



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

Volume 03, Issue 41

September 28, 2008

Prelude

Joel Hammett, piano

Dr. Gradus ad Parnassum from Children's Corner

By Claude Debussy

Our Community Gathers

Rev. Dwayne Johnson & Mark Eggleston

+ Exchange of Peace

+ Processional Hymn

LANCASHIRE

Lead On O Cloud of Presence



Lead on, O cloud of pres - ence; the ex - o - dus is come;
 Lead on, O fi - ery pil - lar; we fol - low yet with fears,
 Lead on, O God of free - dom, and guide us on our way,

in wil - der - ness and des - ert our tribe shall make its home.
 but we shall come re - joic - ing, though joy be born of tears.
 and help us trust the prom - ise through strug - gle and de - lay.

Our bond - age left be - hind us, new hopes with - in us grow.
 We are not lost, though wan - d'ring, for by your light we come,
 We pray our sons and daugh - ters may jour - ney to that land

We seek the land of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow.
 and we are still God's peo - ple. The jour - ney is our home.
 where jus - tice dwells with mer - cy and love is law's de - mand.

+ Invocation

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

We Prepare

The prelude is designed to set the tone for the worship service. It is also an offering from one of our gifted musicians. Many wish to listen and meditate during this time.

We Worship

This hymn by Ruth Duck evolved as she sought to rework the ideas found in the familiar hymn "Lead on O King Eternal". Looking for a way to emphasize the essence of God's presence rather than God's military might, she developed her imagery from the exodus story. There the Israelites depended on the cloud and the fire of God's presence to lead them through their long journey in the wilderness. This hymn reminds us of God's constant liberating presence and guidance not only in the past, but in the midst of our present tears and fears. It encourages us to grow confidently into God's future.

We Hear the Word

This psalm is a hymn in praise of God's historical guidance of Israel that opens in the style of a teacher of wisdom and then proceeds to show God's gracious guidance of Israel from the time of Moses until the establishment of David's realm in Jerusalem. It is clearly a polemical text, showing Israel's faithlessness in the wilderness, which continued in Canaan. The culmination of God's grace and mercy was the establishment of Zion and the choice of King David.

We Worship

We believe that God encompasses all that is feminine and all that is masculine and all that is spirit. For this season we use a call to our God as Mother to begin our prayers ending it with the traditional "Our Father" spoken today in Spanish.

Epistle Reading

Kedric Brown (9 am)
DeJuana Jernigan (11 am)

Psalm 78: 1-4; 12-16

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us. We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of God, and the mighty and wonder that God has done.

In the sight of their ancestors God worked marvels in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan. God divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap. In the daytime God led them with a cloud, and all night long with a fiery light. God split rocks open in the wilderness, and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep. God made streams come out of the rock, and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

Call to Prayer



O ten-der Moth - er, hear our prayer, as we your child -
ren gath - er near. We of - fer you our wound-ed souls,
for your ca - ress can make us whole.

Community Prayers

Jason Wood

The Prayer that Jesus Taught (spoken in unison)

Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos. Santificado sea tu Nombre. Venga tu reino. Hágase tu voluntad. En la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy el pan de este día y perdona nuestras deudas como nosotros perdonamos nuestros deudores y no nos dejes caer en al tentación sino que líbranos del malo. Amen!

+ Gospel Reading

Rev. Janice Ladd

Matthew 21:23-32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one questions; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origins,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

What do you think? A man had two children; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second child and said the same, and she answered, "I do, sir," but she did not go. Which of the two did the will of their father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the realm of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe."

Anthem

Gospel Ensemble

Blessing in the Storm

Words & Music by Kirk Franklin

Spiritual Encouragement

Rev. Pat Farnan & Rev. Dwayne Johnson

***Integrity is a Choice:
Choose Faith Expression Over Faith Pretension***

Making Ministry Happen

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Offertory

HeavenSound Handbells

Communion

Karla Johnson

One: On the night you were betrayed you took the bread;
After giving thanks you broke it and said,
"This is my body broken for you, and as you eat it remember me;

All: This is my body broken for you and as you eat it, remember me.

One: On the night you were betrayed you held the cup
After giving thanks you lifted it up.
This is my life poured out for you, and as you drink it remember me.

All: This is my life poured out for you, and as you drink it remember me.

One: So we thank you for the cup and for the bread,
For we see the life you gave and the blood you shed.

