

MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

10.07.2018

Welcome to Worship at Midtown!

We are just starting our corporate worship services, and are really glad to have you with us. 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 in the patio room. You are welcome to keep them in the service with you if you prefer.

Worship Note

Prayer is the most practical thing anyone can do. It is not mystical escape, it is historical engagement. Prayer participates in God's action. God gathers our cries and our praises, our petitions and intercessions, and uses them. The prayers that ascend to God now descend to earth. God uses our prayers in his work. "Prayer," wrote Pascal, "is God's way of providing man with the dignity of causality."

— Eugene H. Peterson

Reflection

The word [of Jesus] as sword refers to word's ability to be painfully prophetic in its cutting away that which should not be there and killing what should not have life. In the letter to the seven churches, the front edge of the sword cut into the ideas and practices of the world to challenge and reform them, especially when those ideas worked their way into the church. The back edge of the sword reached in another direction also, cutting back into the life, habits and practices of the church that needed reform.

—Dick Keyes

The Word

Call to Worship

Psalm 47:1-2

Clap your hands, all peoples!

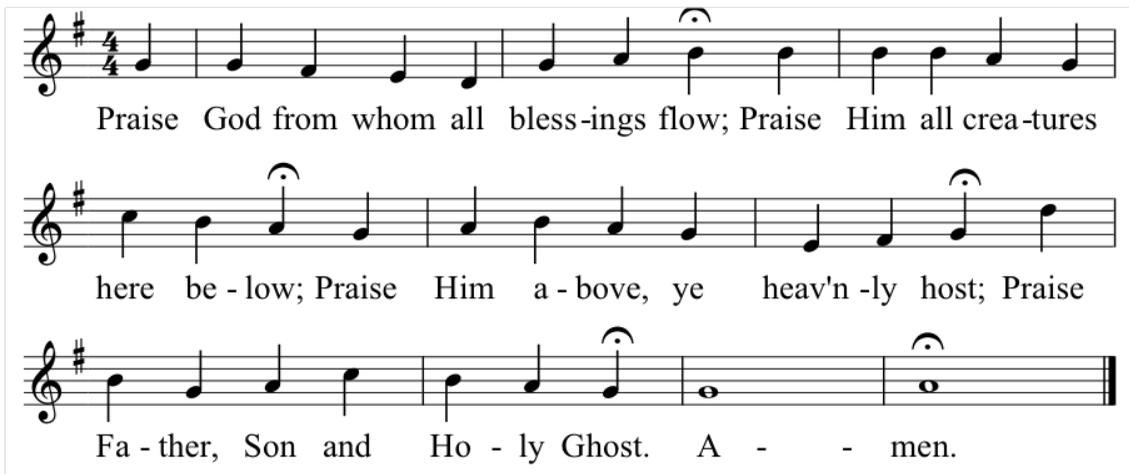
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

For the Lord, the Most High, is to be feared,

A great King over all the earth.

