωλεῖται; καὶ ἐν ἑξ αὐτῶν οὐ πρὸς εἴς τι ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν ἄνευ τοῦ πατρὸς ὑμῶν. 30 ὑμῶν δὲ καὶ αἱ τρίχες τῆς κεφαλῆς πᾶσαι ἠριθμημέναι εἰσίν. 31 μὴ οὖν φοβεῖσθε· πολλῶν στρουθίων διαφέρετε ὑμεῖς. 32 Πᾶς οὖν ὅστις ὁμολογήσει ἐν ἑμοί ἐμπροσθεν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ὁμολογήσω κἀγὼ ἐν αὐτῷ ἐμπροσθεν τοῦ πατρὸς μου τοῦ ἐν [τοῖς] οὐρανοῖς. 33 ὅστις δ' ἂν ἀρνήσῃται με ἐμπροσθεν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ἀρνήσομαι κἀγὼ αὐτὸν ἐμπροσθεν τοῦ πατρὸς μου τοῦ ἐν [τοῖς] οὐρανοῖς.

Sermon Notes

Matthew 10:26-33

Pastor Bill Lovell

"Jesus Tells His Disciples To Have No Fear"

Introduction

Jesus tells us to have no fear

- For nothing will remain hidden

- For we are of great value to God

"Reader, Fare-thee-well! Thou hast companied me – not without some little profit, I trust; and not without noting many things that led thee to bless the Lord God, in whose honour these pages have been written. In your life and in mine, there is at least one last Chapter, one final scene, awaiting us – God our Father knows where and how! By His grace, I will live out that Chapter, I will pass through that scene, in the faith and in the hope of Jesus, who has sustained me from childhood until now."
~ Scottish Missionary, John Gibson Paton (1824-1907), *Autobiography*

Church Life Notes

Today - November 19, 2023

1. **Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Pentecost:** Pentecost is a season focused on discipleship. Please stay with us for the rest of November as we study Matthew 10. Advent begins December 3.
2. **Serving Today:** This morning's scheduled Liturgy Leader is Paul Hartgrove. Our scheduled Prayer Leader is James Woods.
3. **Giving Online:** To access our secure online giving portal, you may use the QR code on the back of the bulletin.
4. **Today is Life Change Sunday!** Life Change for November is being taken in support of MPC's Assistance Fund. All donations will be used by the Board of Deacons to assist members of the church, and others, in material need.
5. **MPC Youth Ministry:** Tonight, our large group meeting for middle and high school youth will meet from 6:00-8:00pm at the church. **Cross Training will continue this Sunday.** If any youth are interested in singing or playing an instrument in youth group, please join us at the church at 5:15pm.

Upcoming Activities & Events

6. **MPC Sunday School for All Ages:** In observance of Thanksgiving weekend, Sunday School for Youth and Children will **not** meet next Sunday, November 26. **Adult Sunday School will meet.**
7. **Interested in auditioning for the MPC Advent Choir?** Join Nick Rhodes and Caleb Esmond on the sanctuary stage directly after service next Sunday, November 26. We will hear you sing a song of your choice in addition to a simple written sight-singing passage.
8. **Men's Book Group:** We've finished Jonathan Pennington's ***Come and See***. Stay tuned for more details on our next book! For more information, contact Paul Hartgrove (paul.hartgrove@gmail.com) or Hayden Bernays (haydenbernays@gmail.com).
9. **Church Prayer Meeting:** Please join us for corporate prayer on Sunday mornings from 8:00-8:30am in Room D-02.
10. **Christmas Recital:** Our pianist, Caleb Esmond, will be hosting a recital on December 2 at 4:00pm, featuring several musicians from the University of North Texas, two of whom attend Metrocrest. There will be works by Schubert, Debussy, and more. Everyone at MPC is welcome to attend and to bring guests, all free of charge.
11. **Baby Shower:** Women of Metrocrest are cordially invited to a shower for Madeleine Esmond on Saturday, December 2, at 11:00am at the home of Diane Kizziar (4576 Saint Samons Street, Carrollton, TX 75010).
12. **MPC Finance Review:** Please join us for a review of the church's financial situation, right after service on Sunday, December 3.

