



**MIDTOWN**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Evening Worship

## Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

09.09.2018

### **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.

### **Reflection**

The pope? How many divisions does he have?

—Joseph Stalin

In the figure of Jesus the Christ there is something that escapes us. He has been the subject of the greatest efforts at systematization in the history of man. But anyone who has ever tried this has had, in the end, to admit that the seams keep bursting. He sooner or later discovers that he is in touch, not with a pale Galilean, but with a towering, and furious figure who will not be managed.

—Thomas Howard

## Worship Note

To tame the lions in your life you must know god and the Untamed Lion in your life. Unless you fear him—in awe—you'll be afraid of everything else.

—C.S. Lewis

# The Word

## Call to Worship

Psalm 99:1-3

The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble!

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

The Lord is great in Zion;

he is exalted over all the peoples.

Let them praise your great and awesome name!

Holy is he!

## The Gloria Patri

Music: Charles Meineke



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

6



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

10



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

# Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Music & Lyrics: Robert Robinson

5 Come, thou fount of ev'-ry bles-sing, tune my heart to sing thy  
9 grace; streams of mer-cy, ne-ver ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est  
12 praise. Teach me \_ some me - lo-dious - son - net sung by \_  
15 fla - ming tounge a - bove. Praise the mount, I'm fixed up -  
pon it, mount of Thy re - deem-ing love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I've come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, bought me with his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee:  
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

## Prayer of Invocation

## Call to Confession of Sin

Isaiah 55:6-7

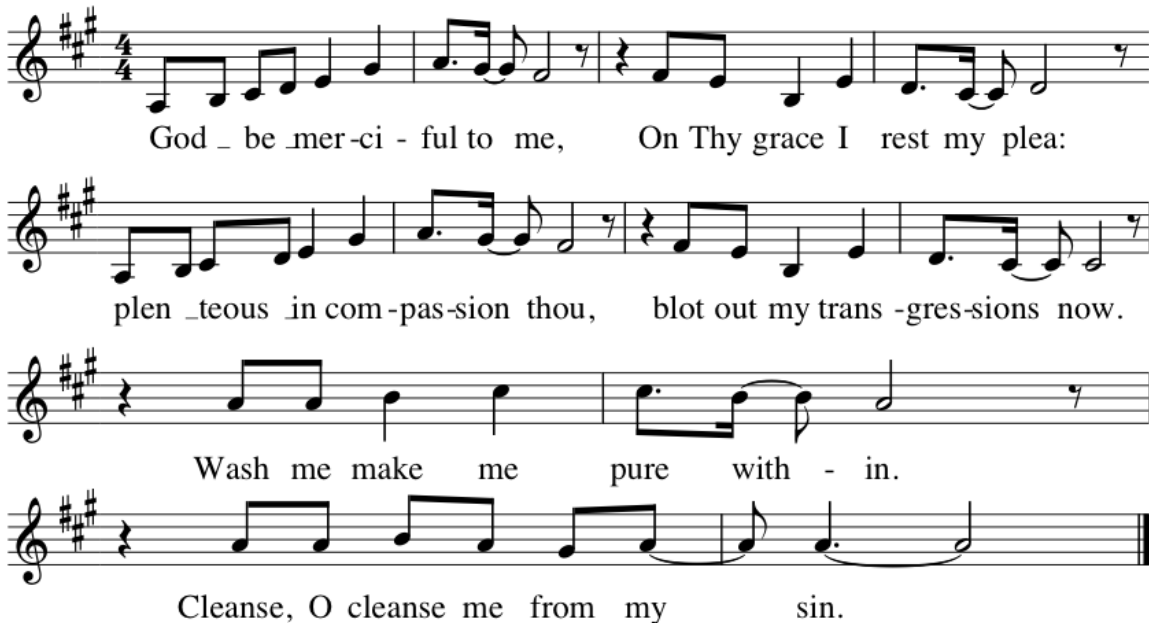
Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon

## Confession of Sin

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

## Psalm 51

Music: Chris Miner



God - be - mer - ci - ful to me,      On Thy grace I rest my plea:  
plen - teous in com - pas - sion thou,      blot out my trans - gres - sions now.  
Wash me make me pure with - in.  
Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess; grief and guilt my soul oppress.  
I have sinned against Thy grace, and provoked Thee to Thy face.  
I confess Thy judgement just; speechless, I Thy mercy trust.

I am evil, born in sin; Thou desirest truth within.  
Thou alone my Savior art, teach Thy wisdom to my heart;  
Make me pure, Thy grace bestow, Wash me whiter than the snow.

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Isaiah 53:4-5

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

*All: And also with you!*

## **Psalm 51 (continued)**

Broken, humbled to the dust by Thy wrath and judgment just,  
Let my contrite heart rejoice, and in gladness hear Thy voice;  
From my sins O hide Thy face,  
Blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true.  
Cast me not away from Thee, let Thy Spirit dwell in me;  
Thy salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.

Sinners then shall learn from me, and return, O God, to Thee  
Savior all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing Thy love  
Touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.

## 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.

O Lord, we cry out to you for the Church:

*We pray for the churches in Tucson  
that proclaim your gospel*

*We pray for Christ Community Church*

*And for our sister churches in the Arizona Presbytery.*

(Pray for the church.)

