

MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Distancing & Safety Plan

So we can more safely meet together for worship we ask you to help us observe the following:

1. We will space out the chairs as much as we can.
2. Wear masks so we can sing.
3. Communion will involve coming forward without crowding, and picking up a cup and wafer from the altar rail in front of the pulpit. The separate table of cups will have grape juice if you prefer that. The wafers are gluten free.
4. Try to go outside for visiting with each other after the service.
5. We will disinfect surfaces in the sanctuary and bathrooms before the service.

Evening Worship

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

11.15.2020

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. The Word

Reflection

Two seemingly contradictory currents mark our society:

1. There is a denunciation of all claims of absolute truth
2. Yet there is also a fanaticism in which one position or group is absolutely right, nothing is ambiguous, and divergent views should be destroyed

—Tim Keller

I know the bottle ain't to blame and I ain't trying to;
Cause it don't make you do a thing, it just lets you.

--Mike Cooley

Call to Worship

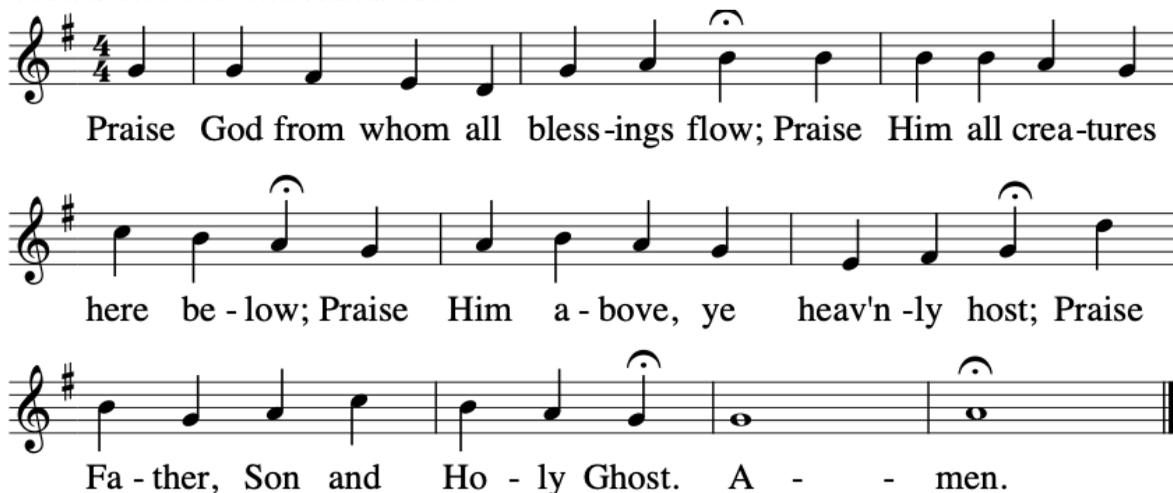
Psalm 34:3

Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us
exalt his name together!

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



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.

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.

How Firm A Foundation

Music & Lyrics: Traditional

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'How Firm A Foundation'. It consists of four staves of music in 2/2 time, written in treble clef. The melody is simple and features a mix of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes or bars.

How firm a found-a - ion, ye saints of the Lord, is
laid for your faith in his ex - cell-ent word! What
more can he say than to you, he has said, to
you who for re - fuge to Je - sus have fled.

"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;
for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

"When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
and sanctify to you your deepest distress."

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

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.

Confession of Sin

[Pray aloud together]

Jesus, our great King, You have called each of us to live together as one people. We are the people of your pasture, and the sheep of your hand. Forgive us for the times we have broken unity with others in this congregation:

**For our arrogance and pride,
For the grudges we have nursed and coddled,
For the cowardice that leads us to slander instead of reconcile.**

Forgives us for the times we have broken unity with Christians outside this congregation:

**For thinking that our congregation or group is superior to others,
For despising Christians with convictions that differ from ours,
For not rejoicing in the good work you are doing in others.**

Have mercy on us. Forgive us and change us. Help us to live as one.

