



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Distancing & Safety Plan

So we can more safely meet together for worship we ask you to help us observe the following:

1. We will space out the chairs as much as we can.
2. No nursery yet—coming very soon!
3. Wear masks so we can sing.
4. Communion will involve coming forward without crowding, and picking up a cup and wafer from the altar rail in front of the pulpit. The separate table of cups will have grape juice if you prefer that. The wafers are gluten free.
5. Try to go outside for visiting with each other after the service.
6. We will disinfect surfaces in the sanctuary and bathrooms before the service.

Evening Worship

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10.04.2020

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. Our nursery for our little ones isn't open yet, post-quarantine, but there is a cry room in the back, and some room in the foyer if they need a little space.

Reflection

Jesus was the only One that ever raised the dead and He shouldn't have done it. He thrown everything off balance. If He did what he said, then it's nothing for you to do but throw away everything and follow Him, and if He didn't, then it's nothing for you to do but enjoy the few minutes you got left the best way you can.

— Flannery O'Connor, *A Good Man Is Hard To Find*

The Word

Call to Worship

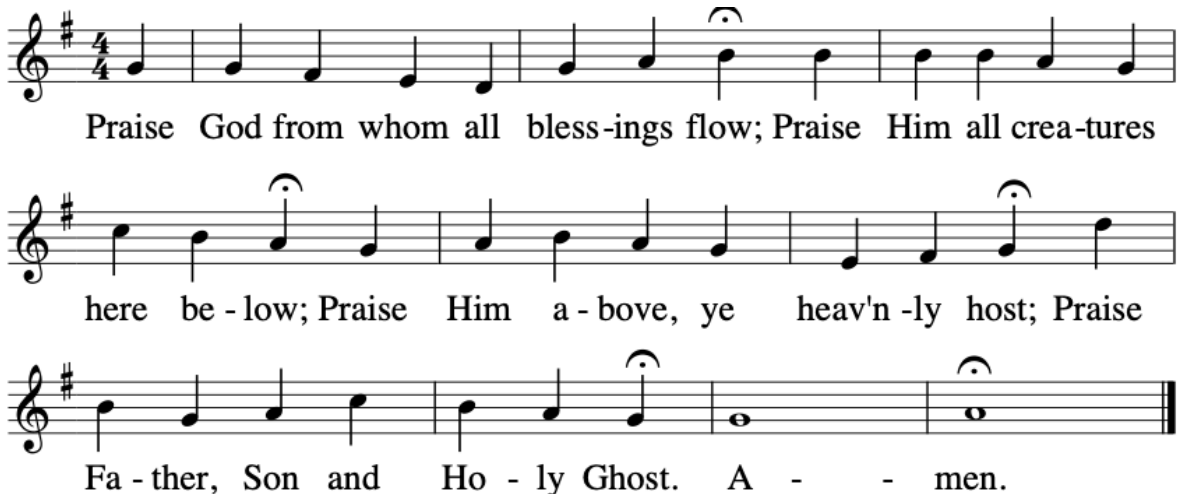
Psalm 107:1-3

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 bless-ings flow; Praise Him all crea-tures
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.

All Hail The Power of Jesus' Name

Lyrics: Edward Perronet; Music: Oliver Holden



All hail the pow'r of Jes-us' name! Let an-gels pros-trate fall; Bring



forth the roy-al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of _ all! Bring



forth the roy-al di - a - dem and crown Him, Lord _ of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, ye ransomed of the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all;
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe, on this terrestrial ball,
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all;
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
and crown him Lord of all;
We'll join the everlasting song,
and crown him Lord of all.

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.

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

Micah 6:8

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Confession of Sin

[Pray aloud together]

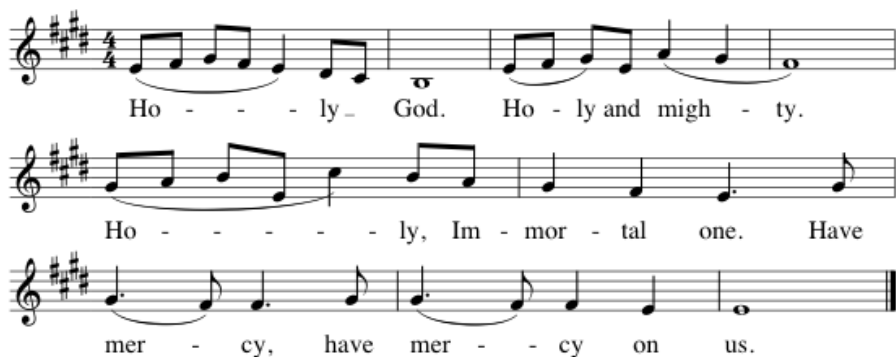
Almighty and Merciful Father, You have told us what is good, and we agree with you. Our lives, however, often do not measure up. We have not acted justly. Instead, we have acted in ways that promote our own comfort and advancement. We have not loved mercy. Instead, we have loved the order and control over our lives that we can maintain if we do not serve those in need. We have not walked humbly with you. Instead, we have run from your paths when they are difficult and involve sacrifice. Forgive us for our sins against you and our neighbors. By the power of your Spirit make us a congregation which acts justly, loves mercy, and walks humbly with you, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

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.

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

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

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.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Music: William Runyan; Lyrics: Thomas Chisholm



Great is thy faith - ful-ness, O God my Fath - er;



there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee;



Thou chang - est not, thy comp - pas - sions they fail not;

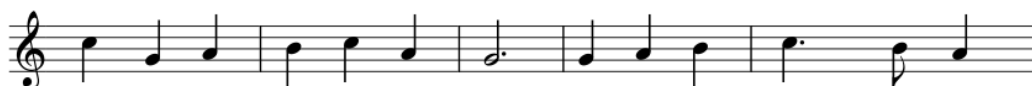


as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.

