



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Eleven Sunday After Pentecost

08.04.2024

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. All of our kiddos will meet in the Hamilton House. Check in is at the west end of the courtyard. Children's Ministry will only be ages 0-3 for the summer. August 4th we will kick off Children's Ministry for ages 0-6th grade. Please be patient with the extra wiggles and noise as we have younger children joining us for the summer.

Reflection

A rigid master was the law,
Demanding brick, denying straw;
But when with gospel-tongue it sings,
It bids me fly and gives me wings.

—Ebenezer Erskine

Experience (translation: failure) opens people up to the message of the cross—a message that takes into account the storms and shipwrecks of life—in ways that no amount of exhortation could. After all, transformation simply does not have the same appeal to a seventy-year-old as a thirty-year-old. Mercy on the other hand . . .

—David Zahl

The Word

Call to Worship

Romans 11:33-36

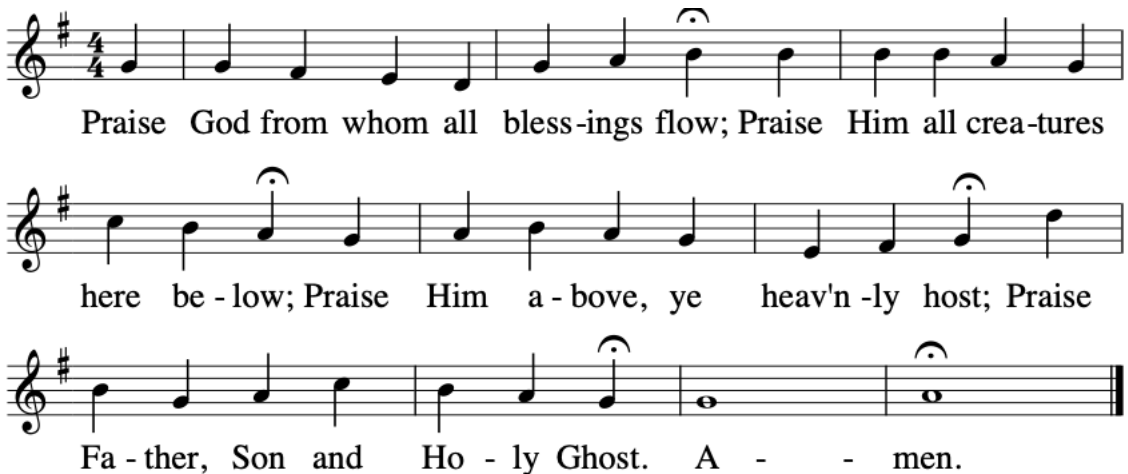
Worship begins with God's call to us to worship him. As always, God initiates with us, such as we are, and invites us to be with him out of sheer mercy.

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?" "Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?" For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever.

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.

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.

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Music & Lyrics: Robert Robinson

5 Come, thou fount of ev'-ry bles-sing, tune my heart to sing thy
9 grace; streams of mer-cy, ne-ver ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est
12 praise. Teach me _ some me - lo-dious - son - net sung by _
15 fla - ming tongues a - bove. Praise the mount, I'm fixed up -
pon it, mount of Thy re - deem-ing love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I've come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, bought me with his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

Acts 17:30-31

The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.

Confession of Sin

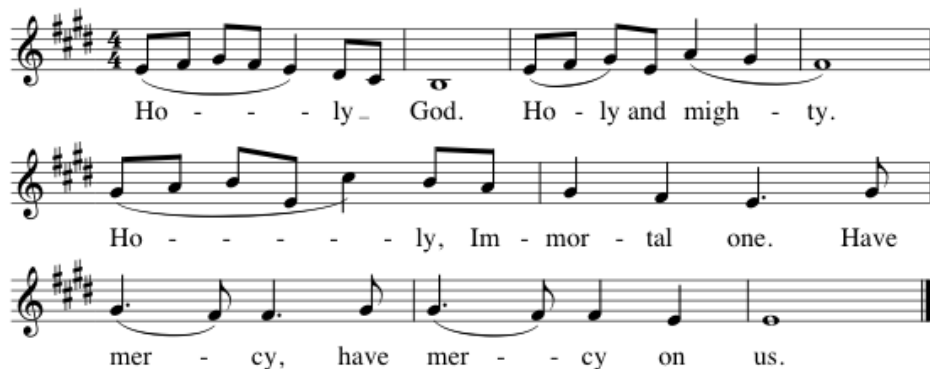
[Pray aloud together]

O Father, relieve our consciences, now and in the hour of our death, from the terror of our guilt and the fear of your judgment. Let your peace come into our hearts that we may await your judgment with joy. Be not severe in your judgment of us, or no one will be found righteous. Teach us, dear Father, not to trust or find comfort in our own merits or good works. But teach us to venture and resign ourselves faithfully and firmly to your infinite mercy. In the same manner, let us not lose courage because of our guilty and sinful lives. Let us regard your mercy as higher and broader and stronger than all our being. 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

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!

