

MIDTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10.13.2019

Welcome to Worship at Midtown!

We are really glad to have you with us for worship today.

Whether you have been a Christian for many years, or are trying to sort out what the Christian faith is all about, or are just here as a favor to your friend, we're happy to have you. We have a nursery provided for little ones. You are welcome to keep them in the service with you if you prefer.

Reflection

Christianity revitalized life in Greco-Roman cities by providing new norms and new kinds of social relationships able to cope with many urgent urban problems. To cities filled with the homeless and impoverished, Christianity offered charity as well as hope. To cities filled with newcomers and strangers, Christianity offered an immediate basis for attachments. To cities filled with orphans and widows, Christianity provided a new and expanded sense of family. To cities torn by violent ethnic strife, Christianity offered a new basis for social solidarity. And to cities faced with epidemics, fires, and earthquakes, Christianity offered effective nursing services....No wonder the early Christian missionaries were so warmly received....For what they brought was not simply an urban movement, but a new culture capable of making life in Greco-Roman cities more tolerable.

—Rodney Stark

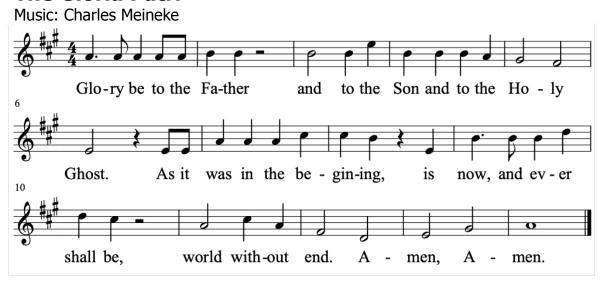
The Word

Call to Worship

Psalm 117:1-2

Praise the Lord, all nations! Extol him, all peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!

The Gloria Patri



Crown Him With Many Crowns





Crown Him the Lord of life! Who triumphed o'er the grave, And rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save. His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of love! Behold His hands and side; Rich wounds yet visible above in beauty glorified. No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight But downward bends each burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of peace! Whose power a sceptre sways; From pole to pole that wars may cease and all be prayer and praise. His reign shall know no end, and round His pierced feet Fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet. Crown Him the Lord of years; the Potentate of time, Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime. All hail Redeemer hail, for Thou hast died for me; Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

Isaiah 43:22,24

You have not called upon me, O Jacob, you have not wearied yourselves for me, O Israel....You have burdened me with your sins and wearied me with your offenses.

Confession of Sin

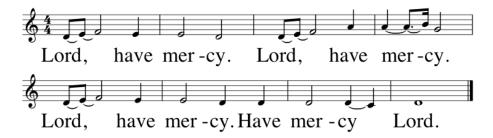
[Pray aloud together]

Holy Father, you see us as we are, and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are unworthy of your gracious care. We forget that all life comes from you and that to you all life returns. We have not sought to do your will with our whole hearts. We have not lived as grateful children, nor loved as Christ loved us. Apart from you, we are nothing. Only your grace can sustain us. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us, heal us, and make us whole. Set us free from our sin, and restore us to the joy of your salvation now and forever. Amen.

[You are invited to confess your sins silently at this time.]

Kyrie Eleison

Music: Greg Wilbur



Assurance of Forgiveness

Isaiah 43:25

I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

--Lyrics: George Matheson; Music: Kevin Twit



O Light, that follow'st all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day, may brighter, fairer be.

O Joy, that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain, that morn shall tearless be.

O Cross, that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

The Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Let us pray to the Lord, for the mission of the church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to You, O Lord.

(Please pray silently for the church throughout the world.) Amen.

For those who do not yet believe and those struggling with their faith: that they may receive the light of the gospel, we pray to You, O Lord.

(Please pray silently for those yet to believe.) Amen.

For the peace of the world,

that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, according to Your will, we pray to You, O Lord.

(Please pray silently for the world.) Amen.

For the poor, the persecuted, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger;

that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to You, O Lord.

(Please pray silently for those who suffer.) Amen.

And hear us as we pray as our Savior taught us,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 12:1-3

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

John 14:12-17

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

People: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Lord I Need You

Music & Lyrics: Carson, Nockels, Maher, Reeves & Stanfill



Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more. Where grace is found is where You are. Where You are, Lord, I am free! Holiness is Christ in me.

