



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Twenty second Sunday After Pentecost
11.06.2022

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

I do not impress anyone at church. I do not say anything surprising or charming, because the things I say are rote responses that someone else decided on centuries ago. I am not special at church, and this is the point. Because (according to the ridiculous, generous, imperfectly applied rules of my religion) we are all equally beloved children of God. We are all exactly the same amount of special. The things that I feel proud of can't help me here, and the things that I feel embarrassed by are beside the point. I'm a person but, for 60 minutes, I'm not a personality.

—Dorothy Fortenberry

The Word

Call to Worship

Psalm 57:9-11

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples;

I will sing praises to you among the nations.

For your steadfast love is great to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!

Let your glory be over all the earth!

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.

Doxology

Music: The Old One Hundredth

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.



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Him all crea-tures



here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise



Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - - men.

Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above

Music: Leigh Nash; Lyrics: Charles Wesley



Praise the Lord who reigns a - bove _ and keeps his courts be - low!



Praise the ho - ly God of love _ and all his great -ness show!



Praise him for his no -ble deeds! _ Praise him for his match -less pow'r!



Him from whom all good pro -ceeds, let earth and hea -ven a - dore, let

Chorus



earth and hea -ven a - dore! Praise the name _ of Christ, cel - e -



brate _ and lift him up high! Praise the Lord _ of life!



We'll sing the sto -ry of hon -or and glo -ry and praise the name of Christ.

God in whom they move and live, let every creature sing;
Glory to their maker give, and homage to their king!
Hallowed be Thy name beneath, as in heaven on earth adored;
Praise the Lord in every breath, let all things praise the Lord,
Let all things praise the Lord! [Chorus]

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, We'll sing the story of honor and
glory, and praise the name! [Chorus]

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

John 12:42-43

Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

Confession of Sin

[Pray aloud together]

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We know that you care for us and cherish us. We know that you empower us and give us hope. We know that you provide us with direction, comfort, and peace.

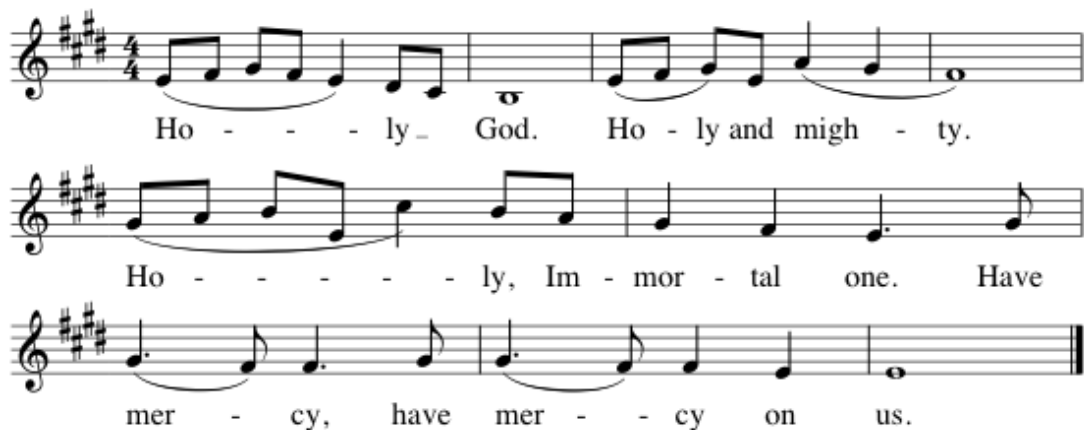
We confess that we have not loved you as you have asked us to love. We take you for granted and fail to acknowledge your good gifts. We allow the opinions of others to drive us even to the point of disobedience. We do not want others to know that we follow you. We look to the wisdom of world to guide as opposed to your Word.

We confess our sin with the bold confidence that you will continue to love us. You will not reject. You will not abandon. You will forgive.

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

Trisagion

Music: Fernando Ortega



Ho - - - ly - God. Ho - ly and migh - ty.
Ho - - - - ly, Im - mor - tal one. Have
mer - cy, have mer - - cy on us.

Assurance of Forgiveness

John 12:46-47

I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

His Mercy is More

Lyrics & Music: Matt Papa and Matt Boswell

Verse



What love could re-mem-ber no wrongs we have done? Om -
ni - scient, all know - ing, he counts not their sum. Thrown
in - to a sea with-out bot-tom or shore, our sins, they are man-y; his

Chorus



mer-cy is more. Praise the Lord, - his mer-cy is more. ____
Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn. - Our
sins, they are man - y; his mer - cy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father so tender is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more [Chorus]

What riches of kindness he lavished on us;
His blood was the payment His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more [Chorus]

The Prayers of the People

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

[Led by David Adams]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you commanded the apostles to go into the entire world and preach the gospel to every person.

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.