Doxology

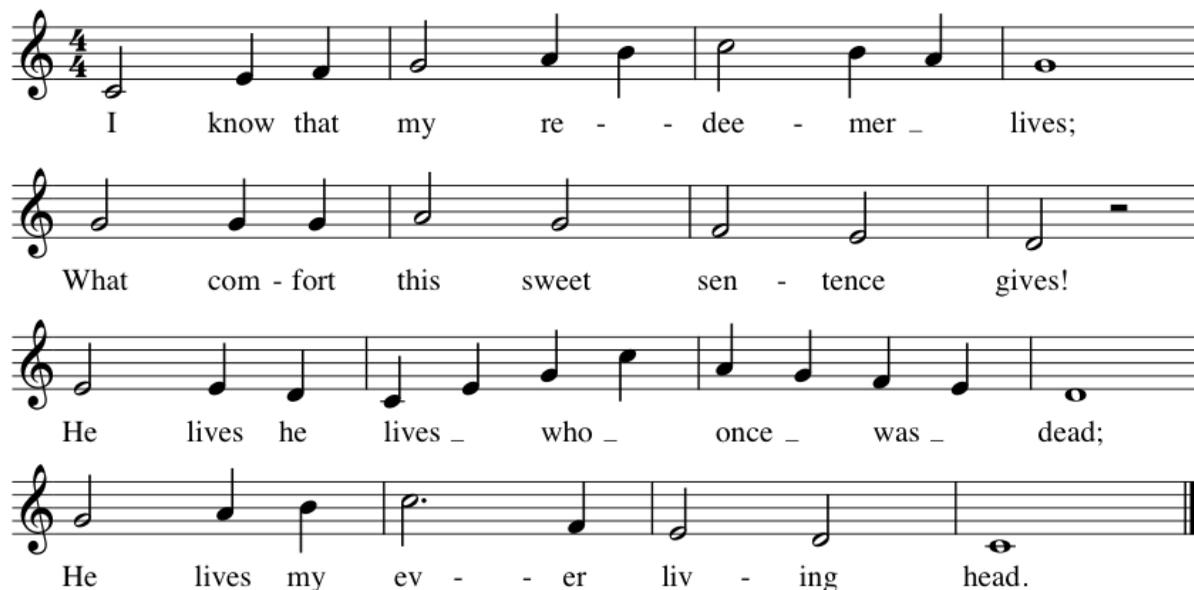
Music: The Old One Hundredth



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures
here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise
Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - - men.

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Lyrics: Samuel Medley; Music: John Hatton



The image shows the musical notation for the hymn 'I Know That My Redeemer Lives'. It consists of four staves of music in 4/4 time, with lyrics written below each staff. The melody is simple and uses a treble clef. The lyrics are: 'I know that my re - - dee - mer _ lives; What com - fort this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives he lives _ who _ once _ was _ dead; He lives my ev - - er liv - ing head.'

He lives to silence all my fears, He lives to wipe away my tears,
He lives to calm my troubled heart, He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives and I shall conquer death;
He lives and while I live I'll sing, He lives my prophet, priest, and king.

He lives triumphant from the grave, He lives eternally to save,
What joy this bless'd assurance gives; I know that my redeemer lives.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

John 8:31-34

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.

Confession of Sin *Please pray aloud together*

Gracious God, we confess that we have longed too much for the comforts of this world. We have loved the gifts more than the giver. In your mercy, help us to see that all the things we pine for are shadows, but you are substance; that they are quicksands, but you are mountain; that they are shifting, but you are anchor. We plead your forgiveness on the merits of Jesus Christ. Accept his worthiness for our unworthiness, his sinlessness for our transgressions, his fullness for our emptiness, his glory for our shame, his righteousness for our dead works, his death for our life. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

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

Kyrie Eleison

Music: Greg Wilbur



Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy.



Lord, have mer-cy. Have mer-cy Lord.

Assurance of Forgiveness

John 8:36

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: *And also with you!*

God's Highway

Music & Lyrics: Sandra McCracken

My feet are strong, my eyes are clear. I can - not
see the way - from here. But on we go; He knows the
way and in his arms he keeps - me safe.

Chorus
Fear not, keep on, watch and pray! Walk in the
light of God's high - way. *Bridge* I'm hold - ing
on to You Lord. — You're hold - ing on — to me.

The shadows flee, the valley is deep,
But evil cannot conquer me.
Your rod and staff, they protect me;
You give me rest, You give me peace. *Chorus*

I see the shore from troubled seas.
This tiny ship that carries me,
It is not yet, but it will be;
So heaven come, it's You we need. *Chorus*

The Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

(Please pray the italicized portions aloud together.)

O God the Father, from whom the whole church in heaven and earth is named; O God the Son, who lives as head over the church; O God the Holy Spirit, who gathers and perfects the church; O Holy Trinity, eternal love:

Have mercy upon us.

That it may please you to strengthen and enlarge your holy Church in every land, and to unite all those who profess and call themselves Christians in faith and hope and love:

We pray to you, O Lord.

(Silent prayer for the church)

That your Church may strive, not for its own safety, but for the world's salvation, seeking only your kingdom and your righteousness:

We pray to you, O Lord.

(Silent prayer for those who don't believe.)

That you will grant to all ministers of your Word and Sacraments the spirit of wisdom, power, and love, and call many more to the work of your ministry:

We pray to you, O Lord.

(Silent prayer for the Church's ministers.)

That, regardless of the praise or contempt of the world, your Church may worship and adore you in spirit and in truth:

We pray to you, O Lord.

(Bring your personal requests to God in silent prayer.)

