



# METROCREST

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## The King & His Kingdom

**Morning Worship  
Palm Sunday  
March 24, 2024**

**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

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## Welcome & Announcements

### Call to Worship - Psalm 22:27-28

Leader: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,  
and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.

**Unison: For kingship belongs to the LORD, and He rules over the nations.**

## We Respond To God's Call

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### Opening Hymn - "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

Trinity Hymnal #235

All glory, laud, and honor  
To Thee, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring!  
Thou art the King of Israel,  
Thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest,  
The King and Blessed One!

The people of the Hebrews  
With palms before Thee went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems  
Before Thee we present:  
To Thee, before Thy passion,  
They sang their hymns of praise;  
To Thee, now high exalted,  
Our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises;  
Accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest,  
Thou good and gracious King!  
All glory, laud, and honor  
To Thee, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring!

### Acknowledging God's Presence

**Worship Theme - "The King & His Kingdom: The King Enters"**

### **Theme Verses - Matthew 21:6-10**

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and He sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before Him and that followed Him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when He entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?"

### **Hymn - "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty"**

Tune: Winchester New

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry;  
O Savior meek, pursue Your road  
With palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die:  
O Christ, your triumphs now begin  
O'er captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
The winged squadrons of the sky  
Look down with sad and wond'ring eyes  
To see th'approaching sacrifice.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
Your last and fiercest strife is nigh;  
The Father on His sapphire throne  
Expects His own anointed Son.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
Bow Your meek head to mortal pain,  
Then take, O God, Your pow'r and reign.

## **We Confess Our Sins**

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### **Call to Confession**

#### **Confession of Sin**

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against Your holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done

those things which we ought not to have done. Have mercy upon us, O Lord: spare all those who confess their faults, and restore all those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen.

### **Assurance of Pardon - Romans 8:1-3a**

There is therefore 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. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending His Own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh.

### **Hymn - "Await, My Soul, in Awe and Wonder"**

Await, my soul, in awe and wonder,  
Him whose pow'r your weakness knows;  
Whose arms in care extend to comfort,  
Deep as e'er your sorrow goes;  
His love, though heavy be the burden,  
Never His beloved leaves,  
But stands in every trial certain,  
Faithful to her frailty cleaves.  
Behold Him now in humble glory:  
Son of God, from God come down,  
No form, no beauty to commend Him,  
Gold, His sacred head to crown.  
But lifted high in death He conquers,  
Slain by man the Savior of;  
His hands, His bloodstained brow proclaim Him:  
Crowned with thorns, enthroned on love.

Yet, though the Lord in rule is risen,  
Higher than the Roman tree,  
Still waits my heart upon the question:  
Is this all of victory?  
Forgive me, Lord, my anxious asking;  
Sin has oft to grieving led.  
The gates of hell have held my vision;  
Life still troubled, death still dread.  
Shall I in all this world find comfort?  
Shall I yet more joyous be?  
Never but should Your Spirit lead me  
Nearer, now, my God, to Thee;  
My soul to learn the scent of heaven,  
Breathe it deep though worlds away;  
My eyes to glimpse Your matchless beauty:  
Ceaseless morn of endless day.

This patient longing strengthen ever,  
Till in joy this mourner hears  
That melody of endless rapture;  
Till in glory Christ appears.  
Permit no other hope to veil Him,  
Dreams to bear Him from my sight;  
Here e'er shall I remain a pilgrim,  
Till I see His glory bright.  
How near the eager end of waiting;  
Waves I hear upon the shore  
Beyond the river; tears abating,  
All that I have wanted for;  
Hosannas loud resound before me,  
Earth and heaven joined in song;  
In Christ is all an endless bounty,  
Joy for endless ages long.

## We Profess Our Faith And Pray

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### **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**

*Please greet those around you in Christ's name.*

### **Hymn - "Ancient of Days"**

Though the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall,  
There is still one King reigning over all.  
So, I will not fear, for this truth remains,  
That my God is the Ancient of Days.

### **(Refrain)**

None above Him, none before Him;  
All of time in His hands;  
For His throne, it shall remain and ever stand.  
All the power, all the glory;  
I will trust in His name,  
For my God is the Ancient of Days.