Grant everyone you have called into your church a ready will to obey your word.

Fill us with a hearty desire to make you known.

(Pray for a God-given desire to tell others about Jesus.)

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Raise up workers to join you in your work in our city and the world.

Give them your Spirit and prosper their work.

(Pray for all those who labor for the spread of the kingdom.)

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sustain those within this church who seek to serve our children.

May our children follow you all of their lives.

(Pray for all of the children of Midtown Presbyterian.)

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Look with compassion on the many people who do not know you.

Have mercy on those who are like sheep without a shepherd.

(Pray for those who do not yet know Jesus.)

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, everlasting Father, your kingdom comes by your power.
We pray that you would bring your kingdom to us.
We pray that you would bring your kingdom through us.

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: Stephanie Bowyer]

Isaiah 29:13-16

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

Philippians 3:2-9

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Jesus I My Cross have Taken

Lyrics: Henry Lyte; Music: Bill Moore



Je-sus I my cross have tak-en, all to leave and fol - low Thee.



Na-ked, poor, de-spied for-sak-en. Thou from hence my all shall be.



Per-ish ev-ery fond am-bi-tion, all I've sought or hoped or known.



Yet how rich is my con - di - tion,



God and heav'n are still my — own.

Let the world despise and leave me, They have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me; Thou art not, like them, untrue.
O while Thou dost smile upon me, God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends disown me, Show Thy face and all is bright.

Man may trouble and distress me, 'Twill but drive me to Thy breast.
Life with trials hard may press me; Heav'n will bring me sweeter rest.
Oh, 'tis not in grief to harm me, While Thy love is left to me;
Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me, Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Soul, then know thy full salvation, Rise o'er sin and fear and care
Joy to find in every station, Something still to do or bear.
Think what Spirit dwells within thee, Think what Father's smiles are thine,
Think that Jesus died to win thee, Child of heaven, canst thou repine.

Haste thee on from grace to glory, Armed by faith, and winged by prayer.
Heaven's eternal days before thee, God's own hand shall guide us there.
Soon shall close thy earthly mission, Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,
Hope shall change to glad fruition, Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

Gospel Reading

Mark 12:35-40

³⁵ And as Jesus taught in the temple, he said, "How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David? ³⁶ David himself, in the Holy Spirit, declared,

"The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand until I put your
enemies under your feet."

³⁷ David himself calls him Lord. So how is he his son?" And the great throng heard him gladly.

³⁸ And in his teaching he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and like greetings in the marketplaces ³⁹ and have the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, ⁴⁰ who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

⁴¹ And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. ⁴³ And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. ⁴⁴ For they all

contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

Minister: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.
People: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Rev. Charles Garland

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.**

We use the ancient creeds 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.

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 down the center aisle.. Take bread and eat it, then take a cup and drink. If you prefer grape juice and/or a gluten free wafer, they are available on the middle table. Please return down the outside aisles.]

Let This Heart Not Wander

Lyrics & Music: Eric J. Marshall

Let my eyes see no-thing, let my eyes see no-thing but your
glo-ry, my Lord. _ Let my eyes see no-thing, let my
eyes see no-thing but your glo-ry, my Lord. _

Let this heart not wander, Let this heart not wander,
From your mercy, my Lord. (repeat)

May I always linger, May I always linger,
In your presence, my Lord. (repeat)

I will ever praise you, I will ever praise you,
You are worthy, my Lord. (repeat)

Let this heart not wander, Let this heart not wander,
From your mercy, my Lord. (repeat)

Be Thou My Vision

Music & Lyrics: Traditional Irish Hymn



Be thou my vis - ion, O Lord of my heart.



Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.



Thou my best thought, by day or by night, —



Wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, I thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight; be thou my dignity, thou my delight; Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r; Raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always: Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Benediction

Notes



Offering: We have placed an offering box at the back of the sanctuary that you can use as you enter or leave. Online, you can give at (www.mpctucson.org/donate). ----->>>

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.

Women's Fall Bible Study: On Seeing Jesus in the Prophets, based on Nancy Guthrie's book. Wednesday nights at 7:00 at Shelly Gauger's home ([525 S 4th Ave](#)).

Church Potluck: Today after the service. Everyone is welcome.

Intro to Midtown Class: Sunday morning, 11/20. This is for people interested in joining Midtown or just finding out more about the church. There is a booklet to read in advance. Please let Charles know if you are interested. Time and place info coming soon.

Men's & Women's Book Group: Combined book groups this week, reading Mary Shelley's [Frankenstein](#). Tuesday, November 8th @ 7:00 at the McReynold's (1241 E Sobre Lomas). Dana is making us dessert!

Pastor: Charles Garland
Music Director: Sarah Lewis
Nursery Director: Sami Byker
Church Planting Resident: Nick Davis
RUF Staff: Matt & Sarah Esswein

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