For All the Saints

Lyrics: William Walsham How; Music: Christopher Miner

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy Name, O Jesus, be forever blessed. Alleluia, Allelu.

Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light. Alleluia, Allelu.

O may Thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win with them the victor's crown of gold. Alleluia, Allelu.

The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blessed. Alleluia, Allelu.

But lo! There breaks a yet more glorious day;
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on his way, Alleluia, Allelu.

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Prayers of the People

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

[Led by Matt McReynolds]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying:

Lord, have mercy.

For peace throughout the world, especially where
there is war, and for the unity of the body of Christ,
let us pray to the Lord, saying:

Lord, have mercy.

(Please pray silently for our world.)

For our nation, the President and all whom we have trusted with the
leadership of our country, let us pray to the Lord, saying:

Lord, have mercy.

(Please pray silently for our nation's leaders.)

For this gathering of the faithful at Midtown Presbyterian, as well as
those gathering together in worship throughout the world, let us pray
to the Lord, saying:

Lord, have mercy.

(Please pray silently for the church.)

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 aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphaned, for the sick and suffering, let us pray to the Lord, saying:

Lord, have mercy.

(Please pray silently for those who suffer.)

And now hear us as we pray as our Savior taught us, saying:

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]

Galatians 2:15-16

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

John 5:45-47

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ

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

Breastplate of St. Patrick

Lyrics: St. Patrick; Music: Wendell Kimbrough, Dan Wheeler



1. When my work takes me places I don't want to go: Christ be -
2. When I'm tossed to the side and I want to give up: Christ be -



fore me. When my heart aches with sorrow as I hit the road: Christ be
side me. When I'm giving my all but it's never enough: Christ be-



with me. When the care of my family takes
side me. When I work hard but someone else



all that I have: Christ within me. When I'm worn and exhausted, a -
gets the reward; God's eyes see me. When I ask for promotion but



shamed that I'm mad: Christ defend me.
they shut the door: God's ears hear me.

Refrain



I rise up to-day in a strength that is not my own.



I'm held by the promise of God that I'm never alone.

When I climb the first steps toward a long-held dream: Christ above me.
And I leap out in faith, and I hope to find wings: Christ beneath me.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 20:1-3

And God spoke all these words, saying, ²"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ³"You shall have no other gods before me.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Charles Garland

The Table

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' 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 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 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.]

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Lyrics: William Williams; Music: Jeremy Casella

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah'. It consists of five staves of music in G major, 6/8 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (F major), and a 6/8 time signature. The lyrics are: 'Guide me O, Thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim'. The second staff continues: 'through this bar - ren - land. I am - weak, but Thou art'. The third staff continues: 'might - y; Hold me with Thy power - ful - hand. Bread of'. The fourth staff continues: 'hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er - more. Bread of'. The fifth staff continues: 'hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er - more.' The music ends with a double bar line.

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.

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.

ENDING

Land me

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

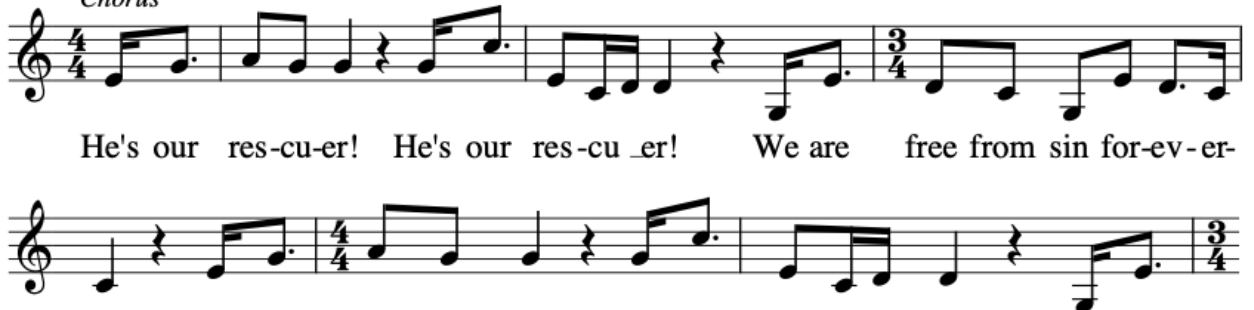
- ious fears. Land me safe on Ca - naan's -

