



METROCREST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The Meaning of the Resurrection

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 30, 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

Responsive Call to Worship from Psalm 100:1-5

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

Unison: Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!

Leader: Know that the LORD, He is God!

Unison: It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

Leader: Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!

Unison: Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

Leader: For the LORD is good;

Unison: His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.

We Celebrate The Resurrection

“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)**

Easter Acclamation

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Unison: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Acknowledging God's Presence

Worship Theme - Praise Among the Gentiles

Theme Verses

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise You among the Gentiles, and sing to Your name."
Romans 15:8-9

"Son of God"

There is a place of sorrow and love,
The innocent Savior broken and bleeding for us.
The nails in His hands, thorns on His brow,
Rivers of mercy endlessly flowing down.

The Son of God high and lifted up,
The Father's love came pouring down for us.
He has overcome.

There is a place for all who would come,
His arms are open, our sins are washed white in His blood.
The lost and unworthy come find your home,
The broken and hurting, His love will never let go.

(Refrain)

The Son of God high and lifted up,
The Father's love came pouring down for us.
He has overcome.
The spotless Lamb for every sinner slain,
Our victory, our hope beyond the grave.
He has overcome.
He has overcome.

Now my song will ever be,
Of my Savior's love for me.
When at last His face I see,
With all the saints in glory. (Refrain)

We Confess Our Sins

Prayer of Confession

Unison: Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved You with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Lord, You are full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy; there is always forgiveness with You! Restore to us the joy of Your salvation; bind up that which is broken; give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest to our souls.

Silence is kept for personal reflection and confession.

Responsive Assurance of Pardon Based on 1 John 1:8-9

Leader: Hear the good news! If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 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.

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.

"All to Jesus I Surrender"

Trinity Hymnal #562

All to Jesus I surrender;
All to Him I freely give.
May I ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.

(Refrain)

I surrender all.
I surrender all.
All to Thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender;

Humbly at His feet I bow.
Worldly pleasures all forsaken;
Take me Jesus, take me now. **(Refrain)**

All to Jesus I surrender;
Make me, Savior, wholly Thine.
May Thy Holy Spirit fill me,
May I know Thy pow'r divine. **(Refrain)**

All to Jesus I surrender;
Lord, I give myself to Thee.
Fill me with Thy love and power,
Let Thy blessing fall on me. **(Refrain)**

We Profess Our Faith

Affirmation of Faith from Heidelberg Catechism, Q+A 31

Leader: Why is Jesus called Christ, that is, Anointed?

Unison: **Because He has been ordained by God the Father, and anointed with the Holy Spirit, to be our chief Prophet and Teacher, who has fully revealed to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our redemption; our only High Priest, who by the one sacrifice of His body has redeemed us, and who continually intercedes for us before the Father; and our eternal King, who governs us by His Word and Spirit, and who defends and preserves us in the redemption obtained for us.**

Greeting

“Ps. 20 - Now I Know”

May the Lord be your strength in days of trouble;
May His name be a shelter for your soul.
As in ancient days He spoke,
As He death and devil broke,
May His triumph your fate and future hold.

May the Lord from His dwelling place come near you,
Make His temple within and never leave.
He has paid for all your sin:
Jesus died and rose again,
And His blood does the Father now receive.

(Refrain)

Now I know that the LORD saves His anointed!
Now I know He will answer when I call:
Found within Christ my Savior and Messiah,
I will all His redeeming power recall.

May the Lord be your hope and heart's desire;

May His goodness your every joy fulfill;
May He teach your lips to praise,
Raise the banner of the saved;
He has blessed you and stands to bless you still. **(Refrain)**

Some trust in horses,
Some in weapons shaped for war;
I will trust, I will trust in Your name.
My flesh may falter,
But Your power never fails;
I will rise, I will stand and proclaim: **(Refrain)**

Prayer of Intercession - MPC Deacon Josh Wyman

We Reflect On God's Word

Reading God's Word - Luke 24:44-49

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Unison: Thanks be to God.

Understanding and Applying God's Word

Pastor Bill Lovell

"Jesus and Holy Scripture"

Sermon Series: "The Meaning of the Resurrection"

Sermons can be listened to, or downloaded, through our website

We Respond To God's Grace

Giving to Support Gospel Ministry

"O Church, Arise"

O Church, arise, and put your armor on;
Hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong,
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold, whose battle cry is love,
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war to love the captive soul,

But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole,
We will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on every side,
We know the outcome is secure.
And Christ will have the prize for which He died,
An inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen.
And as the stone is rolled away
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day
Every eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in every stride,
Give grace for every hurdle;
That we may run with faith, to win the prize
Of a servant, good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls, and hunger for the day
When, with Christ, we stand in glory.

