



**MIDTOWN**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



# Evening Worship

## The First Sunday After Easter

04.11.2021

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**

The board is set. The pieces are moving. We come to it at last...the greatest battle of our time.

— Gandalf

Daybreak comes first,  
In thin splinters shimmering.  
Neither is the day here  
nor is the night gone.  
Night is getting ready to go  
And Day whispers, "Soon, now, soon."

—Carl Sandburg

# 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

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.

# Crown Him With Many Crowns

Music: George J. Elvy; Lyrics: Matthew Bridges

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Crown Him With Many Crowns'. It consists of four staves of music in 4/4 time, written in treble clef. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a 4/4 time signature, and a key signature of one sharp. The notes are: C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6. The lyrics are: 'Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; hark!'. The second staff continues the melody: C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F#3, E3, D3, C3. The lyrics are: 'how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -'. The third staff continues: C3, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F#1, E1, D1, C1. The lyrics are: '-wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and'. The fourth staff concludes the melody: C1, B1, A1, G1, F#1, E1, D1, C1, B1, A1, G1, F#1, E1, D1, C1. The lyrics are: 'hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.'

Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; hark!  
how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -  
-wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and  
hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:  
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scepter sways  
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
absorbed in prayer and praise:  
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet  
Fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time;  
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime:  
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me:  
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

## Prayer of Invocation

### Call to Confession of Sin

Psalm 32:4-6

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

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

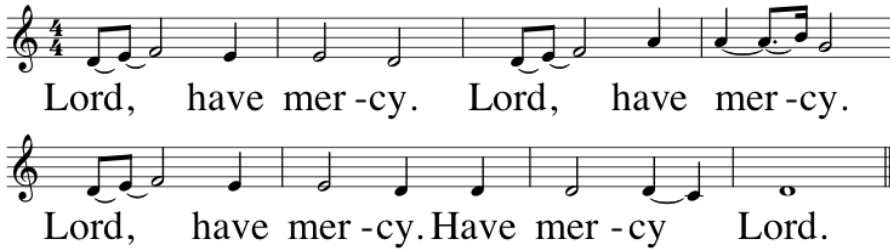
[Please pray aloud together]

**Heavenly Father, our thoughts and motives cannot be hidden from your sight. Our self-pity and pride, our cowardice and sloth, our anger and envy are laid bare before your eyes and ours. We open ourselves to you and ask that you forgive us and cover us in Christ. Let us hear your voice telling us that his blood is our peace, his death our freedom, his smiting our safety. And let our hearts know that your service is perfect freedom. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

[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

Psalm 32:1-2

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

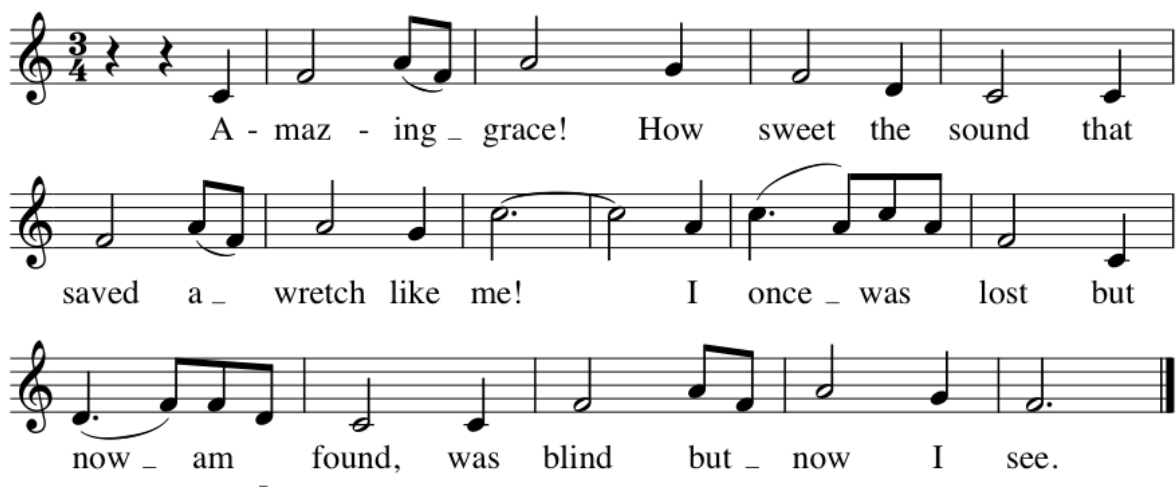
Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

**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.

# Amazing Grace

Lyrics & Music: John Newton



A - maz - ing - grace! How sweet the sound that  
saved a - wretch like me! I once - was lost but  
now - am found, was blind but - now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we've been there, ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun;  
We've no less days, to sing God's praise than when we first begun.



# The Prayers of the People

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

[Led by Ryan Jankowski]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

Father, we pray for your holy, catholic, and apostolic Church,

**That we all may be one.**

(Please pray silently for the unity of the church.)

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Grant that every member of the church may joyfully serve you.

**That your name would be honored by all people.**

(Please pray silently for the mission of the church.)

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who lead and guide your church

**That they may be your faithful and diligent servants.**

(Please pray silently for all who lead the church.)

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

(Please pray silently for the nations of the world.)

