



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Reflection

I don't think that a man can ever leave his business. He ought to think of it by day and dream of it by night. Thinking men know that work is the salvation of the race. Physically, morally, and socially work does not just make us a living—it gets us a life.

--Henry Ford

This book being about work is by its very nature, therefore, about violence; violence to the spirit as well as to the body. It's about ulcers as well as accidents, breakdowns as well as kicking the dog around, about daily humiliations. To survive the day is triumph enough for the walking wounded among the great many of us.

--Studs Terkel

Labor is the very touchstone of man's self-realization. Man labors to transform his world, to put his own mark on it, to make it his.

--Karl Marx

Why did cavemen paint on walls? Why do you scratch your name into Tupperware? So that when you die, something is left behind that says, "I was here—I mattered!"

--Marge Simpson

Evening Worship

First Sunday after Pentecost
05.30.2021

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.

The Word

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.

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.

In the Gloria Patri we join our voices with Christians around the world and through the centuries in this ancient (cf. 380 AD) song of praise to the Holy Trinity.

The Gloria Patri

Music: Charles Meineke

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly

6 Ghost. As it was in the be - gin-ing, is now, and ev - er

10 shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

All Creatures of our God and King

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

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'All Creatures of our God and King'. It consists of four staves of music in 3/2 time, written in treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 3/2 time signature. The lyrics are: 'All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us'. The second staff continues: 'sing, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia! Thou burn-ing sun with gold-en'. The third staff continues: 'beam, thou sil-ver moon with soft-er gleam, O - praise him, O -'. The fourth staff concludes: 'praise Him, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia!'. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some rests and a fermata over the final '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

Isaiah 55:6-7

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

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

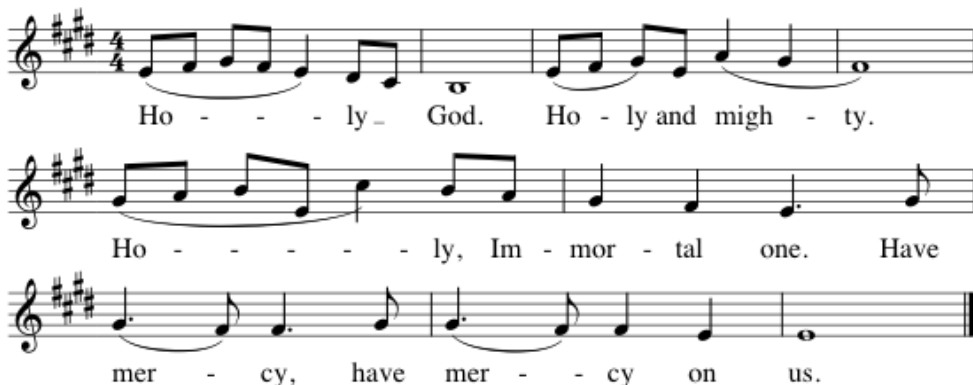
[Pray aloud together.]

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.]

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

Isaiah 53:4-5

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.

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.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Music & Lyrics: Robert Robinson

5 Come, thou fount of ev'-ry bles-sing, tune my heart to sing thy

9 grace; streams of mer-cy, ne-ver ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est

12 praise. Teach me _ some me - lo-dious - son - net sung by _

15 fla - ming tounge a - bove. Praise the mount, I'm fixed up -

pon it, mount of Thy re - deem-ing love.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time on a single treble clef staff. It begins with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score is divided into five systems, each containing a line of music and its corresponding lyrics. The lyrics are: '5 Come, thou fount of ev'-ry bles-sing, tune my heart to sing thy', '9 grace; streams of mer-cy, ne-ver ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est', '12 praise. Teach me _ some me - lo-dious - son - net sung by _', '15 fla - ming tounge a - bove. Praise the mount, I'm fixed up -', and 'pon it, mount of Thy re - deem-ing love.' The score ends with a double bar line.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I've come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, bought me with his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

The Prayers of the People

[Led by Dave Adams]

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Almighty God and Heavenly Father,
since You have promised to grant our requests, we
make our supplications to You in the name of Your
Son, Jesus Christ.