We Are Commissioned With God's Blessing

Closing Blessing

Postlude and Meditation

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" Words by Edward Mote, Music by William B. Bradbury. **"Son of God"** © Open Hands Music | So Essential Tunes | Integrity Worship Music | Watershed Publishing Group | Bethel Music Publishing **"All to Jesus I Surrender"** Words by Judson W. VanDeVenter, Music by Winfield Scott Weeden. **"Ps. 20 – Now I Know"** Words and music by Colin Deay - © 2022 Colin Deay. CCLI License # 451603 **"O Church Arise"** Words and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend - © 2005 Thankyou Music. All rights reserved. CCLI License # 451603.

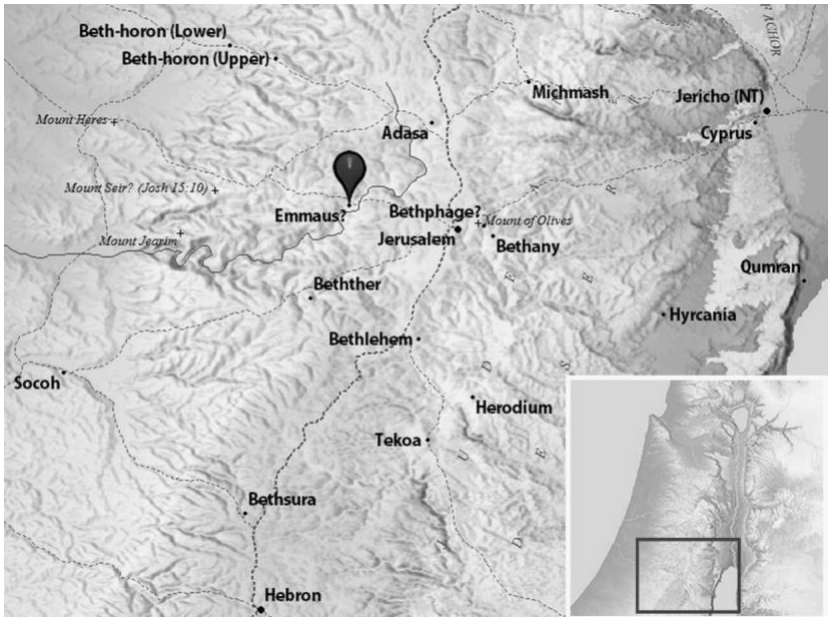
Sermon Text

English Standard Version - Luke 24:44-49

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Greek New Testament - Luke 24:44-49

⁴⁴ Εἶπεν δὲ πρὸς αὐτοὺς, Οὗτοι οἱ λόγοι μου οὓς ἐλάλησα πρὸς ὑμᾶς ἔτι ὦν σὺν ὑμῖν, ὅτι δεῖ πληρωθῆναι πάντα τὰ γεγραμμένα ἐν τῷ νόμῳ Μωϋσέως καὶ τοῖς προφήταις καὶ ψαλμοῖς περὶ ἐμοῦ. ⁴⁵ τότε διήνοιξεν αὐτῶν τὸν νοῦν τοῦ συνιέναι τὰς γραφάς. ⁴⁶ καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς ὅτι Οὕτως γέγραπται παθεῖν τὸν Χριστὸν καὶ ἀναστῆναι ἐκ νεκρῶν τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ, ⁴⁷ καὶ κηρυχθῆναι ἐπὶ τῷ ὀνόματι αὐτοῦ μετάνοιαν εἰς ἅφεςιν ἁμαρτιῶν εἰς πάντα τὰ ἔθνη ἀρξάμενοι ἀπὸ Ἱερουσαλήμ: ⁴⁸ ὑμεῖς μάρτυρες τούτων. ⁴⁹ καὶ [ἰδοὺ] ἐγὼ ἀποστέλλω τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν τοῦ πατρὸς μου ἐφ' ὑμᾶς: ὑμεῖς δὲ καθίσατε ἐν τῇ πόλει ἕως οὗ ἐνδύσησθε ἐξ ὕψους δύναμιν.



