



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Palm Sunday

03.28.2021

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

But in real life, anger is the reaction that incinerates marriages and disintegrates families. It energizes gossip and guns down classmates. It divides churches, turns friendship into enmity, and erupts in road rage. It is the stuff of every form of grievance and bitterness. The fact that some of us overreact in less colorful ways does not mean that those who are quiet are not angry. Anger is also the basic DNA of complaining, brooding, irritability, and bickering. The "shoes" of problem anger are like a pair of open-heeled bathroom slippers. One size really does fit all.

--David Powlison

Man's indignation and rage do not accomplish justice. Angry people do not love or serve. They destroy. Groups of angry people feed each other's fury. They become a mob. Mobs do not build houses for the poor. Rather, they maim, assault, cancel, and kill. Just ask the French who lived through a reign of angry people for less than a year, but the memory is etched into their national soul.

—Mark Lauterbach

The Word

Worship begins with God's call to us to worship him. As always, God initiates with us, such as we are, and invites us to be with him out of sheer mercy.

Call to Worship

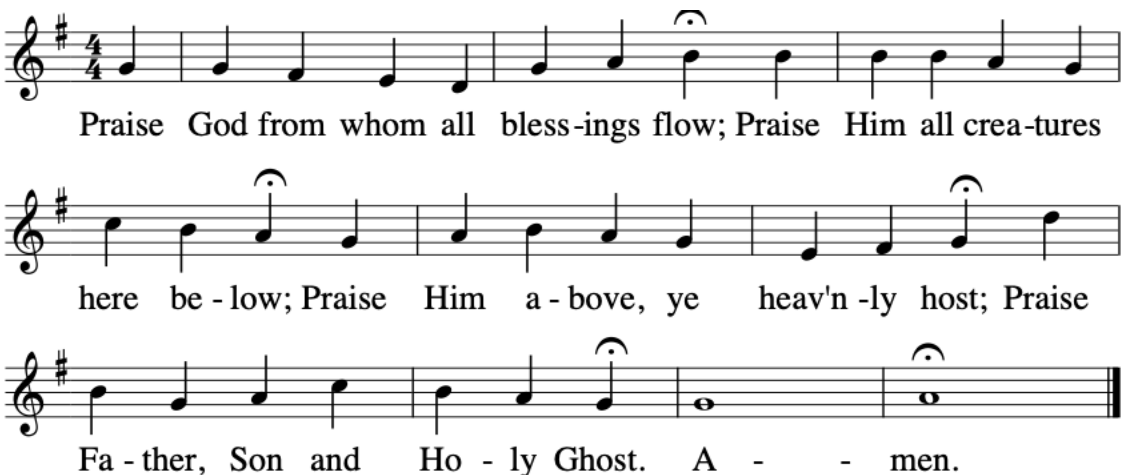
Psalm 24:7-10

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle! Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!

In the Doxology we join our voices with Christians around the world and through the centuries (circa 1674) with this song of praise to the Holy Trinity.

Doxology

Music: The Old One Hundredth



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures
here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise
Fa-ther, Son and Ho-ly Ghost. A - - men.

All Glory, Laud and Honor

Lyrics and Music: Theodulph, Bishop of Orleans



1. All - glo - ry, laud and hon - or to thee, Ree - deem - er
2. The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee
3. Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we



King, to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas
went; our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore thee we pre -
bring. Who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious



ring. Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al
sent: To thee be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of
King! All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or, to thee, Re - deem - ,



son, who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and Bless - ed One.
praise; to thee, now high ex - aul - ted, our mel - o - dy we raise.
King, to whom the lips of child - ren, our sweet hos - an - nas ring.

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

Acts 17:30-31

The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Confession of Sin

[Pray aloud together]

Lord, forgive us. We are blind to our own brokenness, yet focused on the failings of others. We are deaf to the cries of those who need us, numb to the need of those who hurt. We are silent when words are needed, impotent when action is required. Lord, hear our anguish, pity our brokenness, speak life and forgiveness to our weary souls. Amen.