**All: And we remember your wondrous love;
You gave your body you shed your blood.
And we remember your wondrous love
You gave your Spirit to live in us.
And we remember your wondrous love;
You gave your body you shed your blood.
And we remember your wondrous love
You gave your Spirit to live in us.**

**We Hear
the Word**

In this parable right after Jesus enters Jerusalem, the leaders challenge Jesus' authority. They do not recognize that God has commissioned him. Jesus' response focuses on John, for in evaluating John, they evaluate Jesus.

We Listen

Kirk Franklin (born January 26, 1970 in Fort Worth) is an American Gospel music singer and author. Franklin is most notably known as the leader of urban contemporary gospel choirs such as the Family, God's Property and 1NC (One Nation Crew).

This selection, *Blessing in the Storm* was written by him. It was featured on his album *The Nu Nation Project*.

This setting of the communion liturgy is entirely sung. The music consecrates the bread and the cup, and proclaims our remembrance of Jesus as he asked.

Music During Communion

We Receive

All Congregations in MCC practice an open communion. We believe that communion is a visible sign of Christ's presence and God's grace that each one of us, visitor, friend, or member, may receive. Simply come forward as the ushers direct. We use grape juice for the cup. After you are served you will receive a blessing from the server. If you are in need of further prayer, our Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry team is available following both services to pray with you.

We Sing

We sing as a body during the distribution of the elements. If you do not wish to sing, please be in an attitude of prayer for those who wish to meditate during this time.

God, create in us a faith that is deep and real.

Receive real spiritual nourishment for real faith.

Change My Heart, O God

Change my heart, O God, make it every true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.
You are the Potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Words & Music by Eddie Espinosa
© 1982 Mercy Publishing
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You Are My All in All

You are my strength when I am weak,
You are the treasure that I seek, you are my all in all.
Seeking you as a precious jewel,
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool. You are my all in all.
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.
Taking my sin, my cross, my shame,
Rising again I bless your name. You are my all in all.
When I fall down, you pick me up;
When I am dry, you fill my cup. You are my all in all! (Chorus)

Words & Music by Dennis Jernigan
© 1990 Shepherd's Heart Music
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Cares Chorus

I cast all my cares upon you,
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet.
And anytime that I don't know what to do,
I will cast all my cares upon you.

Words & Music Kelly Willard
© 1978 Maranatha! Music
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It is Well with My Soul

When peace like a river attendeth my way when sorrows like sea billows roll;
+ Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."
It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul!

Words by Horatio Spafford, Music by Philip Bliss
This arrangement by Steven D. Couch, © Cathedral of Hope
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+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ **Benediction**

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Postlude

Joel Hammett

Staff

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

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RevDwayne@ResurrectionMCC.org (x101)

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Jason Wood

Director of Connections

Jason@ResurrectionMCC.org (x105)

Joel Hammett

Organist

Ken Thompson

Audio / Visual Director

Anthony White

Gospel Ensemble Pianist

Cassandra White

Gospel Ensemble Director

Jim Winslett

HeavenSound Handbells Director

Volunteer Staff Clergy

Rev. Bernie Barbour

RevBernie@ResurrectionMCC.org

Rev. Rick Elliott

Rev. Mona Lopez

RevMona@ResurrectionMCC.org

Worship

Sunday, 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Children & Youth Worship

Sunday, 11:00 am

Nursery

Sunday, 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church

2025 West 11th St, Houston, Texas 77008

Phone 713-861-9149 / Fax 713-861-2520

www.ResurrectionMCC.org

Welcome!

If you are visiting Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church for the first time, we are glad to have you here! We invite you to join us each week as we worship God and learn more about Christian living in an inclusive way. All are welcome.

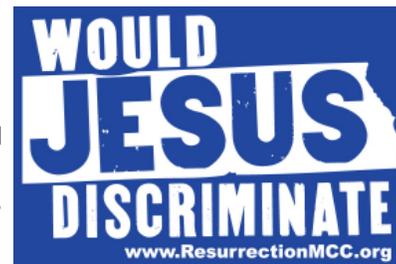
Make sure to visit the Concierge Desk, located next to Inspirations, our coffee café and gift shop, to receive a gift from us. You will find friendly volunteer hosts waiting to greet you.

Worship Services

Resurrection MCC is proud to offer a variety in our worship services. Our two Sunday services, at 9 & 11 am, are identical in form, however they contain different elements from diverse religious traditions each week.

About Us...

Resurrection MCC is a Christian church with a primary outreach to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community. We are a part of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, founded by Rev. Troy D. Perry in Los Angeles, California on October 6, 1968. Metropolitan Community Churches are on a bold mission to transform hearts, lives, and history. We are a movement that faithfully proclaims God's inclusive love for all people, and proudly bears witness to the holy integration of spirituality and sexuality.



