



MIDTOWN  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Evening Worship

Fifth Sunday of Easter

04.29.2018

## **Welcome to Worship at Midtown!**

We are just starting our corporate worship services, and are really glad to have you with us. 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 in the patio room. You are welcome to keep them in the service with you if you prefer.

### **Worship Note**

We need to repent of the haughty way in which we sometimes stand in judgment upon Scripture and must learn to sit humbly under its judgment instead. If we come to Scripture with our minds made up, expecting to hear from it only an echo of our own thoughts and never the thunderclap of God's, then indeed he will not speak to us and we shall only be confirmed in our own prejudices. We must allow the Word of God to confront us, to disturb our security, to undermine our complacency and to overthrow our patterns of thought and behavior.

—John Stott

## Reflection

I expect more goodness from Kate my wife, from Philip Melancthon, and from other friends, than from my sweet and blessed Savior Jesus Christ, and yet I know for certain that neither she nor any other person on earth will or can suffer that for me which he has suffered; why then should I be afraid of him?! This—my foolish weakness—grieves me very much.... Fie on our unbelieving hearts, that we should be afraid of this man, who is more loving, friendly, gentle, and compassionate towards us than are our kindred, our brothers and sisters, yea, than parents themselves are towards their own children.

—Martin Luther

# The Word

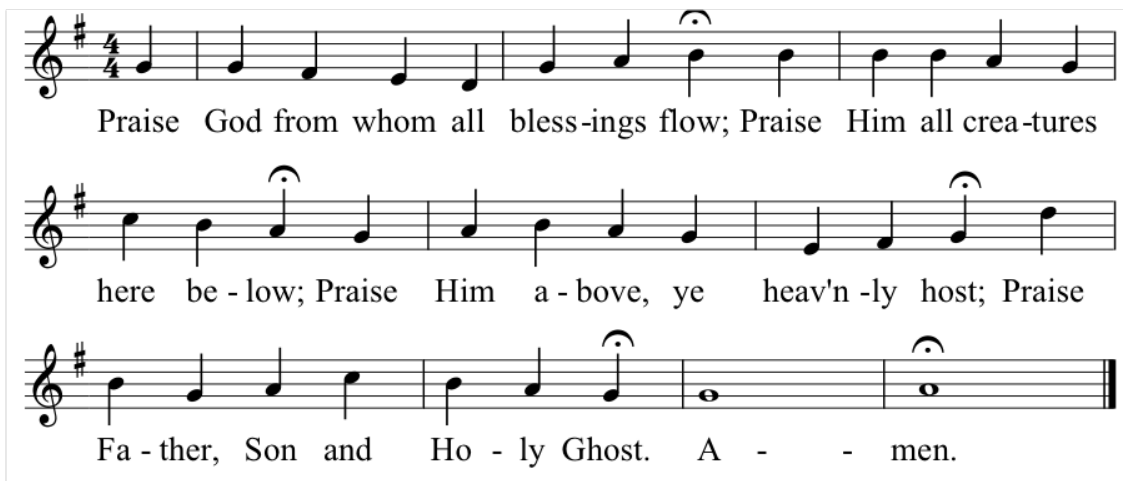
## Call to Worship

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.

## Doxology

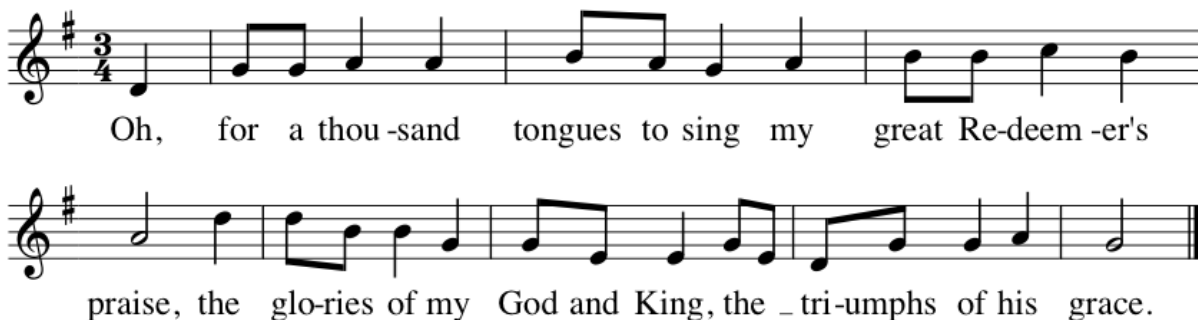
Music: The Old One Hundredth



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures  
here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise  
Fa-ther, Son and Ho-ly Ghost. A - - men.

