



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

The Fifth Sunday Of Easter

05.02.2021

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

Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day
To the last syllable of recorded time.
And all our yesterdays have lighted fools
The way to dusty death. Out, out, brief candle.
Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,
And then is heard no more. It is a tale
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,
Signifying nothing.

—Macbeth, William Shakespeare

The Word

Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord is risen!
All: He is risen indeed!
Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made.
All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Worship begins with God's call to us to worship him. We keep using the Easter greeting during all the weeks of Easter.

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.

All Hail The Power of Jesus' Name

Lyrics: Edward Perronet; Music: Oliver Holden



All hail the pow'r of Jes-us' name! Let an-gels pros-trate fall; Bring



forth the roy-al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of _ all! Bring



forth the roy-al di - a - dem and crown Him, Lord _ of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, ye ransomed of the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all;
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe, on this terrestrial ball,
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all;
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
and crown him Lord of all;
We'll join the everlasting song,
and crown him Lord of all.

Prayer of Invocation

The invocation is a prayer asking for God to come and be present with us in the worship service. We come with hope that God will come and speak to us, heal us, and stir up love for him in our minds and hearts.

Call to Confession of Sin

Mark 1:14-15

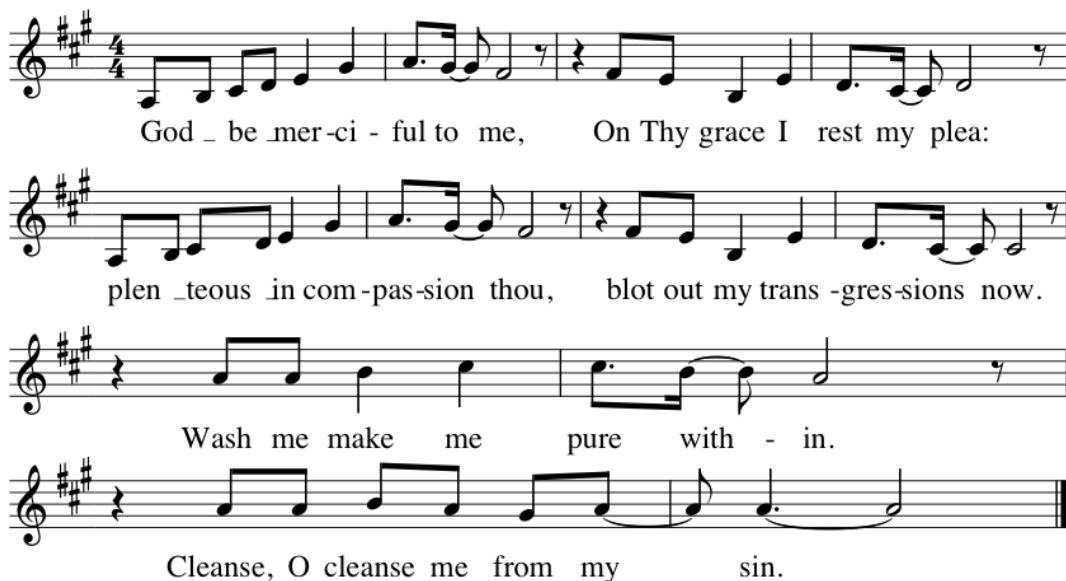
Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Confession of Sin

[You are invited to confess your sins 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

Titus 3:4-5

When the kindness and love of God our Savior
appeared, he saved us: not because of
righteous things we had done, but because of
His mercy.

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.

Psalm 51 (Continues)

Broken, humbled to the dust, by thy wrath and judgement just.
Let my contrite heart rejoice, and in gladness hear thy voice.
From my sins, oh, 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.

The Prayers of the People

[Led by Matt McReynolds]

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Almighty God who is from everlasting to everlasting, grant us, amid the conflicts of this passing world, the comfort of a perfect trust in you:

Save and help us, O Lord.

From pride, selfishness, greed and anger; from passions that lead to war among brothers and sisters in Christ as well as war among nations:

Save and help us, O Lord.

Let us pray for peace (silence). Amen.

As you have blessed our nation so richly, we pray for the President and all in authority over us, that they would lead with wisdom and truth:

Save and help us, O Lord.

Let us pray for those who lead (silence). Amen.

For all who are afflicted by war within themselves, by the conflicts of doubt, a rebellious will, and the darkness of despair:

Save and help us, O Lord.

Let us pray for all who struggle with the gospel (silence). 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.

For all who suffer: the sick, the poor, and the prisoner, that they would be touched by your compassion in their time of need:

Save and help us, O Lord.

Let us pray for all who suffer (silence). Amen.

And now as our Savior taught us, we pray:

**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.**

New Testament Reading

[Reader: Stephanie Bowyer]

Romans 8:18-25

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:24-26

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

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.

Old Testament Reading

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.

² Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

³ What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun?

⁴ A generation goes, and a generation comes,
but the earth remains forever.

⁵ The sun rises, and the sun goes down,
and hastens to the place where it rises.

⁶ The wind blows to the south and goes around to the north;
around and around goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind
returns.

⁷ All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full;
to the place where the streams flow, there they flow again.

⁸ All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it;
the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.

⁹ What has been is what will be,
and what has been done is what will be done,
and there is nothing new under the sun.

¹⁰ Is there a thing of which it is said, "See, this is new"?
It has been already in the ages before us.

¹¹ There is no remembrance of former things,
nor will there be any remembrance of later things yet to be
among those who come after.

Minister: 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

--The Heidelberg Catechism, Question #1

Minister: What is your only comfort in life and death?

People: **That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.**

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.]

Our Great God

Music & Lyrics: Fernando Ortega & Mac Powell



E - ter-nal God, un - chang _____ing, my - ster - ious and un - known. Your



bound - less love un - fail _____ing, in grace and mer - cy shown. Bright



ser - a - phim in cease - less flight a - round your glor - ious throne. They



raise their voi - ces day _____and night in praise to you a - lone.

Chorus



Ha - le - lu _____ jah! Glo - ry be to our great



God. Ha - le - lu _____ jah! Glo - ry be to our great God.

Lord, we are weak and frail, and helpless in the storm;
Surround us with Your angels and hold us in Your arms.
Our cold and ruthless enemy, his pleasure is our harm.

Rise up, O Lord, and he will flee before our sovereign God.

Let every creature in the sea and every flying bird,
Let every mountain, every field, and valley of the earth,
Let all the moons and all the stars in all the universe
Sing praises to the living God, Who rules them by his word.

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.

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.

Midtown Institute: Our next meeting will be Sunday morning, May 30 , from 9:00-10:30 on the McReynold’s patio (1241 E Sobre Lomas).

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

Women’s Bible Study: Wraps up this Wednesday at 7:00 pm, on Julie Garland’s patio. Romans 16 is the text for this week.

May Book Groups: The men are reading Identity - Demand for dignity and politics of resentment by Francis Fukuyama, and meeting on Tuesday, May 11th at 7pm at the McReynolds home (1241 E. Sobre Lomas). The women are reading The Wednesday War, by Gary Schmidt and meeting on May 14th at 7pm at Alicia Morris’s home (253 E Placita Nubes de Agua, 85629).

Nursery Volunteers: Olivia would like to have a few more people on the nursery volunteer list to lighten the load on us all. You’ll need to do a background check, which she can help you with. Please let Olivia, or Josiah Howard know if you can help.

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

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