13. **Christmas at MPC:** Please make note of upcoming holiday festivities:
- **Christmas Pageant & Party** - Sunday, December 10, 4:30pm
 - **Christmas Eve** - Sunday, December 24, 10:15am, 6:00pm
 - **Christmas Day** - Monday, December 25 - No Service

News & Needs

14. **MPC Officer Training Recommendations:** All communing members of Metrocrest may recommend qualified candidates for church office (Elder or Deacon). Forms, which are available in the Lobby, must be submitted by November 30.
15. **CCA Giving Tree:** We have an opportunity to serve with Christian Community Action by purchasing a gift from one of the tags on the CCA Giving Tree in the lobby. This program provides Christmas presents for needy children. Gifts should be returned to the church unwrapped with the CCA tag attached by Sunday, November 26.

High Fives & Thanks

16. **Marriage Seminar:** Thanks to Diane Kizziar who organized last Sunday's Marriage Seminar; and to all participants.

Prayer Requests

17. **For The World:**
- **Christians Persecuted Around the World** - For God's protection over those who suffer for His Son's sake.
 - **Armed Conflicts** - For God's mercy on innocent civilians in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, and Yemen.
18. **For Our Church's Mission and Ministry:**
- **Mission Heartedness** - For God to grant MPC a deepening love for sinners and a passion to reach them with the gospel.
 - **Church Finances** - For God's provision.
19. **For One Another:**
- **Marriages** - For God's mercy on all married couples, including newlyweds Colton and Maurane Huckaby and Darren and Rachel Carrillo (friends of Colton).
 - **Health Issues** - For God's blessing on Yvonne Alford (Bill Lovell's friend), Connie Bielefeld (Margaret Marrs' grandmother), Larry Bounds (Paul Hartgrove's friend), Steve Collinsworth, Krystal Hays (Bill & Shona Camp's neighbor), Jim Huckaby (Colton Huckaby's grandfather), Suzanne Larsen, Cherry Leslie, Ashley Marble, Jeannie Marion (Mike Marion's stepmother), Kristen Novak (Steve & Liz Wallin's daughter), Larry Perry, Ron Revell, David Wamsley, Marlene Wamsley, Lori Winn, and Norm Winn; and also for God's blessing on Madeleine Esmond, expectant mommy due in January.

Welcome to Metrocrest! Please click [here](#) to fill out our welcome card. We would love to know that you worshipped with us today and share more about our church.



How can we pray for you? MPC is a praying church! You can share your prayer requests with us by (1) using one of the cards found in the lobby; or (2) pointing your smartphone camera at this QR code to access a digital card. Please indicate whether your request is private or public. You may also request to pray with an Elder.

Do you want to make a donation? To fund MPC's mission and ministry, we depend on God's provision through you. If you'd like to make a donation this morning, you can do so by (1) placing it in the collection basket during the Offertory; or (2) pointing your smartphone camera at this QR code to access our secure online giving portal.



Thank you for your financial support! At MPC, we aim for financial transparency. Here's where we stand several months into this fiscal year (July-June): Last week's giving - \$5,933; our weekly giving goal - \$7,885; our actual giving to-date - \$129,683; and our projected giving to-date - \$157,692. We know these are difficult times for everyone. Please be as generous as you can in your personal stewardship, and *please pray for God's faithful provision.*



Let's get connected! MPC uses an app called Realm to allow 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!

Bill Lovell
Laura Stites
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Joseph Marble

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The Session (Elders)
John Fowler
Paul Hartgrove
Larry Perry

The Board of Deacons
Dalton Dallas
Will Grover