



METROCREST

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**The King
& His
Kingdom**

**Morning Worship
Twenty-First Sunday of Pentecost
October 15, 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

Welcome

Call to Worship - Joel 2:28-29 (NIV)

Leader: The LORD said, And afterward, I will pour out My Spirit on all people;

Unison: Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.

Leader: Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

We Respond To God's Call

Opening Hymn - "Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord"

Trinity Hymnal #26

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord:
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of His word;
In God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name:
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might:
Pow'rs and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of His word:
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and forevermore.

Acknowledging God's Presence

Worship Theme - "Jesus Ministers to Women"

Theme Verses - Matthew 9:20-22

And, behold, a woman who had suffered from a discharge of blood for twelve years came up behind Him and touched the fringe of His garment, for she said to herself, "If I only touch His garment, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her He said, "Take heart,

daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well.

Hymn - "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Trinity Hymnal #164

O, for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise;
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace.

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim;
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honors of Thy name.

Jesus, the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the pow'r of reigning sin,
He sets the pris'ner free.
His blood can make the foulest clean;
His blood availed for me.

He speaks and, list'ning to His voice,
New life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
The humble poor believe.

Hear Him, ye deaf; His praise, ye dumb,
Your loosen'd tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Savior come;
And leap, ye lame, for joy.

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 - "Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul"

Dear refuge of my weary soul,
On Thee when sorrows rise;
On Thee when waves of trouble roll,
My fainting hope relies.
To Thee I tell each rising grief,
For Thou alone canst heal.
Thy Word can bring a sweet relief
For every pain I feel.

But oh! When gloomy doubts prevail
I fear to call Thee mine;
The springs of comfort seem to fail,
And all my hopes decline.
Yet gracious God where shall I flee?
Thou art my only trust.
And still my soul would cleave to Thee,
Though prostrate in the dust.

Hast Thou not bid me seek Thy face,
And shall I seek in vain?
And can the ear of sovereign grace
Be deaf when I complain?
No, still the ear of sovereign grace
Attends the mourner's prayer;
Oh may I ever find access
To breathe my sorrows there.

Thy mercy seat is open still;
Here let my soul retreat
With humble hope, attend Thy will,
And wait beneath Thy feet.

Thy mercy seat is open still;
Here let my soul retreat
With humble hope, attend Thy will,
And wait beneath Thy feet.

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 - "Be Still, My Soul"

Trinity Hymnal #689

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In ev'ry change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
To guide the future as He has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and wind still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart,
And all is darkened in the vale of tears,
Then shall you better know His love, His heart,
Who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears.
Be still, my soul: your Jesus can repay
From His own fullness all He takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord;
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,

Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

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.

Prayer of Intercession

We Receive God's Word

Reading God's Word - Matthew 9:18-26

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Unison: **Thanks be to God.**

Understanding and Applying God's Word

Pastor Bill Lovell

"Jesus Ministers to Women"

Sermon Series - "The King & His Kingdom"

We Respond To God's Grace

Closing Hymn - "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 angels' song. **(Repeat)**

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 9:18-26

18 While He was saying these things to them, behold, a ruler came in and knelt before Him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay Your hand on her, and she will live." 19 And Jesus rose and followed him, with His disciples. 20 And behold, a woman who had suffered from a discharge of blood for twelve years came up behind Him and touched the fringe of His garment, 21 for she said to herself, "If I only touch His garment, I will be made well." 22 Jesus turned, and seeing her He said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. 23 And when Jesus came to the ruler's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, 24 He said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at Him. 25 But when the crowd had been put outside, He went in and took her by the hand, and the girl arose. 26 And the report of this went through all that district.

American Standard Version - Matthew 9:18-26

18 While He spake these things unto them, behold, there came a ruler, and worshipped Him, saying, My daughter is even now dead: but come and lay Thy hand upon her, and she shall live. 19 And Jesus arose, and followed Him, and so did His disciples. 20 And behold, a woman, who had an issue of blood twelve years, came behind Him, and touched the border of His garment: 21 for she said within herself, If I do but touch His garment, I shall be made whole. 22 But Jesus turning and seeing her said, Daughter, be of good cheer; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour. 23 And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the flute-players, and the crowd making a tumult, 24 He said, Give place: for the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed Him to scorn. 25 But when the crowd was put forth, He entered in, and took her by the hand; and the damsel arose. 26 And the fame hereof went forth into all that land.