Refrain



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid-ed. Great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

The Prayers of the People

[Led by Nick Dunlap]

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Father, we pray for your holy, catholic, and apostolic Church,

That we all may be one.

(Please pray silently for the unity of the church.)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who lead and guide your church

That they may be faithful and diligent servants of you.

(Please pray silently for all who lead the church.)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who hold authority in the nations of the world

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

(Please pray silently for the nations of the world.)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

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.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake

That we may know the joy of living for you.

(Please pray silently that we would follow God in our lives.)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Have compassion on those who suffer from grief or trouble

That they may be delivered from their distress.

(Please pray silently for those who suffer.)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Let us join together in praying as Jesus taught us to 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: Nancy Price]

Psalms 20:1-9

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

John 4:19-26

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.

New Testament Reading

Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Charles Garland

Sermons are God's appointed means to communicate his Good News to a particular group of people in a particular local context. Sermons, by design, aren't impressive, so that God will get credit when he uses them in your life, rather than the preacher.

The Table

Confession of Faith The Nicene Creed

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.

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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

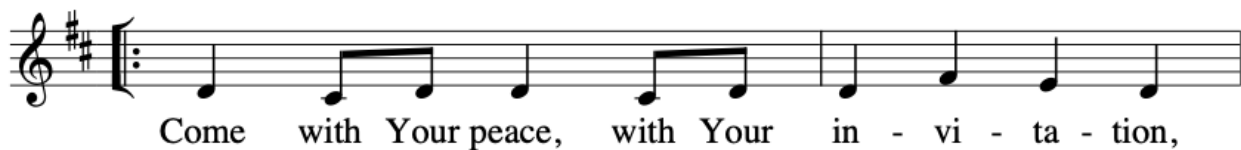
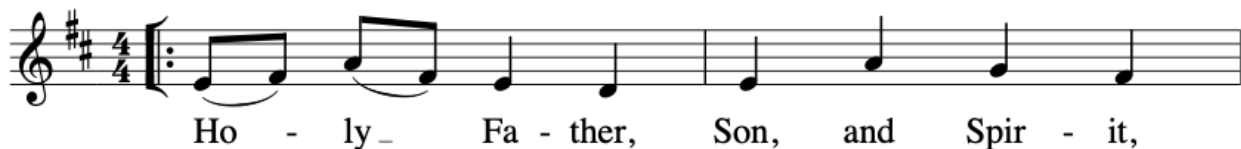
Minister: Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of faith.
All: **Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again!**
Minister: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
All: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**
Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

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 cups on the taller, white table have wine and the ones on the wooden table have grape juice.]

Trinity Song

Music & Lyrics: Sandra McCracken



Take My Life And Let It Be

Lyrics & Music: Frances Havergal



Take my life _ and _ let it be con - se - crat - ed,
Lord, to thee. Take my mo - ments _ and my days; _ let them flow in
cease _ less _ praise _ let them flow in _ cease less _praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,
Swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose,
Every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,
Ever, only, all for thee.

Benediction

Nursery Restart Meeting



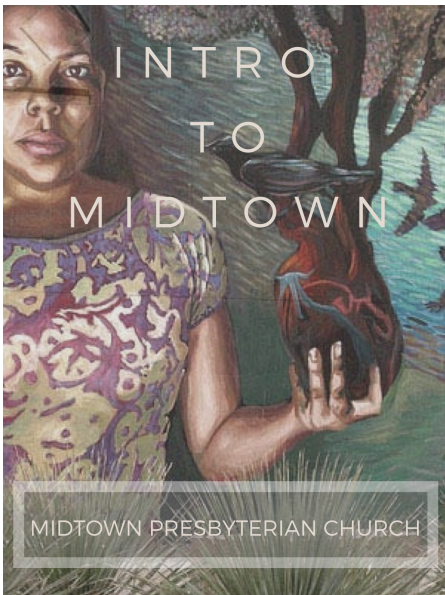
Next Sunday after Church on the playground.

We'll have pizza and talk about:

- Covid-19 precautions
- New Child safety system
- New age targeted curriculum
- Orienting volunteers and parents
- Brainstorming and Q & A time

We're hoping to re-open on 10/18!

Intro to Midtown Class



Saturday Morning , October 17th

9:00 -11:00

Here at the Vineyard.

This is a class for people interested in joining Midtown or just finding out more about us. There is a booklet to read through beforehand, and we'll have the class on 10/17 to discuss questions and ideas.

Let Charles know if you are interested so he can get the booklet to you in advance.

Also speak to Charles if you need childcare during that time.

Notes

Offering: We have placed an offering box at the back of the sanctuary that you can use as you enter or leave. 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.

October Book Groups (everyone is welcome):

Ladies Book Club will be meeting on Friday, October 9th at 7:00 PM to discuss Generous Justice by Tim Keller. Location will be the home of Nancy Price (6280 N. Placita de Luis).

Mens Book Club will be meeting on Tuesday, October 13th at 7:00 PM to discuss The Old Man and The Sea by Ernest Hemingway. Location will be the home of Dave Adams (4660 N. Paseo Aquimir).

Monday Soccer in the Mall: Monday evenings at 5:30 a group is meeting on the U of A mall to play soccer. Everyone is welcome.

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

Midtown Presbyterian Church
www.mpctucson.org
P.O. Box 40517, Tucson, AZ 85717
678.849.7918

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

Biblical references are taken from the Holy Bible: English Standard Version (ESV) Copyright 2001 by Crossway Bibles. Music: Most historic hymns are public domain. Recent praise songs are printed under Midtown Presbyterian Church's CCLI License # 11521797.

