



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Fifth Sunday in Lent

03.21.2021

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

We can't define lust as damaging or disordered pleasure-seeking unless we can identify a well-ordered, delightful form to which it fails to measure up. The right view of this great good will avoid two traps. On the one hand, it will avoid degrading sexual pleasure into meaningless triviality or animal instinct, stripped of any relation to love and humanness. On the other hand, it will avoid elevating it into something so spiritual that any ecstasy involved counts as a quasi-mystical experience, out of fear, shame, or abhorrence for the actual flesh involved. We should treat our sexual desires and their expression as holistically human—both spiritually significant and earthily embodied.

—Rebecca Konyndyk DeYoung

The Word

Call to Worship

1 Timothy 1:17

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

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

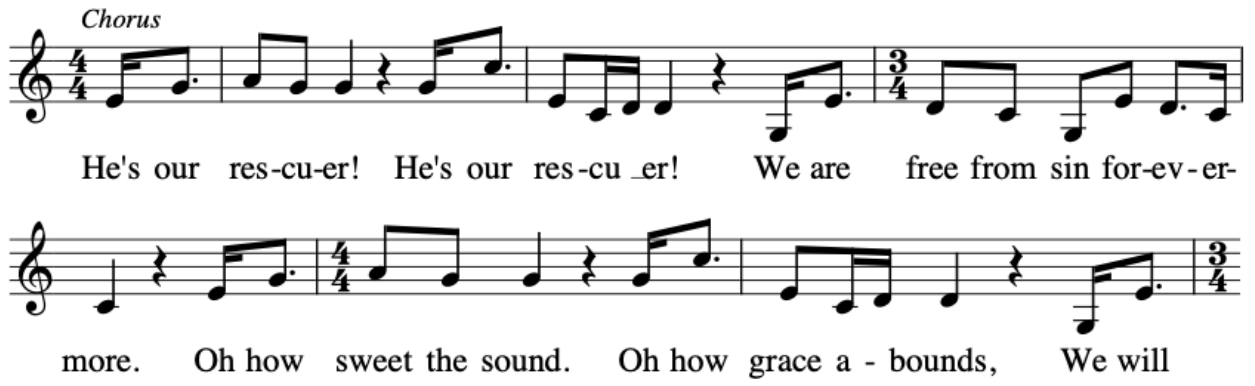
In the Doxology we join our voices with Christians around the world and through the centuries (circa 1674) with this song of praise to the Holy Trinity.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures
here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise
Fa-ther, Son and Ho-ly Ghost. A - - men.

Rescuer (Good News)


Music & Lyrics: Ben Hastings, Bryan Fowler and the Rend Collective

Chorus



He's our res-cu-er! He's our res-cu_er! We are free from sin for-ev-er-
more. Oh how sweet the sound. Oh how grace a - bounds, We will

Verse



praise the Lord, our res-cu-er! There is good news for the cap-tive;
good news for the shamed. There is good news for the one who walked a -
way. There is good news for the doubt-er; the one re-li-gion failed, for the
good Lord has come to seek and save. _ *to Chorus*

He is beauty for the blind man; riches for the poor;
He is friendship for the one the world ignores.
He is pasture for the weary; rest for those who strive,
For the good Lord is the way, the truth, the life

Bridge

to Chorus So come and be chain - less. Come and be
 fear - less. Come to the foot of Cal - va -
 ry. There is re - demp - tion, for ev - 'ry af -
 flic - tion. Here at the foot of Cal - va - ry.