Sermon Notes

Matthew 9:18-26

Pastor Bill Lovell

"Jesus Ministers to Women"

1. The Gospel Changes Everything

2. Jesus Raises a Dead Girl

3. Jesus Heals a Sick Woman

Church Life Notes

Today - October 15, 2023

1. **Twenty-First Sunday of Pentecost:** Pentecost is a season focused on discipleship. For the next several months, between now and Advent, we will be studying the Gospel of Matthew.
2. **Serving Today:** This morning's scheduled Liturgy Leader is Jay Marble. Our scheduled Prayer Leader is Will Grover. Our Preacher is Pastor Bill Lovell.
3. **Life Change Sunday:** This month's collection will support Maui Disaster Relief. Please join us in partnering with MNA Disaster Response and our Brothers and Sisters in the Northern California Presbytery to help meet the needs of those affected by this terrible tragedy.
4. **Giving Online:** To access our secure online giving portal, you may use the QR code on the back of the bulletin.
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. Tonight please join us for a special night of testimonies given by our leaders. **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:** Please join us Sunday mornings between 9:00-10:00am.
 - **Children** - Pre-K-Grade 5 - Solid Bible teaching from the Children's Catechism, age appropriate and fun.
 - **Youth** - Grades 6-12 - Mature reflection on the Bible and the Westminster Shorter Catechism.
 - **Adult** - Careful study of Jared Wilson's *The Gospel According to Satan: Eight Lies About God That Sound like the Truth*.
7. **Men's Book Group:** Please join us in person or via Zoom **on Tuesdays**, as we study Jonathan Pennington's ***Come and See***. For more info, contact Paul Hartgrove (at 972-816-2205 - paul.hartgrove@gmail.com) or Hayden Bernays (haydenbernays@gmail.com).
8. **Church Prayer Meeting:** Please join us for corporate prayer on Sunday mornings from 8:00-8:30am in Room D-02.
9. **Christian Community Action:** Please join us on Wednesday, October 18, from 5:30-8:00pm at CCA's food pantry, as we help with shopping, bagging, loading cars, and working the registers. For info, contact Paul Hartgrove at 972-816-2205 or via email at paul.hartgrove@gmail.com. We need about 8-10 volunteers. CCA is located at 200 South Mill Street in Lewisville.

10. **Fall Recital:** Our pianist, Caleb Esmond, will be hosting a piano recital next Saturday, October 21, at 4:00pm, featuring works by Bach, Beethoven, and Rachmaninoff. All of MPC is welcome to attend. For questions, speak with Caleb after service.
11. **Anniversary Celebration:** Please join us after church next Sunday, October 22, as MPC celebrates 35 years of God's faithfulness.
12. **Save the Date:** This year's Christmas Pageant will be on Sunday, December 10, at 4:30pm, followed by holiday treats and cider.

News & Needs

13. **Facility Use:** All facility use inquiries **must** be submitted through the church office to Administrative Assistant Laura Stites (laura@metrocrestchurch.org, 972-394-1122) via our Facility Use Application.

High Fives & Thanks

14. **Wedding Planners:** Huge thanks to everyone who pitched in last Saturday to make Colton and Maurane's wedding so beautiful. Special thanks to Marlene Wamsley and Teresa Abood.
15. **Bill Camp:** Pastor Bill Lovell extends a sincere thank you to Ruling Elder Bill Camp for preaching on Sunday, October 1.

Prayer Requests

16. **For The World:**
 - **Israel** - For God's mercy on the people of Israel, especially those mourning the loss of loved ones; and on civilians caught between the Israeli Defense Forces and Hamas.
 - **Maui, Hawaii** - For thousands of residents who are still reeling from devastating fires in the region.
17. **For Our Church's Mission and Ministry:**
 - **Mission Heartedness** - For God to grant MPC a deepening love for sinners and a passion to reach out to them with the saving gospel of grace.
 - **ESL** - For God's blessing on Brian Ray and his team of volunteers as they launch an ESL program at MPC, aimed at our non-English-speaking neighbors.
18. **For One Another:**
 - **Health Issues** - For God's blessing on those who are having health issues, including Connie Bielefeld (Margaret Marrs' grandmother), Carole Fowkes, Suzanne Larsen, Cherry Leslie, Ellen Perry, Larry Perry, Ron Revell, David Wamsley, Lori Winn, and Norm Winn; and also for God's blessing on Scarlett Avery, newborn daughter of Teddy and Melissa Brewer; and 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 two months into the new fiscal year (July-June): Last week's giving - \$13,778; our weekly giving goal - \$7,885; our actual giving to-date - \$98,990; and our projected giving to-date - \$118,268. 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
Nick Rhodes
Will Grover
Joseph Marble

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The Session (Elders)
John Fowler
Paul Hartgrove
Larry Perry

The Board of Deacons
Dalton Dallas
Will Grover