

MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
08.15.2021

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 scientists proved it, we're all gonna die
They've got charts, equations, the how, when, and why
You did not invite them and neither did I
But they're here, drink up, we're all gonna die
--Mieka Pauley

Enjoy yourself, it's later than you think
Enjoy yourself, while you're still in the pink
The years go by, as quickly as a wink
Enjoy yourself, enjoy yourself, it's later than you think
--Guy Lombardo

Let us eat, drink, and be merry,
for yesterday we were dead.
--Russell Moore

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

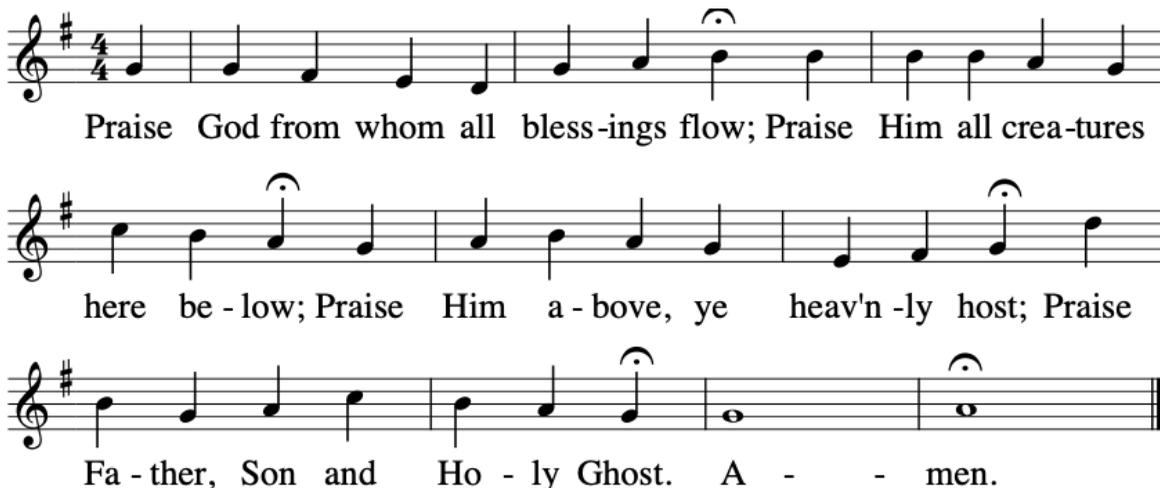
Revelation 19:6-7

Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.

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



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures
here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise
Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - - men.

All Creatures of our God and King

Lyrics: St. Francis of Assisi; Music: William Draper



All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us
sing, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia! Thou burn-ing sun with gold-en
beam, thou sil-ver moon with soft-er gleam, O - praise him, O -
praise Him, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise Him! Alleluia! Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of ev'ning find a voice! O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye! Alleluia! Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on Him cast your care! O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless and worship Him in humbleness,
O praise Him! Alleluia! Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One: O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

Titus 2:14

He gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

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

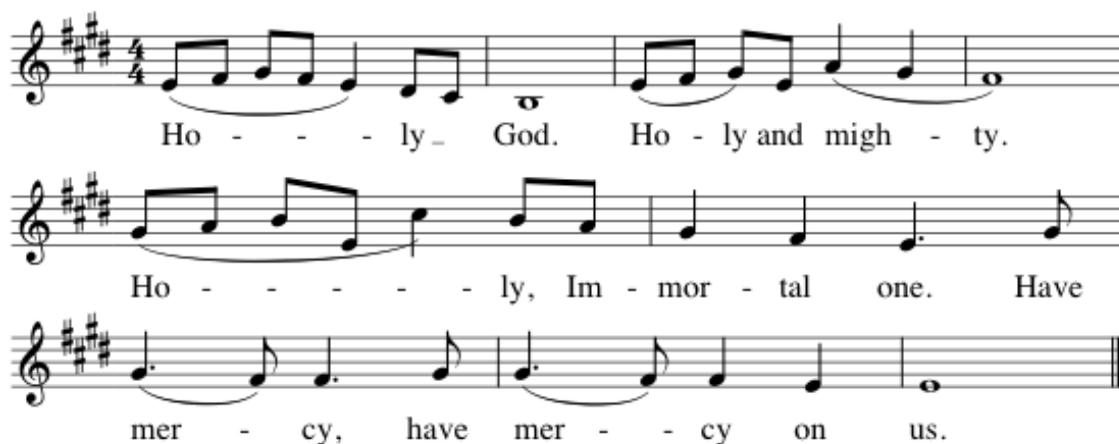
[Pray aloud together]

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. Yet, we confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We confess that we have not bowed before Jesus or acknowledged His rule in our lives. We have gone along with the way of the world and failed to give Him glory. We confess that we overlook those Jesus sought—the poor, the hungry and those who mourn. Our ears are deaf to the cries of the oppressed and indifferent to calls for peace. Forgive us, God of mercy! Lord, revive us! Bring new, resurrection life where we are worn and tired; new love where we have turned hard-hearted; forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded; and the joy and freedom that comes from the Holy Spirit. Amen.

[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

Romans 4:25

[Righteousness] will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

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.