**We pray for our world leaders,
that they will rule with wisdom and peace,
especially in administering justice in troubled lands.**

Let us pray for the world (silence). Amen.

We pray to You also, dear Father, for Your church, the body of Christ,
**that guided by Your Holy Spirit, we would be found to be
wise, zealous, and faithful worshippers.**

Let us pray for the church (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.

Moreover, we pray for all men and women throughout the world,
**that they would come to a knowledge of Your saving grace
through the spread of Your gospel.**

Let us pray for those in need of God's grace (silence). Amen.

Finally, we commend to You all who suffer tribulation,
**that it would please You to make them feel
Your Fatherly affection toward them,
so they would find refreshment
and healing in You.**

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

1 Corinthians 15:58

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

John 6:28-29

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

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]

Old Testament Reading

Ecclesiastes 2:18-26; 4:4-8

18 I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, **19** and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. **20** So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, **21** because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. **22** What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? **23** For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

²⁴ There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, ²⁵ for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? ²⁶ For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

⁴ Then I saw that all toil and all skill in work come from a man's envy of his neighbor. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

⁵ The fool folds his hands and eats his own flesh.

⁶ Better is a handful of quietness than two hands full of toil and a striving after wind.

⁷ Again, I saw vanity under the sun: ⁸ one person who has no other, either son or brother, yet there is no end to all his toil, and his eyes are never satisfied with riches, so that he never asks, "For whom am I toiling and depriving myself of pleasure?" This also is vanity and an unhappy business.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Charles Garland

The Table

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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

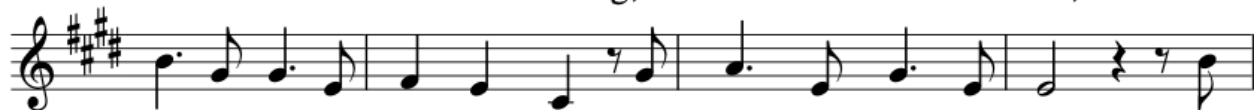
[As you are ready please come forward to receive the bread and the cup. We are using individual cups and wafers as a concession to the virus. The red cups have wine and the grape juice is white/gold.]

Come, Then Lord Jesus

Music: Kenny Hutson & Katy Bower; Lyrics: Horatius Bonar



The Church has wait-ed long, her ab-sent Lord to see, and



still in lone-li - ness she waits, a friend-less stran-ger she. How



age af-ter age has gone, sun af-ter sun has set, and



still, in weeds of wid-ow-hood, she weeps, a mourn -er yet.



Come then, Lord Je - sus come; Come then, Lord Je-sus; _



Come then, Lord Je - sus come; Come, _____ come.

The serpent's brood increase; the powers of hell grow bold,
The conflicts thicken, faith is low, and love is waxing cold.
How long, O Lord our God, holy and true and good,
Wilt thou not judge thy suffering Church, her sighs and tears and
blood? [Refrain]

We long to hear thy voice, to see thee face to face,
To share Thy crown and glory then, as now we share thy grace.
Should not the loving bride, the absent Bridegroom mourn?
Should she not wear the weeds of grief, until her Lord
return? [Refrain]

The whole creation groans, and wait to hear that voice
That shall restore her comeliness, and make her wastes rejoice.
Come, Lord, and wipe away, the curse, the sin, the stain
And make this blighted world of ours, thine own fair world again.
[Refrain]

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 suitable for a children's song. 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.

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, June 6, from 9:00-10:30 at the McReynold’s home (1241 E Sobre Lomas).

Monday Soccer: Monday at 5:00 at Mansfield Park in the NW corner.

Women’s Sermon Discussion: Saturday mornings @ 10:00 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.

Be The Bridge Movie Night: Chris & Nikki Smith are hosting a viewing/discussion of “Indian Horse” this Saturday evening at 7:15 (5601 E Cooper St.) Bring a camping chair if you have one.

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

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