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


Rescuer (Good News)

Music & Lyrics: Ben Hastings, Bryan Fowler and the Rend Collective

Chorus

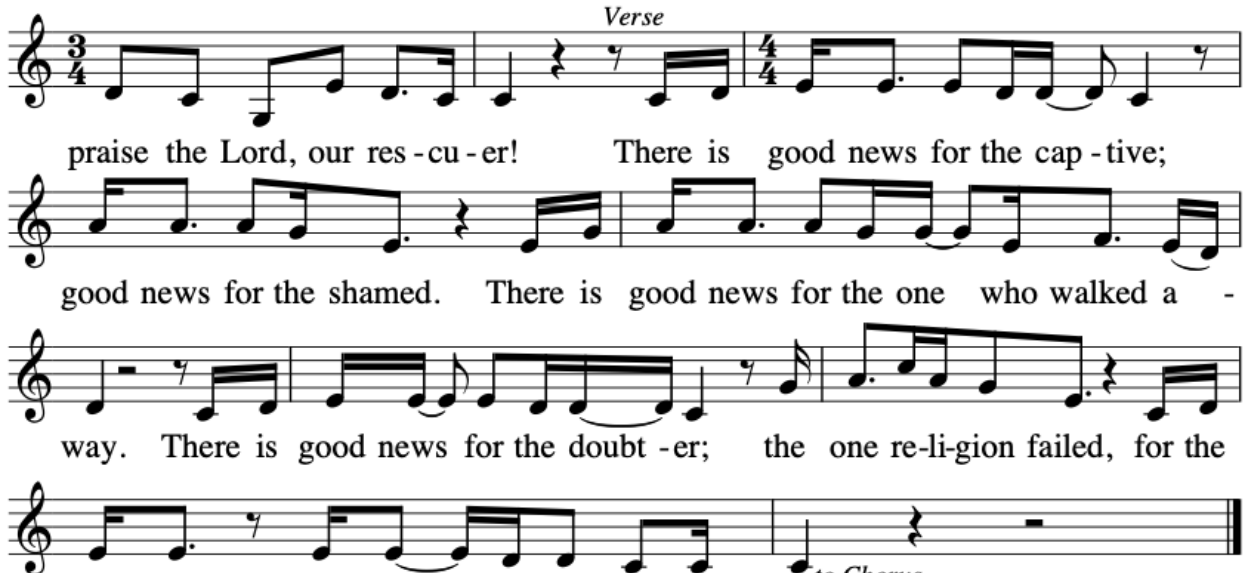


He's our res-cu-er! He's our res-cu_er! We are free from sin for-ev-er-



more. Oh how sweet the sound. Oh how grace a - bounds, We will

Verse



praise the Lord, our res-cu-er! There is good news for the cap-tive;
good news for the shamed. There is good news for the one who walked a -
way. There is good news for the doubt-er; the one re-li-gion failed, for the
good Lord has come to seek and save. _ *to Chorus*

He is beauty for the blind man; riches for the poor;
He is friendship for the one the world ignores.
He is pasture for the weary; rest for those who strive,
For the good Lord is the way, the truth, the life

Bridge

to Chorus

So come and be chain - less. Come and be

fear - less. Come to the foot of Cal - va -

ry. There is re - demp - tion, for ev - 'ry af -

flic - tion. Here at the foot of Cal - va - ry.

Benediction

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

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.



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.

Men's August Book Group: We are reading Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis. We'll meet on Tuesday, 8/13, at the McReynolds' home (1241 E Sobre Lomas) at 7pm.

Pastor: Charles Garland
Music Director: Sarah Lewis
Children's Director: Annalyse Rash
RUF Staff: Matt & Sarah Esswein
RUF Interns: Paige Jackson & Russ Whitt

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