# O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Lyrics: Charles Wesley; Music: Charles Glaser



Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's  
praise, the glo-ries of my God and King, the \_tri-umphs of his grace.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad, the honors of thy Name.

Jesus, the Name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of reigning sin, He sets the pris'ner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean, His blood availed for me.

He speaks and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive;  
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,  
your loosened tongues employ;  
Ye blind, behold your Savior come; and leap, ye lame, for joy.

## Prayer of Invocation

## Call to Confession of Sin

Acts 3:18-19

But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out.

## Confession of Sin

*Please pray aloud together*

Lord Jesus, I have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, and of neglect to seek you in my daily life. My sins and shortcomings present me with a list of accusations, but I thank you that they will not stand against me, for all have been laid on Christ. Deliver me from every evil habit, every interest of former sins, everything that dims the brightness of your grace in me, everything that prevents me taking delight in you.

*You are invited to confess your sins to God 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

Acts 13:38-39

Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: *And also with you!*

# The Lamb Has Overcome

Lyrics & Music: Luke Morton

## VERSE



The Lamb has o-ver - come, the Lamb has o-ver - come. The



bat-tle's done and the vic-to-ry is won, the Lamb has o-ver - come.

## CHORUS



Wor-thy is the Lamb who was slain. Glo-ry be un-to his



name! Wor-thy is the Lamb who was slain. Glo-ry be un-to his name!

No grave could hold him down, no grave could hold him down.  
Up from the ground, "He is risen!" was the sound,  
No grave could hold him down

At God's right hand is he, at God's right hand is he.  
Our Perfect Plea, how he lives to intercede!  
At God's right hand is he.

*Chorus*

The table now is spread, the table now is spread  
This wine and bread broken body and blood shed  
The table now is spread.

The day is drawing near, the day is drawing near  
He shall appear and will wipe away each tear,  
The day is drawing near.

*Chorus*

## **The Prayers of the People**

(Please pray the italicized portions aloud together.)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Leader: Let us pray.

Our Lord Jesus Christ,

You rose from death as the Prince of peace:

*We pray for peace between nations in your world;*

*We pray that this congregation might live in your peace together;*

*We ask you to come again soon,*

*fully to establish your peace on earth.*

(Pray silently for peace.)

Our Lord Jesus Christ,

You rose from death in triumph over evil and oppression:

*We ask you to restrain the wickedness in Tucson by your Law.*

*We ask you to destroy the wickedness in our own hearts*

*by your Spirit.*

*We pray that you would protect us from the temptations,*

*lies and accusations of the devil.*

(Pray silently for the coming of Jesus' kingdom.)

Our Lord Jesus Christ,

You rose from death to reconcile us to God:

*We pray for our friends who do not yet know you;*

*We pray for the deepening of our faith in the gospel of grace.*

(Pray silently for the spread of the gospel.)

Our Lord Jesus Christ,

You rose in victory over death and the grave,

and you have brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

*We pray for comfort for those who are suffering*

*in grief, in poverty, in sickness, in injustice.*

(Pray silently for those who suffer.)

Our Lord Jesus Christ,

We pray now in the words you 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.*

## **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 19:23-25

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God!*

## **New Testament Reading**

Romans 11:17-20

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God!*



# Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Lyrics: William Williams; Music: Jeremy Casella



Guide me - O, Thou great Je - ho-vah, pil-grim



through this bar - ren - land. I am - weak, but Thou art



might-y; Hold me with Thy power - ful - hand. Bread of



hea-ven, feed me now and ev - er - more. Bread of



hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er - more.