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

Hebrews 4:15-16

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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]

**O Lord,
No day of my life has passed
that has not proved me guilty in your sight.
Prayers have been uttered from a prayerless heart
Praise has been often praiseless sound;
My best services are filthy rags.**

**Blessed Jesus, let me find a covert
in your appeasing wounds.
Though my sins rise to heaven your merits soar above them;
Though unrighteousness weighs me down to hell,
Your righteousness lifts me to your throne.
All things in me call for my rejection,
All things in you plead my acceptance.
I appeal from the throne of perfect justice
to your throne of boundless grace,**

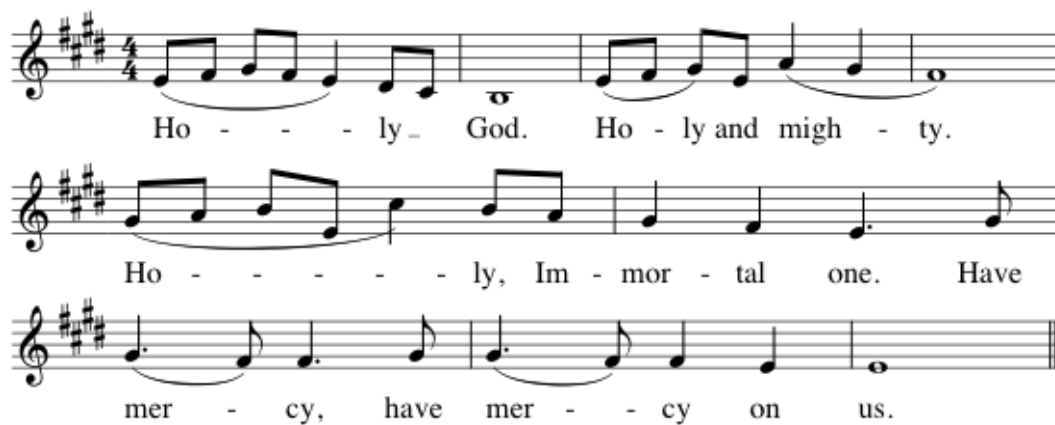
**Grant me to hear your voice assuring me:
that by your stripes I am healed,
that you were bruised for my iniquities,
that you have been made sin for me
that I might be righteous in you,
that my grievous sins, my manifold sins,
are all forgiven,
buried in the ocean of your concealing blood.**

**Give me perpetual broken-heartedness,
Keep me always clinging to your cross,
Flood me every moment with descending grace.
Amen.**

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

Trisagion

Music: Fernando Ortega



Ho - - - ly - God. Ho - ly and might - ty.
Ho - - - - - ly, Im - mor - tal one. Have
mer - cy, have mer - - cy on us.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hebrews 2:14-15

