



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

Volume 03, Issue 41

October 5, 2008

Prelude

Steven Couch, organ

Prelude in a "Classic Style"
By Gordon Young

Our Community Gathers

Rev. Dwayne Johnson & Rev. Janice Ladd

+ Exchange of Peace

+ Processional Hymn

SOLID ROCK

My Hope Is Built



My hope is built on nothing less than Je - sus' love and righ-teous-ness; I
 When shad-ows veil my Sav-ior's face, I rest up-on un-chang-ing grace; In
 When Christ shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in Love be found, Dressed

dare not trust this earth-ly frame, but whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 ev - ery high and storm-y gale, my an - chor holds with in the veil.
 in God's righ - teous-ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore the throne.

On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is

sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

+ Invocation

Rev. Janice Ladd

+ 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

Edward Mote, who wrote the text for this hymn, is credited with being the first to use the term "gospel hymn." Mote was apprenticed to a cabinet maker as a young man, but later became a pastor and wrote more than one hundred hymns during his lifetime. The tune was composed by William Bradbury specifically for this text.

The text was designed as a series of couplets, in which each pair of ideas has some relationship, followed by a refrain. This is the format used by many gospel hymn writers since Mote's time. The metaphor of the rock, which appears in the refrain, relates to more than 100 biblical passages, from the rock that gave water to the Israelites, to references to the stone that was rejected by the builders.

We Hear the Word

This is a lengthy personal narrative, modeled on the example of Christ. Paul first lists his credentials for high status according to the flesh, then announces that he no longer exploits this status. Indeed, he would willingly share in Christ's suffering in order to gain Christ and the power of his resurrection. Paul thus presents himself as a model of conformity to the Christological paradigm and can therefore urge imitation of that example.

We Worship

Rosa Martha Zarate Macias wrote this hymn for her Mexican People and other Pueblos deprived of their homeland, those whom the Great Spirit calls to be prophets, men and women of courage, responsible for constructing the new society based in justice and love.

Epistle Reading

Jerry Reitz (9 am)
Terry Smith (11 am)

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him; not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Call to Prayer

Pro - fe - ti - za, Pue-blo mí - o, pro - fe - ti - za_u - na vez más. Que tu
You shall proph - e - sy, all my peo - ple, you shall proph - e - sy once more, That your

voz sea el e - co del cla - more de los Pue-blos en o - pre - sión. Pro - fe -
voice may ech - o all the cries of the peo - ple who are op - pressed. You shall

ti - za, Pue - blo mí - o, pro - fe - ti - za_u - na vez más, a - nun -
proph - e - sy, my peo - ple, you shall proph - e - sy once more, to the

cián - do - le, a los po - bres u - na nue - va so - cie - dad.
poor an - nounce the com - ing of a new so - ci - e - ty.

Prayer for Justice & Peace

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ Gospel Reading

Rev. Janice Ladd

Matthew 21:33-46

"Here is another parable. There was once a man, a wealthy farmer, who planted a vineyard. He fended it, dug a winepress, put up a watchtower, then turned it over to the farmhands and went off on a trip. When it was time to harvest the grapes, he sent his servants back to collect his profits.

"The farmhands grabbed the first servant and beat him up. The next one they murdered. They threw stones at the third but he got away. The owner tried again, sending more servants. They got the same treatment. The owner was at the end of his rope. He decided to send his son. 'Surely,' he thought, 'they will respect my son.' But when the farmhands saw the son arrive, they rubbed their hands in greed. 'This is the heir! Let's kill him and have it all for ourselves.' They grabbed him, threw him out, and killed him.

"Now, when the owner of the vineyard arrives home from his trip, what do you think he would do to the farmhands?" "He'll kill them - a rotten bunch, and good riddance," they answered. "Then he'll assign the vineyard to farmhands who will hand over the profits when it's time." Jesus said, "Right - and you can read it for yourselves in the scriptures: The stone that the masons threw out is now the cornerstone. This is God's work; we rub our eyes, we can hardly believe it!

"This is the way it is with you. God's dominion will be taken back from you and handed over to a people who will live out a dominion life. Whoever stumbles on this Stone gets shattered; whoever the Stone falls on gets smashed." When the religious leaders heard this story, they knew it was aimed at them. They wanted to arrest Jesus and put him in jail, but intimidated by public opinion, they held back. Most people held him to be a prophet of God.

Anthem

Sanctuary Choir

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

By Allen Pote

Spiritual Encouragement

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

*Would Jesus Discriminate?
Radical Affirmation*

Making Ministry Happen

Rev. Mona Lopez

Offertory

Steven Couch

The Prayer of St. Francis

By Allen Pote

Communion

Rev. Mona Lopez

- One: God be with you.
- All: And also with you.**
- One: Lift up your hearts.
- All: We lift them up to God.**
- One: Let us give thanks to God.
- All: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Sanctus

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te - a dor - a! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: San - to er - es Se - nor!
heart knows how to say to - you: Ho - ly - are you, Lord!

We Hear the Word

This parable uses allegory to interpret Jerusalem's fall in 70 CE as punishment for the leaders' unfaithfulness. As the leaders answer the questions in the parable they pronounce their own penalty.

We Listen

This anthem is an arrangement of the hymn by Isaac Watts. It is traditionally used during Lent. However, the text speaks of the cross and then shares with us the writer's very personal expression of gratitude that the death of Christ on the cross revealed. The hymn climaxes in the last part of the fourth stanza. Possibly no hymnic lines have been more quoted than "love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all."