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul,  
He is here with me; I am not alone.  
O, His love is sure and He knows my name,  
For my God is the Ancient of Days. **(Refrain)**

Though I may not see what the future brings,  
I will watch and wait for the Savior King.  
Then, my joy complete, standing face to face  
In the presence of the Ancient of Days. **(Refrain)**

### **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

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### **Reading God's Word - Matthew 21:1-19**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**Unison: Thanks be to God.**

### **Understanding and Applying God's Word**

Pastor Bill Lovell

**"The King & His Kingdom: The King Enters"**

## We Respond To God's Grace

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### **Offertory Sentence - Hebrews 13:15-16**

Through Christ let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise – the fruit of lips that openly profess His Name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

### **Closing Hymn - "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"**

Trinity Hymnal #76

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,  
To His feet your tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Who, like me, His praise should sing?  
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,  
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor  
To our fathers in distress;  
Praise Him, still the same forever,  
Slow to chide and swift to bless;  
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,  
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like, He tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame He knows;  
In His hands He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes;  
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,  
Widely as His mercy goes.

Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish,  
Blows the wind and it is gone;  
But while mortals rise and perish,  
God endures unchanging on.  
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,  
Praise the High Eternal One.

Angels, help us to adore Him;  
You behold Him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,  
Dwellers all in time and space,  
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,  
Praise with us the God of grace.

## God Sends Us Out With His Blessing

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### **Blessing - Jude 24-25**

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

"**All Glory, Laud, and Honor**" Words by Theodulph of Orleans, Tr. by John Mason Neale, Music by Melchior Teschner. "**Ride On, Ride On in Majesty**" Music from Musikalisches Handbuch, Hamburg 1690, words by Henry H. Milman, 1827. "**Await, My Soul, in Awe and Wonder**" Words and music by Colin Deay – © 2021 Colin Deay. "**Ancient of Days**" Words and Music by Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Michael Farren, Jesse Reeves – © 2018 CityAlight Music, Integrity's Alleluia! Music, BEC Worship, WriterWrong Music, All rights reserved. "**Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven**" Words by Henry F. Lyte, Music by John Goss. CCLI License #451603.

# Sermon Text

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## English Standard Version - Matthew 21:1-19

1 Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to Me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." 4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

5 "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and He sat on them. 8 Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 And the crowds that went before Him and that followed Him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" 10 And when He entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" 11 And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

12 And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and He overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. 13 He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you make it a den of robbers."

14 And the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and he healed them. 15 But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant, 16 and they said to Him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read,

"'Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise'?"

17 And leaving them, He went out of the city to Bethany and lodged there.

18 In the morning, as He was returning to the city, He became hungry. 19 And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, He went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And He said to it, "May no fruit ever come from you again!" And the fig tree withered at once.



# Sermon Notes

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## **Matthew 21:1-19**

Pastor Bill Lovell

### **"The King & His Kingdom: The King Enters"**

Sermon Series: "The King & His Kingdom"

Who is this?

-- Zechariah 9:9

Entering His Kingdom

Cleansing His Temple

Healing His People

Cursing the Fig Tree

# Church Life Notes

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## Today - March 24, 2024

1. **Palm Sunday:** Today we will be reflecting on Matthew 21:1-19, Matthew's inspired telling of the triumphal entry of Christ into Jerusalem. MPC children will help open our time of praise.
2. **Serving Today:** Our scheduled Liturgy Leader is Larry Perry. Our scheduled Prayer Leader is Paul Hartgrove.
3. **Giving Online:** To access our secure online giving portal, you may use the QR code on the back of the bulletin.
4. **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