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

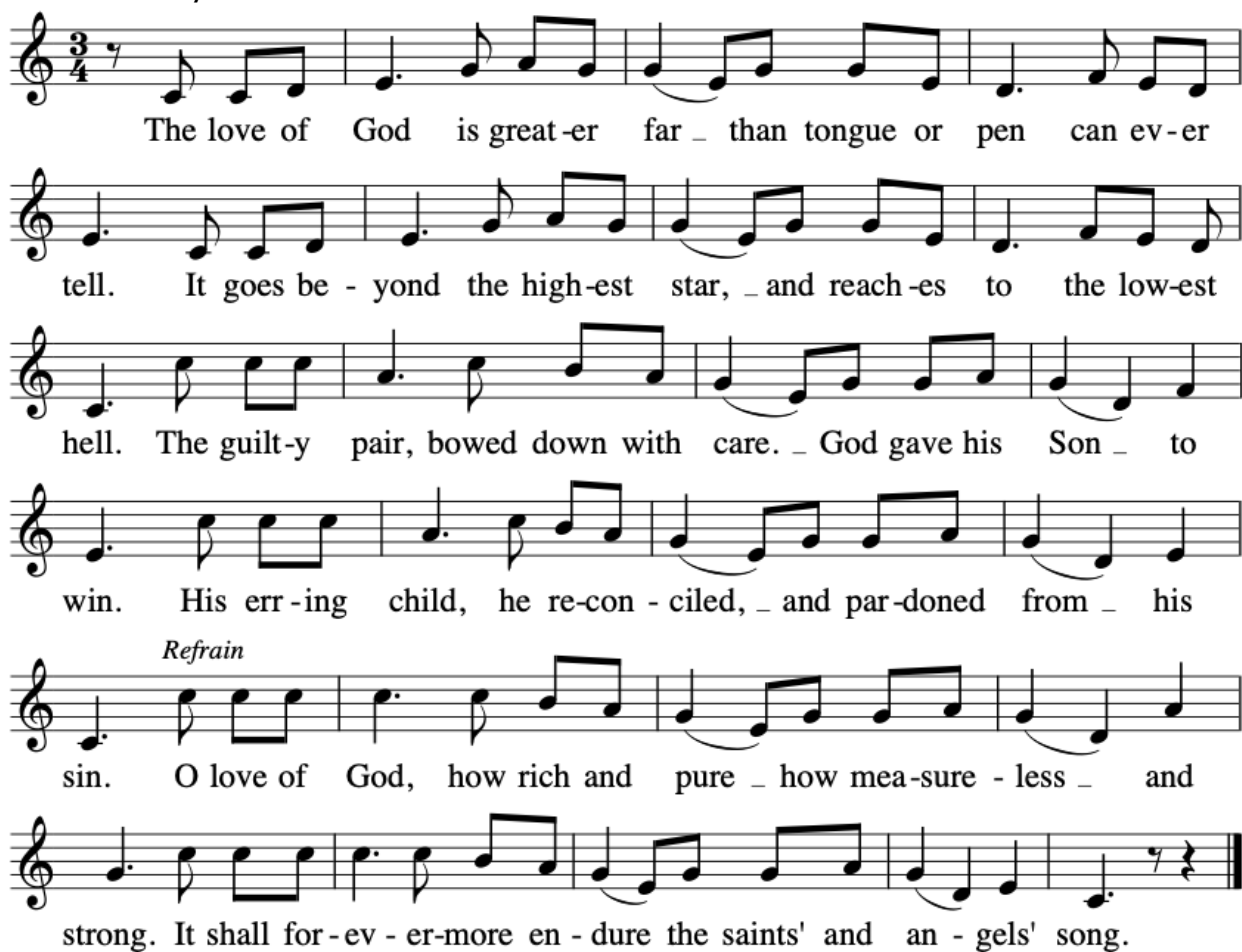
Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

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.

The Love of God

Music & Lyrics: Fredrick Martin Lehman



The love of God is great-er far - than tongue or pen can ev-er
tell. It goes be - yond the high-est star, - and reach-es to the low-est
hell. The guilt-y pair, bowed down with care. - God gave his Son - to
win. His err-ing child, he re-con - ciled, - and par-doned from - his
Refrain
sin. O love of God, how rich and pure - how mea-sure - less - and
strong. It shall for-ev - er-more en - dure the saints' and an - gels' song.

When years of time shall pass away,
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall;
When men, who here, refuse to pray,
On rocks and hills and mountains call;
God's love, so sure, shall still endure, All measureless and strong;
Redeeming grace to Adam's race, The saints' and angels' song.

[Refrain]

Could we with ink the ocean fill,
And were the skies of parchment made;
Were ev'ry stalk on earth a quill, And ev'ry man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole
Tho' stretched from sky to sky. [Refrain]

The Prayers of the People

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

[Led by Brittany Smith]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

O Lord, we cry out to you for the Church:

**We pray for the churches in Tucson
that proclaim your gospel.**

**We pray for Redemption Church and
for our sister churches in the Arizona
Presbytery.**

(Pray for the church.)

O Lord, we cry out to you for all the people of the earth:

**We pray for those who do not know you;
We pray that your gospel would run in our city.**

(Pray for your friends who don't yet believe 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.

O Lord, we cry out to you for our own nation:

Please give President Biden humility, wisdom, and trust in you. Please bless Governor Ducey and Mayor Romero. Please bring prosperity and peace to our city through your gospel.

(Pray for our leaders.)