New Testament Reading Acts 11:19-30

Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews. 20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus. 21 And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord. 22 The report of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. ²³ When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, 24 for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. 25 So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, ²⁶ and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians. 27 Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. ²⁸ And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius). ²⁹ So the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brothers living in Judea. 30 And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

Minister: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

People: **Praise be to You, Lord Christ.**

Sermon Rev. Charles Garland

The Table

Confession of Faith

--The Heidelberg Catechism, Question #1

Minister: What is your only comfort in life and death?

People:

That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

Invitation and Prayer

[Communion, also called The Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation which proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer.]

The Sursum Corda (Lift Up Your Hearts)

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

The Words of Institution

The Mystery of Faith

Minister: Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come again!

Minister: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

The Giving of the Bread and Cup

[As you are ready please come forward to receive the bread and the cup. We provide individual cups of grape juice and gluten-free wafers in the tray at the front. We partake in the Supper by intinction, that is, we dip the bread into the cup. Children who have not yet professed their faith in Christ nor been admitted to the Table are encouraged to come forward for a prayer of blessing.]

All You Do Is Good



You release every captive, cut the shackles from slaves, Those who hate you, you ransom, Give you blood for their shame. With the bent stem, you're tender, shield the smoldering flame, You bring home the unwanted, call the lost back by name. [Chorus]

good.

is

do

you

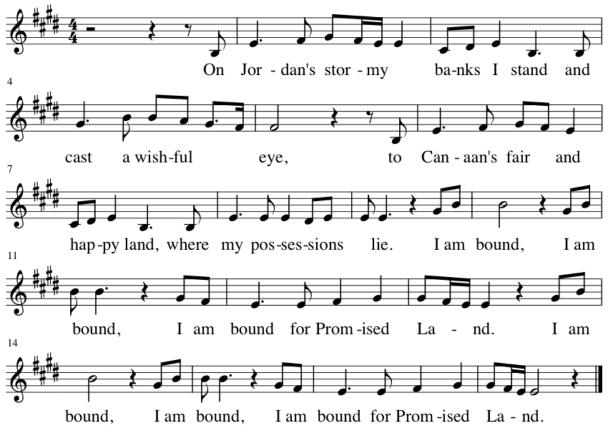
all .

and

Your life is eternal, not in measure but kind, Running over with healing, inexhaustible might. You in us, and we in you, the delight in your face. Resting here we enjoy you, and our joy is your praise. [Chorus]

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

Lyrics: Samuel Stennett; Music: Christopher Miner



All o'er those wide extended plains, Shines one eternal day; There God the Son forever reigns, And scatters night away.

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath Can reach that healthful shore; Sickness, sorrow, pain and death, Are felt and feared no more

When shall I reach that happy place, And be forever blessed? When shall I see my Father's face, And in His bosom rest?

Benediction

Notes

Offering: We have placed an offering box at the back of the sanctuary that you can use as you enter or leave. You can also give online at our website www.mpctucson.org.

Email List: Please sign up for our email list on the table in the back. We send out the bulletin and announcements every week before worship and would love to include you.

Women's Bible Study: Wednesday @ the Garland's (1324 N Norton Ave) @ 7:00pm. The study will be on the Compassion of Jesus as seen in the Gospels. All women are welcome—contact Julie Garland with questions (julie.garland@gmail.com / 678-849-8401).

Book Groups: Both the men's and the women's book groups will be reading <u>The Great Divorce</u>, by C. S. Lewis next month. The men meet 11/12, and the women meet 11/8, both at the McReynolds' home (<u>4779 E. Avenida del Cazador</u>).

Hootenanny: Saturday night, 10/26, 7:00 at Robert Jentoft's home (4335 E Sunnybrook Ln.) Come and sing, bring an instrument, or just hang out.

Pastor: Charles Garland

Music Director: Sarah Lewis

RUF Ministers: Dan & Brittany Smith

Midtown Presbyterian Church www.mpctucson.org P.O. Box 40517, Tucson, AZ 85717 678.849.7918

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

Biblical references are taken from the Holy Bible: English Standard Version (ESV) Copyright 2001 by Crossway Bibles. Music: Most historic hymns are public domain. Recent praise songs are printed under Midtown Presbyterian Church's CCLI License # 11521797.