Let us join together in praying as Jesus taught us to pray:

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

Isaiah 48:17-22

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:13-16

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ

People: *Praise be to you, O Christ*

Ten Thousand Reasons

—Lyrics and Music: Matt Redman & John Myrin



Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul, wor-ship His ho - ly name.



Sing like ne-ver be-fore, O my soul I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.

Verse



The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn - ing; -



It's time to sing your song a-gain. What - e-ver may pass and what-



-e - ver lies be - fore - me;



Let me be sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger,
Your name is great and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness I will keep on singing,
10,000 reasons for my heart to find.

And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come.
Still my soul will sing your praise unending,
10,000 years and then forevermore.

New Testament Reading

Revelation 2:12-17

¹² “And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: ‘The words of him who has the sharp two-edged sword.

¹³ “I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. Yet you hold fast my name, and you did not deny my faith even in the days of Antipas my faithful witness, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. ¹⁴ But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, so that they might eat food sacrificed to idols and practice sexual immorality. ¹⁵ So also you have some who hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Therefore repent. If not, I will come to you soon and war against them with the sword of my mouth. ¹⁷ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, with a new name written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it.”

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

Rev. Charles Garland

The Table

Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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.]

Sursum Corda

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.

Words of Institution

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

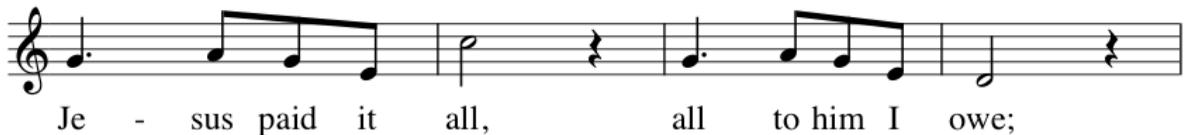
[As you are ready please come forward to receive the bread and the cup. We provide individual cups of grape juice and gluten-free wafers in the tray at the front. We partake in the Supper by intinction, that is, we dip the bread into the cup. Children who have not yet professed their faith in Christ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

Jesus Paid It All

—Lyrics & Music: Elvina M. Hall



Chorus



Lord, now indeed I find Thy pow'r, and Thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots, and melt the heart of stone.

For nothing good have I whereby Thy grace to claim;
I'll wash my garments white in the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb.

And when, before the throne, I stand in Him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save," my lips shall still repeat.

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

Lyrics: Samuel Stennett; Music: Christopher Miner

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are: 'On Jor - dan's stor - my ba-nks I stand and cast a wish-ful eye, to Can - aan's fair and hap-py land, where my pos-ses-sions lie. I am bound, I am bound, I am bound for Prom-ised La - nd. I am bound, I am bound, I am bound for Prom-ised La - nd.'

4 On Jor - dan's stor - my ba-nks I stand and
7 cast a wish-ful eye, to Can - aan's fair and
11 hap-py land, where my pos-ses-sions lie. I am bound, I am
14 bound, I am bound for Prom-ised La - nd. I am
bound, I am bound, I am bound for Prom-ised La - nd.

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

Silent Prayers During Communion

Prayer for Covenant Children (Not Yet Confirmed): Lord Jesus, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you, and to follow you as your faithful disciple. Amen.

Prayer for Those Taking Communion: Lord Jesus, your perfect life, your death and resurrection are the source of all blessing in this life and the life to come. As I eat this bread and drink this cup, renew me in the Joy and glory of knowing and serving you. I come to this table on the basis of your merit only and not my own. As you have completely and fully offered yourself for me, I now completely and fully offer myself to you as a living sacrifice. Amen.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth: Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief: Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin: Lord Jesus, you have called me to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Grant also that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.

Notes

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

Serving Refugees Conference: Next Saturday, 10/13/18, 9:00 am at Rincon Man. Presbyterian Church. Mission to the World (our denomination's missions agency) is hosting a conference on responding to the needs of refugees. Since we have so many who have come to our part of the world for refuge, we feel a greater urgency to know how to help. Kay Burklin and Mike Pettengill will be leading us. It would help them plan if you register (no cost for the conference) at westcoast@myw.org. We have postcards about the conference on the back table.

Blood Drive: Our Saviour's Lutheran (our hosts here) will be hosting a Blood Drive on Sunday, October 14 from 8am to 1pm.

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A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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