(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

1 John 4:10

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

It Is Well With My Soul

Lyrics: Henry Lyte; Music: Bill Moore



When peace like a ri - ver at - tend - eth my way, when sor - rows like



sea bil-lows roll; What - e - ver my lot, thou hast taught me to



say, it is well, it is well, with my soul! It is well,



with my soul, it is well, it is well, with my soul!

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control:
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed his own blood for my soul. [Refrain]

My sin oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! [Refrain]

O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so, it is well with my soul. [Refrain]

The Prayers of the People

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

[Led by Nick Dunlap]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Lord, you built your church and promised to dwell with her forever.

Bless all who guard and feed your sheep, those who shepherd souls, those who care for the poor, those who minister praise, as well as those who teach your Word, that as you are lifted up, men and women will be drawn to you.

(Please pray silently for the ministry of the church.) Amen.

Lord, likewise, you rule over all the nations of the earth.

We pray for peace in every corner of the world: in Armenia and Azerbaijan, as well as every nation where there is suffering, that you will be glorified among the nations.

(Please pray silently for our world.) Amen.

Lord, you offer comfort to those who are in need.

We commend to you all who are afflicted: those who are ill, those who suffer in poverty, those who wrestle with all sorts of addictions, as well as those who sorrow, that they will be comforted in their time of tribulation.

(Please pray silently for all who suffer.) Amen.

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.

Lord, out of the depths of eternity you moved in our history in the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord. We pray now 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

[Reader: Rebekah Taylor]

Leviticus 19:17-18, 33-34

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:34-40

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

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.

New Testament Reading

Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹ Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Table

Profession of Faith & Membership Vows

Will Griffin
Levi Grimes
Noah Hamstra
Ryan & Yunuen Jankowski
Caleb Kruis
Frank Litzenberger
Anna Rich
Cara Scott
Chris & Nikki Smith
Rebekah Taylor

Sacrament of Baptism

Levi Grimes

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.]

O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Lyrics: Samuel Travis Francis; Music: Thomas John Williams

O the ___ deep, deep love of ___ Je - sus. Vast, un - mea - sured,
bound - less, free. Roll - ing ___ as a might - y ___ o - cean
in its ___ full - ness o - ver me. Un - der - neath me,
all a - round me, is the ___ cur - rent of Thy ___ love.
Lead - ing _ on - ward, lead - ing ___ home - ward,
to my ___ glo - rious rest _ a - bove.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus". It consists of six staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined to indicate phrasing. The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases being longer than others, such as "Vast, un-measured, boundless, free." which spans two staves.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Spread his praise from shore to shore;
How he loveth, ever loveth, Changeth never, nevermore;
How he watches o'er his loved ones, Died to call them all his own;
For them he intercedeth, Watcheth o'er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Love of ev'ry love the best:
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'Tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus! 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
And it lifts me up to glory, For it lifts me up to thee.

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

Lyrics: Samuel Stennett; Music: Christopher Miner

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.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with measure numbers 4, 7, 11, and 14 indicated on the left side of the staves. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and a final double bar line at the end of the fifth staff.

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

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.

Monday Soccer in the Mall: Monday evenings at 5:00 a group is meeting on the U of A mall to play soccer. We won't be playing in December. Everyone is welcome.

Website Church Photo Directory: Nancy Price has been keeping our photo directory up to date, which helps immensely with new people and getting to know each other. If you have edits (better pictures) or need to be added let her know (nancylynnprice@msn.com). The password on the website page is “dryheat”.

Hymn Sing: Esther Lewis & Morgan Zylstra are hosting a weekly hymn sing at our apartment for young adults starting this Thursday night. Anyone who wants to participate should contact us for the address and gate code at 575.520.0239.

Women's Bible Study

Wednesday Nov. 18, last one in 2020! 7pm hosted outside by Betsy Dunlap (4117 E. Pima St.) Yunuen Jankowski will be leading the discussion. Content is Romans 9:30-10:21 (chapter 5 in Keller's book). Please join us if you can.

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

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A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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