

MIDTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost 06.30.2024

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. All of our kiddos will meet in the Hamilton House. Check in is at the west end of the courtyard. Children's Ministry will only be ages 0-3 for the summer. August 4th we will kick off Children's Ministry for ages 0-6th grade. Please be patient with the extra wiggles and noise as we have younger children joining us for the summer.

Reflection

Christianity alone understands the wilderness. It acknowledges that even "good" people suffer (e.g., Peter is in prison and he gets sprung by angels on the one hand, while John the Baptist is in prison and he gets beheaded). But Christianity doesn't really have a problem with that because right at the very heart of the Christian message is that the best Man, in fact the only good Man who ever lived, suffered. He suffered undeservedly and through it God brought forth the Kingdom of God. Therefore suffering comes into the lives of all kinds of people, and when it comes, we know that God is trying to do something redemptive in us, just like he did with Jesus.

--Arlin Troyer

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

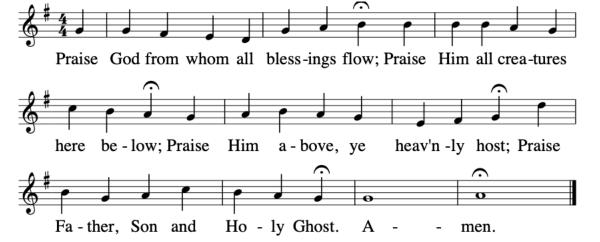
Psalm 95:6-7

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

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



Ten Thousand Reasons

Lyrics and Music: Matt Redman & John Myrin



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.

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

Ephesians 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

Confession of Sin

[Pray aloud together]

God of love, it is your will that we should love you with heart, soul, mind, strength, and our neighbor as ourselves, but we are not sufficient for these things. We confess that our affections continually turn away from you: from purity to lust, from freedom to slavery, from compassion to indifference, from fullness to emptiness. Have mercy on us. Order our lives by your holy Word, and make your commandments the joy of our hearts. Conform us to the image of your loving Son, Jesus, that we may shine before the world to your glory. Amen.

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

Most Merciful God





For the sake of your son, Jesus Christ, have mercy and forgive us; That we may delight in your will, your will.

And walk in your ways, in your ways, in your ways.

To the glory of your name, of your name, of your name.

Most merciful God, we humbly repent. Help us to walk in your ways, Most merciful God, most merciful God. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Ephesians 1:7

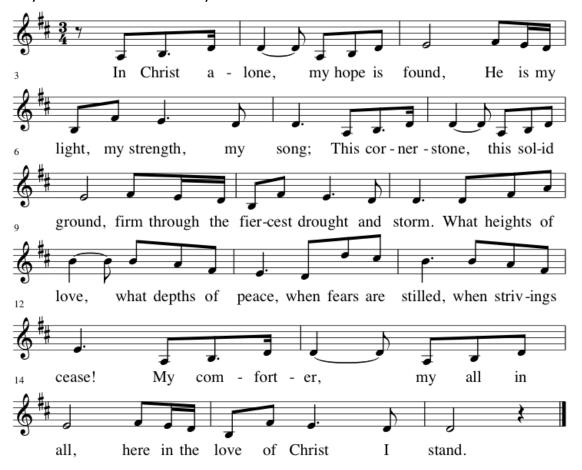
In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

In Christ Alone

Lyrics & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend



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.

The Prayers of the People

[Led by Tim Davis]

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Our Father in Heaven, you are the source of every good and perfect gift. You did not spare your own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will you not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

We thank you for your daily provision for our physical needs. We thank you for your care for our souls. We thank you for your mercy given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Thank Him for His blessings in your life.)

We give thanks to you, Lord Jesus Christ, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.

Give grace to our leaders that they may do justice and love mercy and walk humbly before you.

(Pray for our leaders.)

Lord Jesus, You rule over all things for the sake of your Church. You are at the right hand of God interceding for us constantly. Nothing can separate us from your love.

We pray for the peace and purity and growth of this congregation. We pray for our sister churches in the Arizona Presbytery. We pray for our brothers and sisters who are being persecuted for their faith.

(Pray for the body of Christ.)

(Pray for the body of Christ.)

Our great God, we hear your promise that the knowledge of your glory will fill the earth as the waters cover the sea.

We pray for the spread of the gospel in our city. We ask you to extend your mercy to our friends and loved ones.

(Pray for those who have not yet come to faith in Christ.)

Our Savior, you invite the weary and burdened to come to you and find rest. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. You are gentle and humble in heart.

We pray for those who are sick and those who care for them. We pray for those who are grieving. We pray for those who are lonely. We pray for those who are struggling with enslaving sins.

[Reader: Paige Jackson]

(Bring your burdens and requests to the Lord.)

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-4

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

John 7:37-38

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ People: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

His Mercy is More

Lyrics & Music: Matt Papa and Matt Boswell



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]

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²Therefore the people guarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" 3But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" 4So Moses cried to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." 5And the Lord said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. 6Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Minister: The Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Charles Garland

The Table

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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

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.]

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 one of the aisles. 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 same aisle.]

Lord I Need You

Music & Lyrics: Carson, Nockels, Maher, Reeves & Stanfill



When I can-not stand, I'll fall on you, Je-sus, you're my hope and stay.

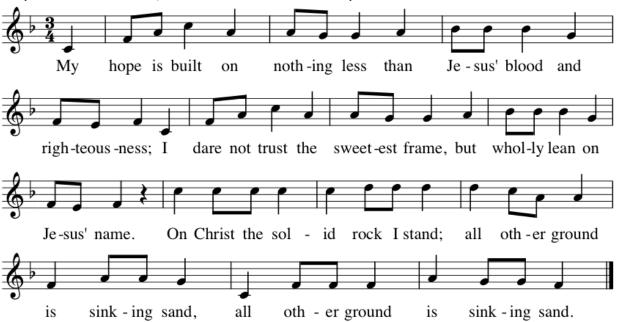
Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.

Where grace is found is where You are.

Where You are, Lord, I am free! Holiness is Christ in me.

My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

Lyrics: Edward Mole; Music: William B. Bradbury



When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace; In ev'ry high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the 'whelming flood; When all around my soul gives way He then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found, Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

Benediction

Water From The Rock



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). —>>



2024 Budget through May: \$118,689 2023 Comparison: 2024 Giving through May: \$99,268 \$123,287

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.

Joining Midtown: If you're interested in becoming a member of Midtown, either coming from a different church or becoming a new Christian, please let Charles know (charles@mpctucson.org). We'll schedule an intro class to get you prepared when we see people's availability.

Midtown Summer Bash: Jack & Jackie Satterfield are going to host a big party for us at their home on Saturday night, July 13th (7902 N. Tuscany Drive Tucson, AZ 85742). We'll have brisket and chicken fajitas and other great food (we'll make some assignments closer to time) and swimming and a movie (reportedly Top Gun Maverick) on the lawn. Mark your calendars!

Men's Book Group: For July we are reading C.S. Lewis's <u>The Great Divorce.</u> We'll meet at the McReynold's home (1241 E Sobre Lomas) on Tuesday July 9, at 7pm.

Top Golf Tuesday Night: Paige Jackson is gathering a group to go to Top Golf Tuesday night. Let her know if you're interested!

Pastor: Charles Garland

Music Director: Sarah Lewis

Children's Director: Annalyse Rash RUF Staff: Matt & Sarah Esswein RUF Interns: Paige Jackson & Russ

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A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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