Sermon Notes

Luke 24:44-49

Pastor Bill Lovell

"Jesus and Holy Scripture"

Introduction

"We present you with this Book, the most valuable thing that this world affords. Here is Wisdom; This is the royal Law; These are the lively Oracles of God." – Coronation Service of King Charles III

1. **Jesus speaks**
2. **Jesus explains**
3. **Jesus opens minds**
4. **Jesus commissions**
5. **Jesus empowers**

Church Life Notes

Today

1. **Happy Easter!** Easter is far too important to keep to just one day, so at Metrocrest we celebrate Easter for a whole season. From Easter until Pentecost Sunday, May 28th—a total of fifty days—we will join Christians around the world in reflecting on the meaning of Christ's resurrection.
2. **Welcome to Our Guests!** We are excited you are here. Members of the Welcome Team will be looking for you to say hi.
3. **Prayer Requests:** You can share prayer requests in either of two ways: (1) complete one of the prayer request cards found in the lobby; or (2) point your smartphone camera at the QR code on the back of this morning's program and fill out a digital card. Please indicate whether your prayer request is private (officers and staff only) or public.
4. **Prayers and Farewell Reception:** Please stay after this morning's worship service for a time of prayer and a special reception as we say farewell to Colin and Sarah Deay and three MPC families who are launching a new church plant in Richardson. Details below.
5. **MPC Youth Ministry:** Tonight, our large group meeting for all middle and high school youth, meets from 6-8 pm 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 5:15 pm.

Upcoming Activities & Events

6. **Stated Session Meeting:** The Session will meet for its next Stated Meeting on Wednesday, May 10th, at 6 pm in Room D-03. Members of the church are welcome to attend.
7. **Children and Youth Sunday School:** MPC Children and Youth meet for Sunday School Sunday mornings from 9 to 10 am.
8. **Adult Sunday School:** Adults meet for Sunday School Sunday mornings from 9 to 10 am. James Woods is leading a study of the Gospel of Mark.
9. **Men's Book Group:** Please join us at the church for our last meeting this **Tuesday evening at 7 pm** as we conclude *Grace at Work* by PCA Pastor Bryan Chapell. For more info, contact Paul Hartgrove (972-816-2205, paul.hartgrove@gmail.com) or Christian Stewart (480-370-8968, c.r.stewart1993@gmail.com). Stay tuned for more information on our next study in the fall.
10. **Metrocrest Mayors' Prayer Breakfast:** Christians from the Metrocrest communities will gather to pray next Thursday, May 4th, at 7 am at the Marriott Convention Center in Carrollton. Tickets are \$30 each. Interested in attending? Speak to Pastor Bill.
11. **Ladies Night Out:** Please join us for our next Ladies' Hang Out on **Wednesday, May 10th at 7 pm** at La Meglio (5588 TX-121 #300, Plano 7024) Come out for food, fun, fellowship, and to get to know other ladies in a relaxed environment.

News & Needs

12. **Life Change** for the month of April is going to support Metro Relief of Dallas, a Christian organization that helps people experiencing homelessness get off the streets through an all-mobile, person-centered, and solution-first approach. Every week, their staff and volunteers take mobile resource buses out to build relationships by providing food, socks, hygiene kits, and prayer to our friends on the streets.
13. **Hospitality Team:** Offering coffee and refreshments is a wonderful Metrocrest tradition. Hospitality Team Leader Diane Kizziar needs volunteers to work a few Sundays per quarter. This is a simple and doable ministry that makes a great impact! Please speak to Diane to sign up.
14. **Budget Update:** Treasurer Will Grover, working alongside others in Church leadership, has identified reductions to the 2022-2023 budget. Budgeted expenditures have been reduced by \$31,140. This change is also reflected in the giving numbers shown on the back of the service bulletin. If there are questions, please speak with Will.

High Fives & Thanks

15. **The Deays:** Metrocrest extends gratitude to God for the ministry of Colin and Sarah Deay, whose last day among us is officially today. After four years of faithful service, they leave Metrocrest to launch a new church plant in Richardson.
16. **Elizabeth Lloyd, the Sterenbergs, and the Wymans:** We also thank God for those who are accompanying the Deays: Elizabeth Lloyd; Justin, Gwen, Scott, Raelynn, Annaleigh, Jacquelin and Micah Sterenberg; and Josh, Sam, and Lily Wyman. All of these dear friends have contributed faithfully to our church's life over many years. They are much loved and will be greatly missed.
17. **Fellowship Team:** Huge thanks as always to our tireless and faithful Fellowship Team for organizing today's farewell reception.

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? Metrocrest is a praying church! You can share your prayer requests with us in either of two ways: (1) use one of the cards found in the lobby; or (2) point 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.

Thank you for your financial support! To fund our mission and ministry, Metrocrest depends on God's generous provision through you.

Last Week's Giving: \$8,508

Projected Giving to Date: \$409,395

Actual Giving to Date: \$354,481

Difference to date: + or - (- \$54,914)

Our budget fiscal year is July 2022 - June 2023. For budget information or stewardship assistance, you may contact the Treasurer Will Grover at treasurer@metrocrestchurch.org.



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!

Bill Lovell
Laura Stites
Colin Deay
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
Josh Wyman