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

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.

Have compassion on those who suffer from grief or trouble

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

(Please pray silently for those who suffer.)

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Let us join together in praying as Jesus taught us to 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.**

## **Old Testament Reading**

[Reader:Rebekah Taylor]

Ecclesiastes 2:12-17

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Mark 8:34-38

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

# To Christ the Lord Let Every Tongue

Music: Laura Taylor; Lyrics: Samuel Stennent

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'To Christ the Lord Let Every Tongue'. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: 'To Christ the Lord let ev - ery tongue, its nob - lest tri - bute bring. When he's the sub - ject of the song, who can re - fuse to sing? - Sur - vey the beau - ties of his face, and on his glo - ries dwell; - think of the won - der of his grace, and all his tri - umphs - tell.'

To Christ the Lord let ev - ery tongue, its nob - lest tri - bute  
bring. When he's the sub - ject of the song, who  
can re - fuse to sing? - Sur - vey the beau - ties  
of his face, and on his glo - ries dwell; - think  
of the won - der of his grace, and all his tri - umphs - tell.

Majestic sweetness sits enthroned upon his awful brow.  
His head with radiant glories crowned, his lips with grace overflow.  
No mortal can with him compare among the sons of men;  
Fairer He is than all the fair that fill the heavenly train

He saw me plunged in deep distress, he fled to my relief.  
For me he bore the shameful cross and carried all my grief  
His hand a thousand blessings pours upon my guilty head  
His presence gilds my darkest hours and guards my sleeping bed

To Him I owe my life and breath and all the joys I have  
He makes me triumph over death and saves me from the grave  
To Heaven the place of His abode he brings my weary feet  
Shows me the glories of my God and makes my joy complete

Since from his bounty I receive such proofs of love divine.  
Had I a thousand hearts to give, Lord they should all be thine.  
A thousand men could not compose a worthy song to bring,  
Yet your love is a melody our hearts can't help but sing!

## **New Testament Reading**

Acts 17:16-34

**16**Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. **17**So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. **18**Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbler wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. **19**And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? **20**For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." **21**Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

**22**So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. **23**For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore

you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. <sup>26</sup>And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, <sup>27</sup>that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, <sup>28</sup> for

“In him we live and move and have our being’;  
as even some of your own poets have said,  
“For we are indeed his offspring.’

<sup>29</sup>Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. <sup>30</sup>The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

<sup>32</sup> Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, “We will hear you again about this.” <sup>33</sup>So Paul went out from their midst. <sup>34</sup>But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

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

# 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

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.**

## 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.]

# Your Labor Is Not In Vain

Lyrics & Music: Kimbrough , Zach, Wardell, Keyes



Your la - bor - is not in - vain though the



ground un - der - neath you is cursed and - stained. Your



plant - ing and reap - ing are ne - ver the same, - but your

*Chorus*



la - bor is not \_\_\_\_\_ in vain. For I am

*- to verse 2*



with you. I am with you. I am with you. I am



with you. For I have called you, called you by name. - your



la - bor is not \_\_\_\_\_ in vain.



Your labor is not unknown,  
Though the rocks they cry out and the sea it may groan.  
The place of your toil may not seem like a home,  
But your labor is not unknown [chorus]

The vineyards you plant will bear fruit;  
The fields will sing out and rejoice with the truth;  
For all that is old will at last be made new,  
The vineyards you plant will bear fruit [chorus]

The houses you labor to build  
Will finally with laughter and joy be filled;  
The serpent that hurts and destroys will be killed  
And all that is broken be healed [chorus]

# We Will Feast In the House of Zion

Lyrics and Music: Sandra McCracken and Joshua Moore

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "We will feast in the house of Zi - on! We will sing with our hearts re-stored. He has done great things, we will say to - ge - ther, We will feast and weep no more. 1. We will not be burned by the fire: He is the Lord our God. We are not consumed by the flood. Up-held, pro-TECT-ed, ga - thered up."

In the dark of night, before the dawn, My soul, be not afraid.  
For the promised morning, oh how long?  
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength!

Every vow we've broken and betrayed, You are the Faithful one.  
And from the garden to the grave, Bind us together, bring shalom!

## 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](http://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](mailto:charles@mpctucson.org)) to get on the list.

**Midtown Institute:** Our next meeting will be Sunday morning, April 18th, from 9:00-10:30 in the Youth Building just off of the playground here at the Vineyard.

**Women’s Bible Study:** Wednesday Night at the Garland’s (1324 N Norton Ave) at 7:00. We’ll be looking at Romans 13 (Chapter 9 in the Keller Book.)

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

**April Book Club Books:** The women are reading Educated by Tara Westover, meeting on April 16th at

The men are reading Christ Crucified by Donald Macleod, meeting on April 13th at the McReynolds’ home (1241 E Sobre Lomas).

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

Midtown Presbyterian Church  
[www.mpctucson.org](http://www.mpctucson.org)  
P.O. Box 40517, Tucson, AZ 85717  
678.849.7918

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

Biblical references are taken from the Holy Bible: English Standard Version (ESV) Copyright 2001  
by Crossway Bibles. Music: Most historic hymns are public domain. Recent praise songs are  
printed under Midtown Presbyterian Church's CCLI License # 11521797.