



**MIDTOWN**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Reflection

The inoffensiveness of the weak man, even the cowardice of which he has so much, his lingering at the door, his being ineluctably compelled to wait, here acquire flattering names such as "patience," and are even called virtues.

--Friedrich Nietzsche

Forgiveness flounders because I exclude the enemy from the community of humans even as I exclude myself from the community of sinners. But no one can be in the presence of the God of the crucified Messiah for long without overcoming this double exclusion—without transposing the enemy from the sphere of monstrous inhumanity into the sphere of shared humanity and herself from the sphere of proud innocence into the sphere of common sinfulness.

--Miroslav Volf

Oh, life is a glorious cycle of song,  
A medley of extemporanea;  
And love is a thing that can never go wrong;  
And I am Marie of Romania.

—Dorothy Parker

# Evening Worship

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost  
10.15.2023

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.

# 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

Psalm 105:1-2

Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

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

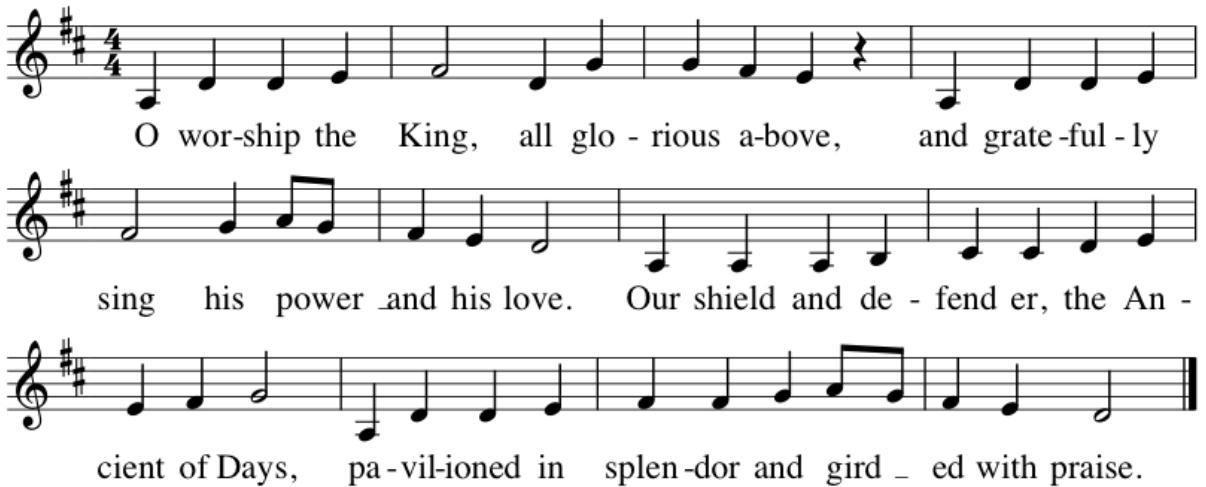
Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly

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.

# O Worship the King

Lyrics: Robert Grant; Music: Johann Haydn



O wor-ship the King, all glo - rious a-bove, and grate-ful - ly  
sing his power and his love. Our shield and de - fend er, the An -  
cient of Days, pa-vil-ioned in splen-dor and gird - ed with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,  
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;  
it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;  
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;  
your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

## Prayer of Invocation

The invocation is a prayer asking for God to come and be present with us in the worship service. We come with hope that God will come and speak to us, heal us, and stir up love for him in our minds and hearts.

## Call to Confession of Sin

1 John 1:5-6

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

## Confession of Sin

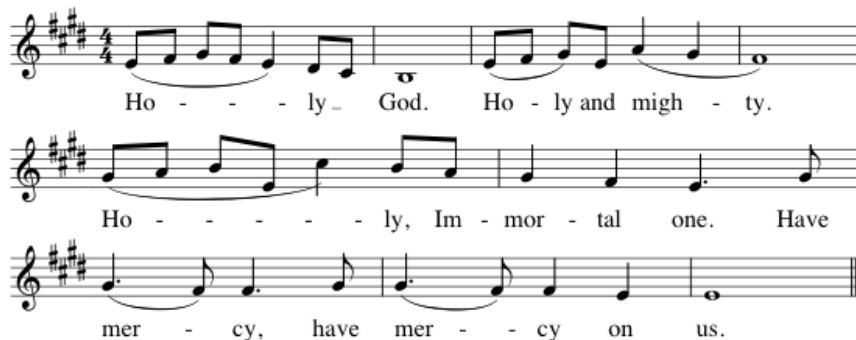
[Pray aloud together.]

**Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent; according to your promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. Grant that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of His holy name. 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

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

**All: And also with you!**

## Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery

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

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

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.

## **The Prayers of the People**

[Led by Ryan Janklowski]

[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.

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.**

## **Old Testament Reading**

[Reader:Hannah Johnson]

Jeremiah 9:12-14

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Matthew 18:21-35

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

# They Will Know We Are Christians

Lyrics and Music: Peter Scholtes

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes a refrain section starting at measure 13. The lyrics are: 'We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord; We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord. And we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored. And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our love, yes they'll know - we are Chris-tians by our love.' The score ends with a double bar line.

5 We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the  
9 Lord; We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the  
13 Refrain  
17 stored. And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our  
21 love, yes they'll know - we are Chris-tians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;  
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;  
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come;  
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.  
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

## **New Testament Reading**

1 Corinthians 13:4a

Love is patient...

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

We use the ancient creeds 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.

## **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 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.]

# Lord I Need You

Music & Lyrics: Carson, Nockels, Maher, Reeves & Stanfill

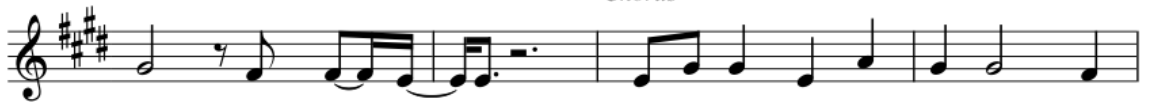


Lord, I come, I con - fess. Bow-ing here, I find my



rest. And with-out you, - I fall a - part. You're the

## *Chorus*



one that guides my heart. Lord, I need you, Oh, I need you.



Ev - 'ry hour I need you. My one de-fense,



my right - eous-ness, Oh, God, how I need - you.

## *Bridge*



So, teach my song to rise to you, When temp - ta-tion comes my way.



When I can-not stand, I'll fall on you, Je-sus, you're my hope and stay.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.

Where grace is found is where You are.

Where You are, Lord, I am free! Holiness is Christ in me.

# 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.

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

**Nursery Help:** We need a few more volunteers for the nursery/child care ministry to our little ones. If a few more will help out the intervals will be longer and make things easier for us all. Contact Sami Skaare if you can help: (602) 826-4164, [sbbyker@gmail.com](mailto:sbbyker@gmail.com).

**Church Potluck:** Our next potluck is October 22. Please bring your favorite dishes to share! Sign up sheet is at this link—>



**Shower for Stephanie Barrett:** Come celebrate Stephanie and her upcoming wedding at the Esswein house on Sunday November 5th at 9am. Annalyse Rash has more details. All Midtown women are welcome!

**Pastor:** Charles Garland  
**Music Director:** Sarah Lewis  
**Nursery Director:** Sami Skaare  
**RUF Staff:** Matt & Sarah Esswein  
**RUF Intern:** Paige Jackson

Midtown Presbyterian Church  
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