



**MIDTOWN**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



# Evening Worship

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
08.25.2024

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 (0-3 )during the whole service in the Hamilton House. Children ages 4-12 will have Children's Church during the sermon time, also in the Hamilton House.

## Reflection

The actual Puritans were somewhat less prudish than the reputation they acquired from subsequent critics, including Nathaniel Hawthorne, Mencken, and later Arthur Miller. Nor were the Puritans the only ones to dabble in moral perfectionism, political utopianism, or cultural austerity. Many of the same qualities were present in Christian millenarian movements, as well as in subsequent brands of secular radicalism. The militant republicans of the French Revolution and dedicated cadres of various Marxist states could be described as “puritan” with perhaps more justice than the affluent homeowner with a Prius in the driveway, NPR on the radio, and a Black Lives Matter sign in the yard. Rather than a specific inheritance from Puritanism, it makes more sense to see the quest to fully redeem a corrupt society as a perennial temptation that has been expressed in many different ways at different places and times.

—Anne Applebaum

Hume worried that a lust for liberty was turning fanatical. Hume’s disciples attacked the French Revolution for reigniting religious warfare. Instead of killing each other to save souls, people now did so in the name of freedom. Civil liberties were forgotten. As polarization intensifies, people are increasingly loath to consider opinions that don’t reinforce their own. Quite literally the road to hell can be paved with good intentions.

—Katrin Redfern

# 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 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.

## The Gloria Patri

Music: Charles Meineke

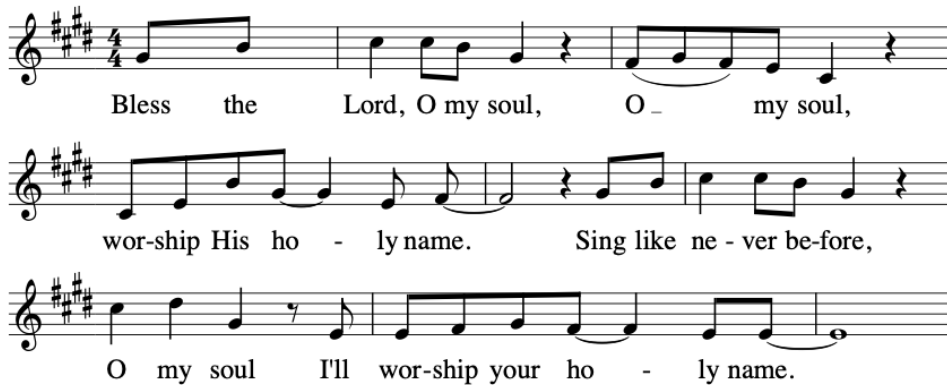
In the Gloria Patri we join our voices with Christians around the world and through the centuries in this ancient (cf. 380 AD) song of praise to the Holy Trinity.

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-ning, is now, and ev - er  
10  
shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

# Ten Thousand Reasons

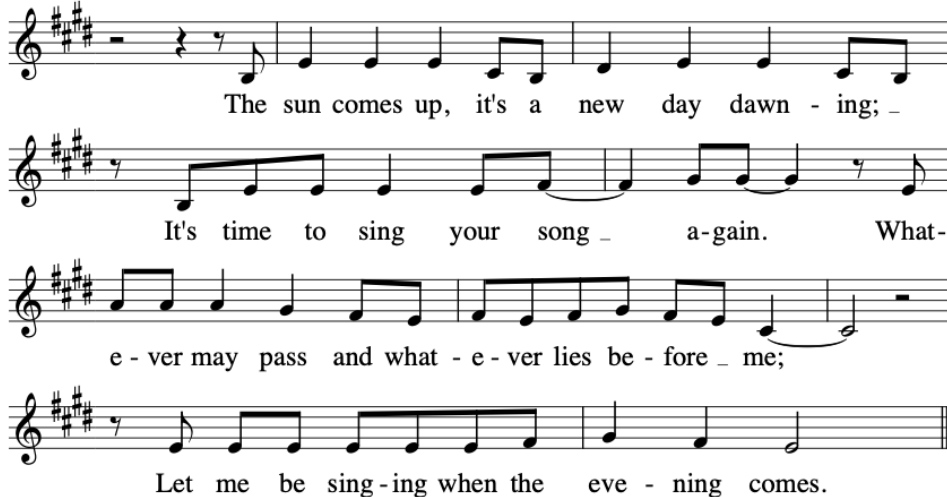
Lyrics and Music: Matt Redman & John Myrin