ENDING



Land me safe on Ca-naan's side. Bid my anx-



-ious fears. Bid my anx - ious fears. Land me safe on Ca - naan's



side. Bid my anx - ious fears. Bid my anx - ious fears, good-bye.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing waters flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliverer, Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.  
Strong Deliverer, Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of deaths, and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee;  
Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee.

## **Gospel Reading**

Luke 14:12-24

<sup>12</sup> He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, <sup>14</sup> and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

<sup>15</sup> When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, "Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!" <sup>16</sup> But he said to him, "A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. <sup>17</sup> And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' <sup>18</sup> But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.' <sup>19</sup> And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.' <sup>20</sup> And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' <sup>21</sup> So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.' <sup>22</sup> And the servant said, 'Sir, what you

commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ <sup>23</sup> And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. <sup>24</sup> For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

## **Sermon**

Rev. Dan Smith

# 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 using the prayers provided below as guidelines. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the Church.]

## **Sursum Corda**

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.*

## **Words of Institution**

## **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 provide individual cups of grape juice and gluten-free wafers in the tray at the front. We partake in the Supper by intinction, that is, we dip the bread into the cup. Children who have not yet professed their faith in Christ nor been admitted to the Table are encouraged to come forward for a prayer of blessing.]

# Take Us, O Lord

Lyrics & Music: Isaac Wardell



O how he takes \_ the cross, O how he lifts \_ it up



to take the weight from us. O how he pays \_ the cost,



O how he drinks the cup, to make a place \_ for us.

## CHORUS



Take us, \_ O Lord, and all we have known. Shape us, O



Lord, and form us in - to your own. Take eve - ry heart and



know eve-ry sin. Break us, O Lord, that we may be whole a - gain.

Hear how he breaks the curse, hear how he cries aloud,  
Hear how his voice resounds. O how he forms the words,  
O how he cries them out, "See it is finished now!" *Chorus*

How deep the wounds he wears, how dark the scars he shows,  
How well the name he knows; written upon his palms,  
O what a name to find. That name before him: Mine! *Chorus*

# The Love of Christ is Rich and Free

Lyrics: William Gadsby; Music: Sandra McCracken



The love of Christ is rich and free; Fixed on his own e - ter - nal -



ly; Nor earth, nor hell, can it re - move; Long as he lives, his own he'll -



love. His lov - ing heart en - gaged to be their ev - er - last - ing Sur - e - ty;



'Twas love that took their cause in hand,



and love main - tains it to the \_\_\_\_\_ end.

## *Chorus*



Love can - not from its post with - draw. Nor death nor hell nor sin nor



law. Can turn the Sure - ty's heart a - way. He'll love his own to end - less day.

Love has redeemed His sheep with blood, and love will bring them safe to God.  
Love calls them all from death to life, and love will finish all their strife.

He loves through every changing scene, nor aught from Him can Zion wean;  
Not all the wanderings of her heart, can make His love for her depart. *Chorus*

At death, beyond the grave, He'll love; In endless bliss, His own shall prove,  
The blazing glory of that love, which never could from them remove,  
which never could from them remove.

# Benediction

## Silent Prayers During Communion

*Prayer for Covenant Children (Not Yet Confirmed):* Lord Jesus, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you, and to follow you as your faithful disciple. Amen.

*Prayer for Those Taking Communion:* Lord Jesus, your perfect life, your death and resurrection are the source of all blessing in this life and the life to come. As I eat this bread and drink this cup, renew me in the Joy and glory of knowing and serving you. I come to this table on the basis of your merit only and not my own. As you have completely and fully offered yourself for me, I now completely and fully offer myself to you as a living sacrifice. Amen.

*Prayer for Those Searching for Truth:* Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

*Prayer of Belief:* Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin:* Lord Jesus, you have called me to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Grant also that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.

**[Offering Change: We have placed an offering box  
in the back of the nave that you can use as you  
enter or leave, or as you come to communion.]**

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*A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America*

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