The **Mission** of Resurrection MCC is to demonstrate God's unconditional love to all people through Christian action.

The **Vision** of Resurrection MCC is to **ATTRACT** people into a relationship with God through radical **INCLUSION** into God's family, transform them to Christ-like **MATURITY**, and **MOBILIZE** them for their life purpose.

At Resurrection MCC, every member and friend is a minister of the church. We envision a Christian community that values diversity and is as diverse and all-encompassing as creation. Through salvation, service, study, and tithing, each member and friend will live and grow in faith and be spiritually fed. To that end, we embrace five core beliefs:

We believe in God's unconditional love for everyone.

We believe in the saving grace of Jesus Christ and the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit.

We believe in including everyone and excluding no one.

We believe in joyfully providing access to Christ-centered spiritual nourishment and Biblical truths.

We believe that each of us will discover our spirituality through active participation in the work of God and in the pursuit of health, wholeness, and justice for everyone.

Again, welcome!

The Chalice

opening...receiving...offering

Life in Fullness

Wednesdays

6:00 - 6:30 pm
Community Meal

6:30 - 7:00 pm
Spiritual Deepening

7:00 - 8:30 pm
Life Development Offerings:
Open Door
Creating a Life That Matters
Unbinding the Gospel

The Chalice: Open Door Discussion 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Sanctuary

Join us any Wednesday evening for an Open Door Discussion at Resurrection!

Centering around the short NOOMA films which introduce current, relevant, spiritual topics with cutting edge music and visuals, these facilitated discussions open the door to share our spiritual heart with each other ... God ... ourselves!

No advance registration - just Open the Door and c'mon in!
Join us!



Drumming Circle

From a distance, it may sound like music from a car stereo. But as you draw near, you realize that here is no melody, just a pulsating rhythm. Close inspection reveals a group of a dozen or so people playing drums of all kinds: big and little ones, both primitive and high-tech.

This is a drumming circle. These are gaining popularity across the country. Some celebrate Native American customs and heritage or other ethnic traditions, but all are outlets for people expressing a primal urge that drives their spirit, amidst camaraderie and fun.

A 2003 study, for example, found that drumming induces deep relaxation, lowers blood pressure, and reduces stress, which contributes to nearly all disease and is a primary cause of life-threatening illnesses. Drumming puts the mind, body and spirit in a place of rest.

We will be starting a drumming circle at Resurrection in November. Stay tuned for more articles on drumming and drums. If you want more information, contact Denise Junious at DrummingCircle@ResurrectionMCC.org or call the church office.

THE REVIEW

with Darren Carlos Terry

A monthly topical film and/or book discussion
For more intel call 713-256-4202



TODAY!

1:10 pm, Gathering Place / Hot Wings & Pizza Served

Different People Different Insights Different Points of View
Maybe a little too different - but that's OK!



Holy Union Preparation Seminar Sunday, October 5, 1 - 3 pm Gathering Place / Lunch Served

Are you and your partner thinking about having a Holy Union? This seminar is the recommended first step to having a Holy Union performed by Resurrection clergy.

It is designed to help couples discuss relationship matters, while keeping Christ in the center of their relationship.

Register to Jason@ResurrectionMCC.org

New Members Class Saturday, October 11 9 - Noon Gathering Place Breakfast Served

Rev. Kristen & Rev. Janice guide the participant to learn the mission, vision, and values of Resurrection MCC, to discover our connection to the world through our affiliation with the Metropolitan Community Churches, and to join this family in purpose, service, and fellowship.

To register, contact Jason Wood,
Jason@ResurrectionMCC.org
or 713-861-9149 x105.

Download & complete the Spiritual Gifts Assessment
from www.ResurrectionMCC.org

Outreach, Wisdom, Laughter, Support:
A Ministry for Seniors & Friends



October 7
Noon - 2 pm
Gathering Place

RSVP & Questions to Pat Walker, Team Lead, at
OWLS@ResurrectionMCC.org
Potluck lunches held 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each Month

Experience the WOW factor!

Excel of the Armadillo Retreat

October 10 – 12, 2008

Friday evening - Sunday afternoon

God's Grace, Security, Commitment, Prayer, Study, Action
... And much more, all within a safe environment

Register today in the Gathering place and check out our website.
www.excelofthearmadillo.org

Blessings to you from the entire Excel Team
Kecia Bullock, Rodger Geisel, Jerry Reitz, Clair Vasiliyo,
Michael Fernandez, Robert Slipeka, Kristia Ammerman,
Doug Hill, Ron Drumm and Ron Reeser

We have been in training and praying for you all year and looking forward to meeting you in person to share the Excel Experience.