## *Chorus*



Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,  
wor-ship His ho - ly name. Sing like ne - ver be-fore,  
O my soul I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.

## *Verse*



The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn - ing; -  
It's time to sing your song - a-gain. What-  
e - ver may pass and what - e - ver lies be - fore - me;  
Let me be sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger,  
Your name is great and your heart is kind.  
For all your goodness I will keep on singing,  
10,000 reasons for my heart to find.

And on that day when my strength is failing,  
The end draws near and my time has come.  
Still my soul will sing your praise unending,  
10,000 years and then forevermore.

# Prayer of Invocation

## Call to Confession of Sin

John 8:32-34

They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free?'" Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin."

## Confession of Sin

[Pray aloud together]

**Gracious God, we confess that we have longed too much for the comforts of this world. We have loved the gifts more than the giver. In your mercy, help us to see that all the things we pine for are shadows, but you are substance; that they are quicksands, but you are mountain; that they are shifting, but you are anchor. We plead your forgiveness on the merits of Jesus Christ. Accept his worthiness for our unworthiness, his sinlessness for our transgressions, his fullness for our emptiness, his glory for our shame, his righteousness for our dead works, his death for our life. We pray in Jesus' name. 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

John 8:36

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

**All: And also with you!**

## It Is Well With My Soul

Lyrics: Henry Lyte; Music: Bill Moore



When peace like a ri - ver at - tend - eth my way, when sor - rows like



sea bil-lows roll; What - e - ver my lot, thou hast taught me to



say, it is well, it is well, with my soul! It is well,



with my soul, it is well, it is well, with my soul!

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control:

That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
And has shed his own blood for my soul. [Refrain]



My sin oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!  
My sin, not in part, but the whole,  
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more;  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! [Refrain]

O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;  
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend;  
Even so, it is well with my soul. [Refrain]

## The Prayers of the People

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

[Led by Dave Adams]

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

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**

[Reader: Sandi McReynolds]

Romans 2:1-4

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Matthew 9:10-13

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ

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

# How Long?

Music & Lyrics: Isaac Wardell



1. How long? Will you turn your face a-way?  
2. How long 'til your child- ren find their rest?



How long? Do you hear us when we pray?  
How long 'til you draw them to your breast?



On and on, still we walk this pil - - grim way. How long?  
We go on, hold- ing to your pro - - mi - ses. How long?



*Chorus*

'Til you wipe a-way the tears from eve - ry eye?



'Til we see our home de - scend - ing from the sky?



Do we wait in vain? Je- sus give us hope a- gain!

How long 'til your word will still the storm?  
How long 'til you bare your mighty arm?  
How we groan 'til you snatch us from the thorns. How long?

How long? Sweet the dawn that ends the race.  
How long? Weak our hearts but strong our legs.  
Looking on, great that cloud of witnesses! How long? [Chorus]  
Amen, Jesus Come!

## **Old Testament Reading**

Exodus 31:18

And he gave to Moses, when he had finished speaking with him on Mount Sinai, the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Rev. Charles Garland

# The Table

## Confession of Faith

--The Heidelberg Catechism, Question #1

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.

Minister: What is your only comfort in life and death?

People: **That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.**

## 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 one of the aisles. 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 same aisle.]