5. **Maundy Thursday:** Please join us this Thursday, March 28, at 6:00pm, as we look at the Institution of the Lord's Supper in Matthew 26:26-29 ("The King Nourishes").
6. **Good Friday:** Please join us this Friday, March 29, at 6:00pm, as we look at the Lord's Crucifixion in Matthew 27:32-50 ("The King Dies").
7. **Easter Egg Hunt:** Please plan to stay after church on Easter Sunday, March 31, for a simple Easter Egg Hunt.
8. **Sunday School for All Ages:** There will be NO Sunday School Classes on Easter Sunday, March 31.
9. **Women's Bible Study:** MPC's Women's Bible Study meets at 7:00pm on Tuesday nights at the church to study 1 and 2 Kings. Connection via Zoom is available. Call or email Melodie Bajema to register and receive the study book (214-669-7135 or rbajema5@sbcglobal.net).
10. **Men's Book Group:** Interested men meet on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm the church to study Jimmy Davis' *Cruciform: Living the Cross-Shaped Life*. For info, contact Paul Hartgrove (972-816-2205 - paul.hartgrove@gmail.com).
11. **Save the Date:** On Saturday, April 13, at 10:00am, all women and young ladies (4<sup>th</sup> grade and up) are invited to a Spring Tea hosted by our Women's Ministry here at the church. More details to follow!

## News & Needs

12. **Sexual Harassment Policy:** Our Session recently adopted a policy designed to keep Metrocrest free of sexual harassment. Copies of the policy are available in the Lobby. If you are harassed at church, contact Diane Kizziar (972-213-5391, dianekizziar@gmail.com) or Paul Hartgrove (972-816-2205, paul.hartgrove@gmail.com).

## High Fives & Thanks

13. **MPC Giving Update:** Huge thanks to everyone who has been contributing towards our church's mission and ministry! Your faithful giving is making it possible for Metrocrest to do the work God has given us to do! May Christ be glorified in all we do!

## Prayer Requests

14. **For The World:**
  - **Kings and All Who Are in High Positions** - For God to give wisdom and discernment to government leaders here in the US and around the world, so that "we might lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way" (1 Timothy 2:2).
  - **Armed Conflicts** - For God's mercy on the suffering people in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, Yemen, and Haiti.
15. **For Our Church's Mission and Ministry:**
  - **Safety:** For God to protect our church and keep us safe and harassment free.
  - **Church Finances** - For God's generous provision.
16. **For One Another:**
  - **Health Issues** - For God's blessing on Yvonne Alford (Bill Lovell's friend), Connie Bielefeld (Margaret Marrs' grandmother), Kerry Buswell, Jim Huckaby (Colton Huckaby's grandfather), Max Kizziar, Suzanne Larsen, Cherry Leslie, Marcia Livingston (David Wamsley's sister), Ruth Lerner (Elinor Hites' sister), Ariel Lopez, Ashley Marble, Alana Marion, Jeannie Marion (Mike Marion's stepmom), Mike Marion, Tom Mayfield, Ryan & Dianna Muller (friends of Alana Marion), Kristen Novak (Steve & Liz Wallin's daughter), Carol Revell, Chip Sayers, David Wamsley, Marlene Wamsley, Lori Winn, and Norm Winn; and also for God's blessing on expectant couples, Dorian and Joseph Marble, Rachelle and Ben Fant, and Olivia and Avery Berg.
  - **Other Issues** - For God's blessing on Colton and Maurane Huckaby, who are sorting out immigration questions.

**Welcome to Metrocrest!** Please take a few moments to leave your contact information with Pastor Bill or a member of the Welcome Team. We would love to know that you worshipped with us today.



**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 this fiscal year (July-June): Last week's giving - \$10,562; weekly giving goal - \$7,885; actual giving to-date - \$275,049; and projected giving to-date - \$299,615. 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 at [info@metrocrestchurch.org](mailto:info@metrocrestchurch.org)!

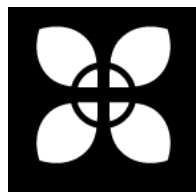
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**The Session (Elders)**

Rick Bajema  
Bill Camp  
John Fowler  
Paul Hartgrove  
Bill Lovell, Moderator  
Larry Perry, Clerk  
James Woods

**The Board of Deacons**

Dalton Dallas, President  
Vianny D'Souza, Clerk  
Will Grover, Treasurer  
Brian Ray



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**Bill Lovell**

Laura Stites  
Nick Rhodes  
Will Grover  
Joseph Marble  
Paul Hartgrove  
Diane Kizziar

**Pastor**

Administrative Assistant  
Music Director  
Treasurer  
Youth Director  
Safeguarding Committee  
Safeguarding Committee

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