Nursery Help Needed

We are seeking tender, competent childcare providers with formal or informal experience. Shifts include Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Approximately 8 hours each week, \$15 per hour.

Contact Rev. Kristen:
713-861-9149 x107
RevKristen@
ResurrectionMCC.org



LIFE DOESN'T STAND STILL AND NEITHER SHOULD YOUR INVESTMENTS.



Jennifer L. Riley, Financial Advisor
713-861-7225

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Board Members on Duty

Len Shelton & Leslie Jackson

Board Minutes Available Upon Request.

Flowers for the Sanctuary

Please consider donating flowers for the Sanctuary.
Sign up on the flower chart in the Welcome Area.

Save the Date!

Sunday, October 12, 2008

810 Pacific Street

4 - 8 p.m.



decadent
dessert
and more

Headlining entertainment by Vickie Shaw

* 8 p.m. on, stay and continue partying
No additional cover charge
www.assisthers.org

OUR SAINTS

Each Sunday we have a body of believers that worship with us that we do not see. All the saints from this body are present with us in worship each week. They praise the living God with us.

On November 2, we will honor those Saints that are among us. We would like to do that via multimedia. If you have a picture of someone who has gone to be part of the great cloud of witnesses that surround us, please bring that picture to the church to be scanned or e-mail it to Steven@ResurrectionMCC.org. If the picture is a hard copy, please put a note on the picture with your name and phone number along with the name of the saint you wish to have honored. This will be a great time of remembering those witnesses that surround us each week.

General Fund Financial Report

Two Weeks Ending September 21, 2008

Tithes & Offerings		Week	Year
09/21/08 9:00 am	111	\$5,333.67	\$181,703.63
09/21/08 11:00 am	270	\$5,702.23	\$251,040.98
09/17/08 7:00 pm	31	\$427.00	\$427.00
Special Services		\$0.00	\$5,833.44
Online Giving		\$1,932.74	\$52,006.38
Other Contributions		\$2,938.00	\$69,280.58
Total	412	\$16,333.64	\$560,290.01
Other General Fund Income			
Fundraising		\$0.00	\$13,545.64
Miscellaneous		\$300.00	\$20,119.59
Total Received		\$16,633.64	\$593,955.24
Budgeted Need		\$32,631.14	\$603,787.05
Total Surplus / (Deficit)		(\$15,997.50)	(\$9,831.81)
Total Imagine Capital Campaign		\$2,542.34	\$212,826.23



This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 28

- 9:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**
10:15 am Fisher's Net - Prayer Time *Chapel*
11:00 am Children & Youth Worship Service *Activities Building*
11:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson
12:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Music Room*
12:45 pm Movie Review Social Group *Wellness Center*

MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 29

No Events Scheduled.

TUESDAY

SEPTEMBER 30

- 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous *Gathering Place*
7:00 pm Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal *Music Room*
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *Chapel*

WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 1

- 6:00 pm The Chalice: Mid-Week Spiritual Deepening**
6:00 pm The Chalice: Community Meal *Activities Building*
6:30 pm The Chalice: Spiritual Deepening *Sanctuary*
7:00 pm The Chalice: CLM (closed) *Gathering Place*
7:00 pm The Chalice: The Open Door *Sanctuary*
7:00 pm The Chalice: Unbinding the Gospel *Music Room*
7:00 pm Houston Pride Band Rehearsal *Activities Building*

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 2

- 8:30 am NCS Workshop *Gathering Place*
6:45 pm Houston Pride Band Ensemble *Chapel*
7:00 pm Resurrection Singers Rehearsal *Music Room*

FRIDAY

OCTOBER 3

Office Closed Fridays.

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 4

- 9:00 am EXCEL of the Armadillo Meeting *Gathering Place*
1:00 pm Angels in Motion Rehearsal *Sanctuary*

SUNDAY

OCTOBER 5

- 9:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**
10:15 am Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry *Chapel*
11:00 am Children & Youth Worship Service *Activities Building*
11:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson
12:30 pm Second Family Care Partners Luncheon *Act. Bldg. #108*
1:00 pm Holy Union Preparation Seminar *Gathering Place*
2:00 pm EXCEL in Faithfulness *Wellness Center*