



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Fourth Sunday of Easter

04.22.2018

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

The primary thing that we do in the world of salvation, the foundational act of obedience for the Christian who wants to continue and deepen participation in salvation, is to receive the body and blood of Christ in the supper.

— Eugene Peterson

Reflection

He comes to us in the brokenness of our health, in the shipwreck of our family lives, in the loss of all possible peace of mind, even in the very thick of our sins. He saves us *in* our disasters, not *from* them. He emphatically does not promise to meet only the odd winner of the self-improvement lottery; he meets us all in our endless and inescapable losing.

— Robert Farrar Capon

The Word

Call to Worship

Psalm 34:1-3

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together!

The Gloria Patri

Music: Charles Meineke

6
Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly

10
Ghost. As it was in the be - gin-ing, is now, and ev - er

shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Lyrics: Joachim Neander; Music: 17th Century German Tune



1.Praise to the Lord, the Al - migh - ty the king of cre - a - tion!
2.Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly reign - eth.
3.Praise to the Lord, who doth pros-per thy work and de - fend thee.
4.Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
Shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea so
Sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy here
All that hath life and breath, come now with



help and sal - - va - - - tion!
gent - - ly sus - - tain eth!
dai - - ly at - - tend thee.
prai - - ses be - - fore him.



All you who hear, Now to his tem - ple draw
Hast thou not seen how all your long - ings hath
Pon - der a new what the Al - migh - ty can
Let the a men sound from his peo - ple a -



near. Praise him in glad a - dor - a - tion!
been, gran - ted in what he or - dain - eth?
do, if with his love he be - friend thee.
gain, Glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

Romans 3:19-20

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

Confession of Sin

Please pray aloud together

Almighty and most merciful Father, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy 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

Romans 3:23-24

For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: *And also with you!*

Abide With Me

Lyrics: Henry Lytle; Music: Justin Smith

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 7/8 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

A - bide with me; fast falls the e - ven tide;
The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord with me a - bide.
When o - ther help - ers, fail and com - forts flee.
Help of the help - less, a - bide with me.

Thou on my head, in early youth didst smile;
And, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, though I oft left Thee,
On to the close Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence, every passing hour.
What but Thy grace, can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless
Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross, before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

The Prayers of the People

(Please pray the italicized portions aloud together.)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Leader: Let us pray.

God, our Father,
Lord Jesus Christ, our Sympathetic High Priest,
and Holy Spirit, Comforter and Guide,

We pray for grace and mercy for your church,
that we would be unified in mind and purpose.

(Please pray silently for the church.)

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for grace and mercy for our children,
*that they would know you, love you,
and follow you all the days of their lives.*

(Please pray silently for our children.)

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for grace and mercy for those struggling with faith,
*that you would be present in the midst of their struggles
and make known to them your transforming love in the gospel.*

(Please pray silently for those struggling with faith.)

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for grace and mercy for those who suffer,
*that you would comfort them in their pain
and bring healing according to your will.*

(Please pray silently for those who suffer.)

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Grant us, Father, hearts to believe that Jesus now sits in strength
and is able to sympathize with our weakness.

And hear us now as we pray in the words he 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

Isaiah 65:1-5

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God!*

New Testament Reading

Romans 2:17-24

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God!*

Offertory Prayer

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Lyrics: Samuel Medley; Music: John Hatton

The musical score is written on four staves in 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. 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.'

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.

Gospel Reading

Luke 15:1-10

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. **2** And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." **3** So he told them this parable: **4** "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? **5** And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. **6** And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' **7** Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. **8** "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? **9** And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' **10** Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

The Table

Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Question 60

Minister: How are you right with God?

All: Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments and of never having kept any of them, and even though I am still inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without my deserving it at all, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned or been a sinner, as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. All I need to do is to accept this gift with a believing heart. 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 using the prayers provided below as guidelines. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the Church.]

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: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore let us keep the feast.

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.]

Come Ye Sinners

Lyrics: Joseph Hart; Music: Beech Spring



Come ye sin - ners, poor and nee - dy, bruised and brok - en by the fall.



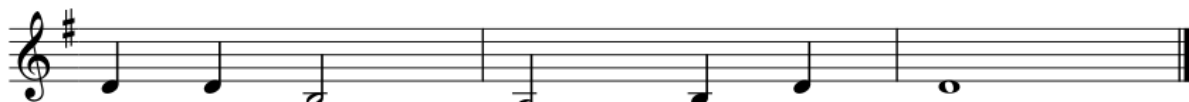
Je - sus rea - dy stands to sa - ve you full of par - d'ning love for



all. He is a - ble, He is a - ble He is wil - ling, doubt no



more. He is a - ble He is a - ble,



He is wil - - ling, doubt no more.

Come ye weary, heavy laden, bruised and broken by the fall.

If you tarry til you're better, you will never come at all.

Not the righteous, not the righteous, sinners Jesus came to call.

Not the righteous, not the righteous, sinners Jesus came to call.

Lo! the incarnate God, ascended, Pleads the merit of His blood;

Venture on Him, venture wholly, Let no other trust intrude;

None but Jesus, none but Jesus, Can do helpless sinners good.

None but Jesus, none but Jesus, Can do helpless sinners good.

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.

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.

Giving to MPC

While are a “mission church” our money will be handled by Reformed University Fellowship—the PCA office in Atlanta. They will provide receipts and tax reporting information for us. When you give money at church, we will send it to RUF for processing. RUF sets/oversees our church budget along with the Missions Team of our Presbytery.

When you donate through the link on the church website (<http://mpctucson.org/donate>) it goes into the same pot. You can send checks or use credit cards at that site. (Credit cards take a 2-3% fee out, just so you know.)

During this start up phase, Charles will see what people give to the church. This is generally undesirable, but is a necessary problem for now. This will change once we move our finances in house.

We want our church to generously support the cause of Jesus’ Kingdom in the world. We intend to give 20% of the money we receive at MPC away to other Kingdom causes. Because of our special connection with the RUF ministry at U of A, we plan to give 5% to that work. Our Presbytery has asked us to contribute 5% to other church planting efforts in AZ and the Southwest (through the Presbytery’s missions and the Southwest Church Planting Network.) Our contribution to the denomination’s mission costs is about 1.5%. The rest we will invest together as God captures our imaginations for his work in the world.

Midtown Presbyterian Church

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A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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