O Lord, we cry out to you for the poor and suffering of our community:

We pray for those who are living on the streets. We pray for those who are sick and grieving. We pray for those who are discouraged and despairing.

(Pray for those who suffer.)

O Lord we cry out to you with our individual concerns and needs:

(Pour out your heart to your Father who gives good gifts to his children.)

All of these things we ask of you in the name of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray saying:

**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: Nikki Smith]

Titus 2:11-14

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 10:15-20

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

Holy, Holy, Holy

Lyrics: Reginald Heber; Music: John Dykes



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! Lord God Al - migh - ty!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee:



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! Mer - ci-ful and migh - ty!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Tri - ni - ty.

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who were and art and ever more shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
In earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Update on Easter Borehole Project

Nancy Price

Old Testament Reading

Song of Solomon 4:9-16

You have captivated my heart, my sister, my bride;
you have captivated my heart with one glance of your eyes,
with one jewel of your necklace.

10 How beautiful is your love, my sister, my bride!

How much better is your love than wine,
and the fragrance of your oils than any spice!

11 Your lips drip nectar, my bride;

honey and milk are under your tongue;
the fragrance of your garments is like the fragrance of Lebanon.

12 A garden locked is my sister, my bride,
a spring locked, a fountain sealed.

13 Your shoots are an orchard of pomegranates
with all choicest fruits, henna with nard,

14 nard and saffron, calamus and cinnamon,
with all trees of frankincense,

myrrh and aloes,
with all choice spices—

15 a garden fountain, a well of living water,
and flowing streams from Lebanon.

16 Awake, O north wind, and come, O south wind!

Blow upon my garden, let its spices flow.

She

Let my beloved come to his garden,
and eat its choicest fruits.

Reader: 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 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.

**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 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.]

Satan, Your Kingdom Must Come Down

Traditional Spiritual

The image shows a musical score for the spiritual 'Satan, Your Kingdom Must Come Down'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first two staves are identical. The third staff has a different melody for the first part of the line. The fourth staff is identical to the first two.

Sa - tan, your king - dom must come down.

Sa - tan, your king - dom must come down.

I heard the voice of Je - - - sus say,

"Sa - tan your king - dom must come down."

I'm gonna pray until they tear your kingdom down;
Pray 'til they tear your kingdom down.
I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Satan your kingdom must come down."

They'll shout until they tear your kingdom down;
Shout 'til they tear your kingdom down.
I heard the voice of Jesus cry,
"Satan your kingdom must come down."

Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Lyrics: Louisa Stead; Music: William Kirkpatrick



'Tis so sweet to trust in Je-sus, just to take him at his word;



Just to rest up-on his prom-ise; just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."



Je-sus, Je-sus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!



Je-sus, Je-sus, pre-cious Je-sus! O for grace to trust him more!

O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust his cleansing blood;
Just in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing, cleansing flood!
[Refrain]

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace.
[Refrain]

I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that thou art with me, wilt be with me to the end.
[Refrain]

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 next Sunday morning, March 28t, from 9:00-10:30 in the Youth Building just off of the playground here at the Vineyard.

Good Friday Service: We will have our Good Friday service here on April 2nd at 7:00pm.

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, and the men are reading Christ Crucified by Donald Macleod.

Directory Pictures: If your picture isn't in the directory please send one to Nancy Price (253-293-4787). The directory is on the website behind the password “dryheat”.

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

Midtown Presbyterian Church
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A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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Easter Offering Leboo Borehole

We want to raise
\$25,000 to dig a
bore hole for
Leboo, Kenya

For the Children's Sake has been given five acres of land on which to build a school and church, but first needs a supply of clean water so the Massai children can live there year round.

A bore hole facilitates many other relief needs, especially for girls in this area. With clean water they can use washable feminine hygiene products, go to school, more easily avoid genital mutilation, and connect to the good news of Jesus.

Contribute by writing a check to Midtown Presbyterian Church (noting the Borehole Project) or by giving online at www.mpctucson.org/donate.