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, open us to your living presence through your life at this table.

Receive the living grace of this spiritual nourishment.

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
CCLI License #1025612

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. Janice Ladd

+ **Benediction**

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Postlude

Steven Couch

Staff

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

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RevDwayne@ResurrectionMCC.org (x101)

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Jason Wood

Director of Connections

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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.

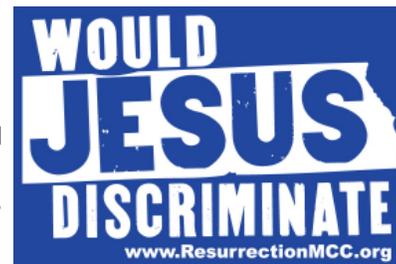
Make sure to visit the Concierge Desk, located next to Inspirations, our coffee café and gift shop, to receive a gift from us. You will find friendly volunteer hosts waiting to greet you.

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

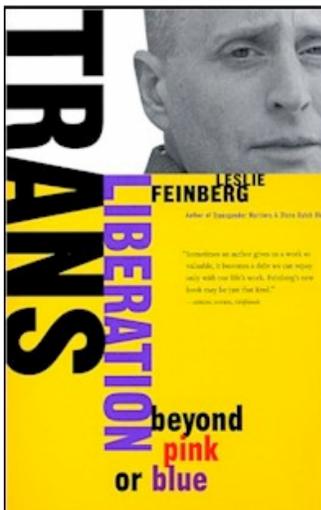
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Life Development Offerings:

Open Door

Creating a Life That Matters

Unbinding the Gospel



Are you interested in learning more about gender expression?

Do you recognize that human self-expression is diverse and often expressed in ways that "contradict" our society's expectations? Have you realized that rigid gender education begins early in life through such gender identification as the pink or blue color coding of infant clothing, toys and gender-labeled games? To stretch your thinking and language around this issue, our Equality Ministry recommends *Trans Liberation*, by Leslie Feinberg, available today in Inspirations Coffee Cafe & Gift Shop.

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!



Holy Union Preparation Seminar TODAY, 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



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.

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

Owls

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 Slipek, 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



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Board Members on Duty

Debbie Skelly & Bryan Long

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.

OUR SAINTS

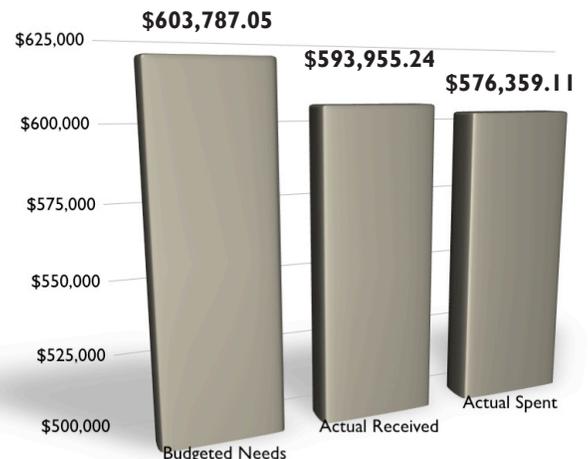
Each Sunday we have a body of believers that worship with us that we do not see. All the saints from this body are present with us in worship each week. They praise the living God with us.

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 28, 2008

		Week	Year
<i>Tithes & Offerings</i>			
09/28/08 9:00 am	149	\$3,364.00	\$185,065.63
09/28/08 11:00 am	343	\$6,165.91	\$257,206.89
09/24/08 7:00 pm	58	\$48.05	\$475.05
Special Services		\$0.00	\$5,833.44
Online Giving		\$551.07	\$52,557.45
Other Contributions		\$1,320.00	\$70,600.58
Total	550	\$11,449.03	\$571,739.04
<i>Other General Fund Income</i>			
Fundraising		\$13.86	\$13,559.50
Miscellaneous		\$166.00	\$20,285.59
Total Received		\$11,628.89	\$605,584.13
Budgeted Need		\$16,315.57	\$620,102.61
Total Surplus / (Deficit)		(\$4,686.68)	(\$14,518.48)
Total Imagine Capital Campaign		\$1,357.00	\$214,183.73



This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

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
12:30 pm	Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting Forum	Sanctuary
1:00 pm	Holy Union Preparation Seminar	Gathering Place
2:00 pm	EXCEL in Faithfulness	Workroom

MONDAY OCTOBER 6

6:30 pm	Anointing Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30 pm	Imagine Campaign Team Meeting	Gathering Place

TUESDAY OCTOBER 7

12:00 pm	OWLS Luncheon	Gathering Place
6:30 pm	LHI Board Meeting	Wellness Center
7:00 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous	Gathering Place
7:00 pm	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal	Music Room
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Chapel

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 8

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 9

6:45 pm	Houston Pride Band Ensemble	Chapel
7:00 pm	Resurrection Singers Rehearsal	Music Room

FRIDAY OCTOBER 10

Office Closed Fridays.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 11

9:00 am	New Members Class	Gathering Place
1:00 pm	Angels in Motion Rehearsal	Sanctuary

SUNDAY OCTOBER 12

9:00 am	Sunday Worship / Mark Eggleston	
10:15 am	Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry	Chapel
10:45 am	Lay Delegates Meeting	Activities Building #108
11:00 am	Children & Youth Worship Service	Activities Building
11:00 am	Sunday Worship / Mark Eggleston	
12:30 pm	HeavenSound Handbell Rehearsal	Sanctuary
1:30 pm	Holy Union	Sanctuary