# God's Highway

Music & Lyrics: Sandra McCracken

My feet are strong, my eyes are clear. I can - not  
see the way - from here. But on we go; He knows the  
way and in his arms he keeps - me safe.

*Chorus*  
Fear not, keep on, watch and pray! Walk in the  
light of God's high - way. *Bridge* I'm hold - ing  
on to You Lord. — You're hold - ing on — to me.

The shadows flee, the valley is deep,  
But evil cannot conquer me.  
Your rod and staff, they protect me;  
You give me rest, You give me peace. [Chorus]

I see the shore from troubled seas.  
This tiny ship that carries me,  
It is not yet, but it will be;  
So heaven come, it's You we need. [Chorus]

# On Jordan's Stormy Banks

Lyrics: Samuel Stennett; Music: Christopher Miner

4 On Jor - dan's stor - my ba-nks I stand and  
7 cast a wish-ful eye, to Can - aan's fair and  
11 hap-py land, where my pos-ses-sions lie. I am bound, I am  
14 bound, I am bound for Prom-ised La - nd. I am  
bound, I am bound, I am bound for Prom-ised La - nd.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'On Jordan's Stormy Banks'. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff starts with a 4-measure rest, then begins with 'On Jor - dan's stor - my ba-nks I stand and'. The second staff continues with 'cast a wish-ful eye, to Can - aan's fair and'. The third staff has 'hap-py land, where my pos-ses-sions lie. I am bound, I am'. The fourth staff has 'bound, I am bound for Prom-ised La - nd. I am'. The fifth staff concludes with 'bound, I am bound, I am bound for Prom-ised La - nd.' The music ends with a double bar line.

All o'er those wide extended plains, Shines one eternal day;  
There God the Son forever reigns, And scatters night away.

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath Can reach that healthful  
shore; Sickness, sorrow, pain and death, Are felt and feared no more

When shall I reach that happy place, And be forever blessed?  
When shall I see my Father's face, And in His bosom rest?

## 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.

**Adopt an RUF Student:** Talk to Matt Esswein or Paige Jackson about being a host family for an RUF student this year.

**Women's Night:** August 30th @ 7pm @ the Garland's home (1324 N Norton Ave). We'll be working on Needlepoint crafts—new or experienced is fine. RSVP with Julie Garland (678-849-8401) to get set up.

**Welcome Russ Whitt!** Russ is our new RUF intern, coming to us from Texas Tech (where our Raegan Watkins in an RUF intern). He'll be joining Paige Jackson as an intern working with our campus minister Matt Esswein.



# MIDTOWN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## Children's Ministry

Children's Ministry is for ages 4-12 and will be dismissed at the beginning of the sermon to the Hamilton House. They will return at the beginning of communion.

## Nursery

Nursery will be available to 0-3 for the entire service in the Hamilton House. Please inform the nursery volunteers of any special instructions.

## Interested in Volunteering?

If you are interested in volunteering, please email Annalyse Rash at [annalyse@mpctucson.org](mailto:annalyse@mpctucson.org)

## Parents!

Please update your children's information if they will be participating in Children's Ministry.



## Curriculum

We will be using "The Biggest Story" for our curriculum. With every story they have podcasts and videos available for kids to watch or listen to at home.



**Elders**

Dave Adams  
Tim Davis  
Matt McReynolds  
Ryan Jankowski

**Deacons**

Nick Dunlap  
Colin McRae  
Chris Smith

**Supported Missions**

UA Reformed University Fellowship  
Kevin & Nozomi West—Tokyo  
Zak Garland—Tokyo  
DH & Emily Henry—Navajo Nation

**Pastor:** Charles Garland

**Music Director:** Sarah Lewis

**Children's Director:** Annalyse Rash

**RUF Staff:** Matt & Sarah Esswein

**RUF Interns:** Paige Jackson & Russ Whitt

Midtown Presbyterian Church  
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A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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