We confess our sins as a group and individually because we need to. We come to worship God even though we are morally broken, in certain hope that he is merciful to people like us, and able to change us by his grace.

[You are invited to confess your sins 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

Acts 13:38-39

Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

Our consciences are weak and guilty, and can't be trusted to tell us the truth about God's free and happy forgiveness.

So God puts his authoritative word in the mouths of his appointed ministers to assure you that he forgives you in Jesus.

This Is My Father's World

Music & Lyrics: Maltbie D. Babcock

This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears, all
na-ture sings, and round me rings, the mu-sic of the spheres. This
is my Fa-ther's world: I rest me in the thought of
rocks and trees and skies and seas; his hand the won-ders wrought.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time on a single treble clef staff. It consists of four lines of music. The first line begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics placed below the notes. The second line continues the melody and lyrics. The third line continues the melody and lyrics. The fourth line concludes the piece with a double bar line and repeat dots.

This is my Father's world: the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world: Oh, let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world, the battle is not done:
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and Heav'n be one.

The Prayers of the People

[Led by Nick Dunlap]

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God,

**that all who confess your Name may be
united in your truth,
live together in your love, and reveal
your glory in the world.**

(Please pray silently for the unity of the Church.)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The prayers of the people enable us to join our minds and hearts in one voice to God, like we do when we sing. Be careful about merely repeating the words without engaging your whole self in prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations,
in the ways of justice and peace;

**that we may honor one another
and serve the common good.**

(Please pray silently for justice and peace in all nations.)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours,

**and grant that we may serve them,
and love one another as Christ loves us.**

(Please pray silently for our love and service of others.)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;

**give them courage and hope in their troubles,
and bring them the joy of your salvation.**

(Please pray silently for those who suffer.)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

And teach us to pray as You taught Your disciples to pray, saying:

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

[Reader: Cara Scott]

Psalm 103:6-12

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 5: 21-22

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

The Lord is King

Music & Lyrics: Nathan Partain

The Lord is King! Lift up your voice, O earth and all ye heav'ns re -
joice. From world to world, the joy shall ring, - "The Lord om -

Chorus

ni - po-tent is King! Sing his praise! Sing his Praise! - Lord of
Lords, An-cient of days; Sing his praise! Sing his
Praise! - All your - days, all your - days.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The Lord is King'. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first two staves are the main melody, and the last three staves form the chorus. The score ends with a double bar line.

The Lord is King! Who then shall dare resist his will, distrust his care,
Or murmur at his wise decrees, or doubt his royal promises?

The Lord is King! Bow down you must;
The judge of all the earth is just;
Holy and true are all his ways, Let every creature sing his praise.

New Testament Reading

James 1:19-20

¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Charles Garland

The Table

We use the ancient creeds and confessions to reinforce our confidence in God's grace, and to highlight our connection to his people around the world who worship him with these same words every Lord's Day.

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.]

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 Sursum Corda and the Mystery of Faith are used by Christians the world over to prepare their hearts and minds for Holy Communion.

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 are using individual cups and wafers as a concession to the virus. The red cups have wine and the grape juice is white/gold.]

Thy Mercy My God

--Lyrics: John Stocker; Music: Sandra McCracken

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Thy Mercy My God'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The melody is written in treble clef. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The lyrics are: 'Thy mer-cy, my God, is the theme _ of my song, the joy of my heart and the boast _ of my tongue; Thy free grace a - lone from the first to the last Hath won my af - fec - tions and bound my soul fast.'

