



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

First Sunday After Epiphany

01.08.2023

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

Made for spirituality, we wallow in introspection. Made for joy, we settle for pleasure. Made for justice, we clamor for vengeance. Made for a relation-ship, we insist on our own way. Made for beauty, we are satisfied with sentiment. But new creation has already begun. The sun has begun to rise. Christians are called to leave behind, in the tomb of Jesus Christ, all that belongs to the brokenness and incompleteness of the present world. It is time, in the power of the Spirit, to take up our proper role, our fully human role, as agents, heralds, and stewards of the new day that is dawning.

--Tom Wright

The Word

Call to Worship

Psalm 107:1-3

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!
Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble
and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

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

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.

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 the Savior, Now and Ever

Lyrics: William Moore; Music: Bruce Benedict



The image shows three staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values. The third staff concludes the piece with a double bar line.

Praise the Sav-ior now and ev-er; praise him, all be - neath the skies;
pros-trate ly-ing, suf-fring, dy-ing on the cross, a sac - ri - fice.
Vic-t'ry gain-ing, life ob - tain -ing now in - glo-ry he doth rise.

Man's work faileth, Christ's availeth;
He is all our righteousness;
He, our Savior, has forever set us free from dire distress.
Through his merit we inherit light and peace and happiness.

Sin's bond severed, we're delivered;
Christ has bruised the serpent's head;
Death no longer is the stronger hell itself is captive led.
Christ has risen from death's prison; o'er the tomb he light has shed.

For his favor, praise forever
Unto God the Father sing;
Praise the Savior, praise him ever, Son of God, our Lord and King.
Praise the Spirit; through Christ's merit he doth us salvation bring.

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

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]

Jesus, our great King, You have called each of us to live together as one people. We are the people of your pasture, and the sheep of your hand. Forgive us for the times we have broken unity with others in this congregation:

**For our arrogance and pride,
For the grudges we have nursed and coddled,
For the cowardice that leads us to slander instead of reconcile.**

Forgives us for the times we have broken unity with Christians outside this congregation:

**For thinking that our congregation or group is superior to others,
For despising Christians with convictions that differ from ours,
For not rejoicing in the good work you are doing in others.**

Have mercy on us. Forgive us and change us. Help us to live as one.

(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

1 John 4:10

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

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.

In Christ Alone

Lyrics & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend

3 In Christ a - lone, my hope is found, He is my
6 light, my strength, my song; This cor - ner - stone, this sol-id
9 ground, firm through the fier-cest drought and storm. What heights of
12 love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv-ings
14 cease! My com - fort - er, my all in
all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Til on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied,
For every sin on Him was laid here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth, in glorious Day, up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death! This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry, to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.
'Til He returns, or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

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.

Let us pray to the Lord, for the mission of the church,

that in faithful witness

it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to You, O Lord.

(Please pray silently for the church throughout the world.) Amen.

For those who do not yet believe and those struggling with their faith:

that they may receive the light of the gospel, we pray to You, O Lord.

(Please pray silently for those yet to believe.) Amen.

For the peace of the world,

that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, according to Your will, we pray to You, O Lord.

(Please pray silently for the world.) 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 the poor, the persecuted, and all who suffer; for refugees,
prisoners, and all who are in danger;

**that they may be relieved and protected,
we pray to You, O Lord.**

(Please pray silently for those who suffer.) Amen.

And hear us as we pray as our Savior 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: Shelly Gauger]

Revelation 21:1-5

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:13-18

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

Isaiah 60:1-22

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ²For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. ³And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

⁴Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord. ⁷All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you; the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you; they shall come up with acceptance on my altar, and I will beautify my beautiful house.

⁸Who are these that fly like a cloud, and like doves to their windows? ⁹For the coastlands shall hope for me, the ships of Tarshish first, to bring your children from afar, their silver and gold with them, for the name of the Lord your God, and for the Holy One of Israel, because he has made you beautiful. ¹⁰Foreigners shall build up your walls, and their kings shall minister to you; for in my wrath I struck you, but in my favor I have had mercy on you. ¹¹Your gates shall be open continually; day and night they shall not be shut, that people may bring to you the wealth of the nations, with their kings led in procession.

¹²For the nation and kingdom that will not serve you shall perish; those nations shall be utterly laid waste. ¹³The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, the cypress, the plane, and the pine, to

beautify the place of my sanctuary, and I will make the place of my feet glorious.

14The sons of those who afflicted you shall come bending low to you, and all who despised you shall bow down at your feet; they shall call you the City of the Lord, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

15Whereas you have been forsaken and hated, with no one passing through, I will make you majestic forever, a joy from age to age.

16You shall suck the milk of nations; you shall nurse at the breast of kings; and you shall know that I, the Lord, am your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob. **17**Instead of bronze I will bring gold, and instead of iron I will bring silver; instead of wood, bronze, instead of stones, iron. I will make your overseers peace and your taskmasters righteousness.

18Violence shall no more be heard in your land, devastation or destruction within your borders; you shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise. **19**The sun shall be no more your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give you light; but the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory. **20**Your sun shall no more go down, nor your moon withdraw itself; for the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall be ended. **21**Your people shall all be righteous; they shall possess the land forever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I might be glorified. **22**The least one shall become a clan, and the smallest one a mighty nation; I am the Lord; in its time I will hasten it.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Rev. Charles Garland

The Table

Confession of Faith Membership Vows

Jack & Jackie Satterfield,
Emma Satterfield,
Maximus Satterfield
Greg & Sandy Davis
Trey Whiten
Megan Stewart

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 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 down the center aisle.. Take bread and eat it, then take a cup and drink. If you prefer grape juice and/or a gluten free wafer, they are available on the middle table. Please return down the outside aisles.]

Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery

Lyrics & Music: Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, Michael Bleeker



Come be - hold the won-drous mys-tery, in the dawn-ing of the King. He, the



theme of heav-en's prais-es, robed in frail hu-man-i - ty. In our



long-ing, in our dark-ness, now the light of life has come! Look to



Christ who con-de - scend - ed, took on flesh to ran-som - us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery: he the perfect Son of Man,
In his living, in his suffering, never trace nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man,
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree.
In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory!
See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold,
Bringing many sons to glory: grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come behold the wondrous mystery: slain by death, the God of life,
But no grave could e'er restrain him; praise the Lord, He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected, as will we be when he comes.

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. Online, you can give at (www.mpctucson.org/donate). ----->>>

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.

Congregational Meeting: We'll have a congregational meeting after worship today to present the budget and talk about plans for the coming year.

Book Groups: Women: Reading Strange New World by Carl Trueman. Meet on Sunday, January 15th at Cara Scott & Frances Willberg's home (2839 E Vespers Pl). Men: Reading The Revolt of the Elites by Christopher Lasch. Meet at the McReynolds home (1241 E Sobre Lomas) this Tuesday at 7pm.

Quarterly Church Prayer Meeting: Sunday morning, January 29th, at 10:30 - 11:30 @ the Garland's (1324 N Norton Ave). Everyone is welcome.

Pastor: Charles Garland
Music Director: Sarah Lewis
Nursery Director: Sami Byker
Church Planting Resident: Nick
Davis
RUF Staff: Matt & Sarah Esswein

Midtown Presbyterian Church
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A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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