O Lord, we cry out to you for all the people of the earth:

*We pray for those who do not know you,*

*We pray that your gospel would run in our city,*

(Pray for your friends who do not yet believe the gospel.)

O Lord, we cry out to you for our own nation:

*Please give President Trump humility, wisdom, strength  
and trust in you.*

*Please bless Governor Ducey and Mayor Rothschild;*

*Please bring prosperity and peace to our city  
through your gospel.*

(Pray for our leaders.)

O Lord, we cry out to you for the poor and suffering of our  
community:

*We pray for those who are living on the streets.*

*We pray for those who are sick and grieving.*

*We pray for those who are discouraged and despairing.*

(Pray for those who suffer.)

O Lord we cry out to you with our individual concerns and needs:  
(Pour out your heart to your Father who gives good gifts to his children.)

All of these things we ask of you in the name of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who taught us 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**

Daniel 7:9-14

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

## **Gospel Reading**

Luke 9:28-36

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ

People: *Praise be to you, O Christ*

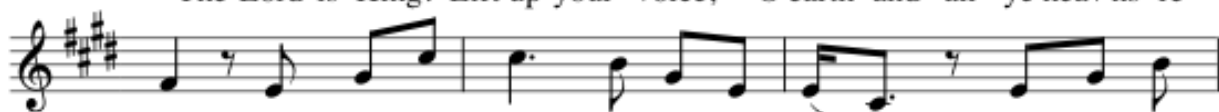


# The Lord is King

Music & Lyrics: Nathan Partain



The Lord is King! Lift up your voice, O earth and all ye heav'ns re -

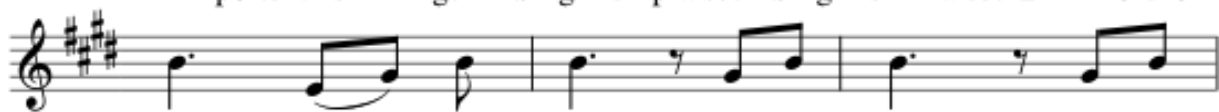


joice. From world to world, the joy shall ring, - "The Lord om -

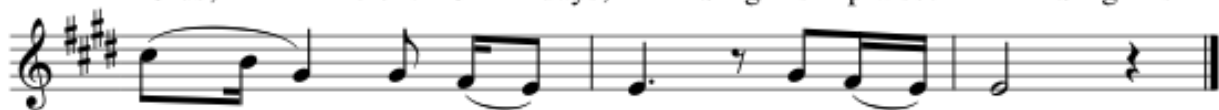
## *Chorus*



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 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

Revelation 1:4-20

4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood <sup>6</sup> and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup> Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

<sup>8</sup> “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

<sup>9</sup> I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. <sup>10</sup> I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet <sup>11</sup> saying, “Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.”

<sup>12</sup> Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup> and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup> The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, <sup>15</sup> his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was

like the roar of many waters. <sup>16</sup> In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

<sup>17</sup> When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, <sup>18</sup> and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. <sup>19</sup> Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. <sup>20</sup> As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

**Sermon**

Rev. Charles Garland

# The Table

## Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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.]

# In Christ Alone

Lyrics & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend

3 In Christ a - lone, my hope is found, He is my  
6 light, my strength, my song; This cor - ner - stone, this sol-id  
9 ground, firm through the fier-cest drought and storm. What heights of  
12 love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv-ings  
14 cease! My com - fort - er, my all in  
all, here in the love of Christ I stand.


In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied,  
For every sin on Him was laid here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth, in glorious Day, up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.


No guilt in life, no fear in death! This is the power of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry, to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.  
'Til He returns, or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

## Take Us, O Lord

Lyrics & Music: Isaac Wardell



O how he takes \_ the cross, O how he lifts \_ it up



to take the weight \_ from us. O how he pays \_ the cost,



O how he drinks the cup, to make a place \_ for us.


### CHORUS



Take us, \_ O Lord, and all we have known. Shape us, O



Lord, and form us in - to your own. Take eve - ry heart and



know eve-ry sin. Break us, O Lord, that we may be whole a - gain.

Hear how he breaks the curse, hear how he cries aloud,  
Hear how his voice resounds. O how he forms the words,  
O how he cries them out, "See it is finished now!"

How deep the wounds he wears, how dark the scars he shows,  
How well the name he knows; written upon his palms,  
O what a name to find. That name before him: Mine!

## **Benediction**

# 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](http://www.mpctucson.org).

## **Living Spot Needed**

Our new RUF Campus Intern, Erin Fitzpatrick, is looking for a place to stay this year. She either needs a roommate situation with another post-grad, a room in a family home near campus, or a workable apartment situation. If you have a good idea let Erin (or Brittany or Dan) know. Thanks!

## **Tucson Women's Conference**

All of the PCA churches in Tucson are joining together for this conference, and Rondi Lauterbach will be the speaker.

From Empty to Full: Living in the Plenty of Christ

Friday, 9/14, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. & Saturday, 9/15, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Buffet style lunch provided

Registration:\$30 (scholarships available)

Payment can be made during registration or on-line at the DSPC website.

Midtown Presbyterian Church

[www.mpctucson.org](http://www.mpctucson.org)

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