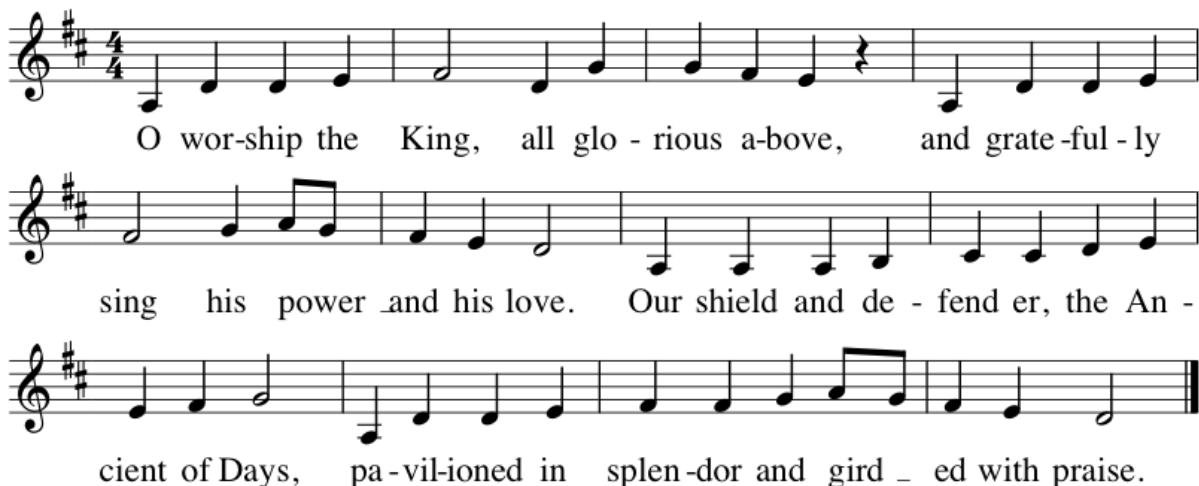
Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair.
But through Thy free goodness my spirits revive
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies! Thy goodness I own
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son.
All praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine!

O Worship the King

Lyrics: Robert Grant; Music: Johann Haydn



O wor-ship the King, all glo - rious a-bove, and grate-ful - ly
sing his power and his love. Our shield and de - fend er, the An -
cient of Days, pa-vil-ioned in splen-dor and gird - ed with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

Benediction

Easter Offering Leboo Borehole

We want to raise
\$25,000 to dig a
bore hole for
Leboo, Kenya

For the Children's Sake has been given five acres of land on which to build a school and church, but first needs a supply of clean water so the Massai children can live there year round.

A bore hole facilitates many other relief needs, especially for girls in this area. With clean water they can use washable feminine hygiene products, go to school, more easily avoid genital mutilation, and connect to the good news of Jesus.

Contribute by writing a check to Midtown Presbyterian Church (noting the Borehole Project) or by giving online at www.mpctucson.org/donate.



Notes

Offering: We have placed an offering box at the back of the sanctuary that you can use as you enter or leave. (Note that the Midtown box is separate from the Vineyard ones—ours cleverly says “Midtown”!) You can also give online at our website www.mpctucson.org.

Email List: We send out the bulletin and announcements every week before worship and would love to include you. You can email Charles (charles@mpctucson.org) to get on the list.

Midtown Institute: Our next meeting will be Sunday morning, April 18th, from 9:00-10:30 in the Youth Building just off of the playground here at the Vineyard.

Women’s Bible Study: Wednesday Night at the Garland’s (1324 N Norton Ave) at 7:00. We’ll be looking at Romans 12:9-21 (Chapter 8 in the Keller Book.)

Good Friday Service: We will have our Good Friday service here on April 2nd at 7:00pm.

Monday Soccer: Monday at 5:30 at Mansfield Park in the NW corner.

April Book Club Books: The women are reading Educated by Tara Westover, and the men are reading Christ Crucified by Donald Macleod.

Pastor: Charles Garland
Music Director: Sarah Lewis
RUF Staff: Dan & Brittany Smith
RUF Interns: Noah Hamstra &
Rebekah Taylor

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.