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 sixteenth notes, often beamed together, and rests. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

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.

The Prayers of the People

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

[Led by Rebekah Taylor]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Our Lord Jesus Christ,
You rose from death as the Prince of peace:

We pray for peace between nations in Your world. We pray that our congregation might live in your peace together; We ask you to come again soon to fully establish your peace on earth.

(Pray silently for peace.)

Our Lord Jesus Christ,
You rose from death in triumph over evil and oppression:
We ask you to restrain the wickedness in our city by your Law. We ask you to destroy the wickedness in our own hearts by your Spirit. We pray that you would protect us from the temptations, lies and accusations of the devil.

(Pray silently for the coming of Jesus' kingdom.)

Our Lord Jesus Christ,
You rose from death to reconcile us to God:
We pray for our friends who do not yet know you; We pray for the deepening of our faith in the gospel of grace.

(Pray silently for the spread of the gospel.)

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.

Our Lord Jesus Christ,

You rose in victory over death and the grave, and you have brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

We pray for comfort for those who are suffering in grief, in poverty, in sickness, in injustice.

(Pray silently for those who suffer.)

Our Lord Jesus Christ,

We pray now in the words you 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.

New Testament Reading

[Reader: Melissa McRae]

1 Corinthians 15:20-26

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

John 11:23-27

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

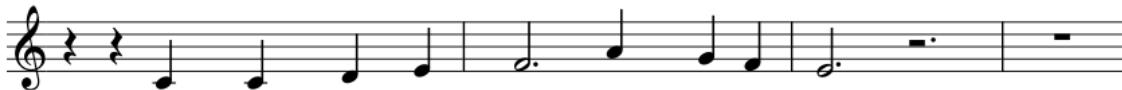
People: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

Psalm 126

Music: Issac Wardell



1. Our mouths they were filled, filled _ with laugh - ter.
2. The na - tions will say: "He has done great things!"



Our tongues they were loosed, loosed _ with joy.
the na - tions will sing songs _ of joy.



Re-store us, O Lord. Re-store us O Lord.



Although we are weep-ing. Lord help us keep sow - ing



the seeds of your King-dom for the day you will reap _ them.



Your sheaves we will car - ry. Lord please do not tar - ry.



All those who sow weep-ing will go out with songs of joy.

Old Testament Reading

Ecclesiastes 9:1-12

But all this I laid to heart, examining it all, how the righteous and the wise and their deeds are in the hand of God. Whether it is love or hate, man does not know; both are before him. ²It is the same for all, since the same event happens to the righteous and the wicked, to the good and the evil, to the clean and the unclean, to him who sacrifices and him who does not sacrifice. As the good one is, so is the sinner, and he who swears is as he who shuns an oath. ³This is an evil in all that is done under the sun, that the same event happens to all. Also, the hearts of the children of man are full of evil, and madness is in their hearts while they live, and after that they go to the dead. ⁴But he who is joined with all the living has hope, for a living dog is better than a dead lion. ⁵For the living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing, and they have no more reward, for the memory of them is forgotten. ⁶Their love and their hate and their envy have already perished, and forever they have no more share in all that is done under the sun.

⁷Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God has already approved what you do.

⁸Let your garments be always white. Let not oil be lacking on your head.

⁹Enjoy life with the wife whom you love, all the days of your vain life that he has given you under the sun, because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which you toil under the sun. ¹⁰Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to which you are going.

¹¹Again I saw that under the sun the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to those with knowledge, but time

and chance happen to them all. ¹² For man does not know his time. Like fish that are taken in an evil net, and like birds that are caught in a snare, so the children of man are snared at an evil time, when it suddenly falls upon them.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Charles Garland

The Table

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 Words of Institution

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 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.]

Jesus I Come

Music: Greg Thompson; Lyrics: William Sleeper



Out of my bon - dage, sor-row and night, Je - sus I come;

Je - sus I come. _ In - to thy free - dom, glad-ness and light

Je - sus I come to thee. _ Out of my sick-ness in - to thy

health, out of my want-ing and in - to thy wealth, out of my

sin _ and in - to thy - self, Je - sus I _ come to thee. _

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,
Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold,
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus I come 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 image shows a musical score for the hymn "On Jordan's Stormy Banks". It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The first staff starts with a whole rest, followed by a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, and a quarter note G. The second staff starts with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, and a quarter note G. The third staff starts with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, and a quarter note G. The fourth staff starts with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, and a quarter note G. The fifth staff starts with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, and a quarter note G. The score ends with a double bar line.

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.

Prayer before the service: We have a few people meet to pray silently for the worship service and for the mission of the church from 4:30-4:45 in the youth room off of the playground behind the church. Everyone is welcome to join in.

Midtown Institute: Our next meeting will be next Sunday morning, August 22th, from 9:00-10:30 at the McReynold's home (1241 E Sobre Lomas).

Monday Soccer: Monday at 6:00 at Mansfield Park in the NW corner.

Women's Sermon Discussion: Tuesday Night at 7:00 at Dana McReynold's home ((1241 E Sobre Lomas). We'll discuss the Ecclesiastes sermons referring to Charles' sermons and William Price's book [As Far As the Curse is Found](#).

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

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