



**MIDTOWN**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



# Evening Worship

Easter Sunday

04.07.2024

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. You are welcome to keep them in the service with you if you prefer.

## Reflection

The scientists proved it, we're all gonna die  
They've got charts, equations, the how, when, and why  
You did not invite them and neither did I  
But they're here, drink up, we're all gonna die  
— Mieka Pauley

It would be easy to conclude from the state of the world, the state of the church, or the state of our own behavior, that nothing significant happened in the months after Jesus of Nazareth was crucified. But in fact that was the beginning of the end of the old process of things falling apart, and it was the beginning of the new beginning, the dawn of the last days.  
— Dennis Johnson

# The Word

## Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord is risen!  
**All: He is risen indeed!**  
Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made.  
**All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

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.

# Christ The Lord Is Risen Today

Lyrics and Music: Charles Wesley



"Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day," - Al - - le - lu - ia!



Sons of men and an-gels say; - Al - - - le - lu - ia!



Raise your joys and tri-umphs high; Al - - le - lu - ia!



Sing - ye heav'ns, and earth, re - ply. - Al - - le - lu - ia!

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Alleluia!

Christ has burst the gates of hell: Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids his rise; Alleluia!

Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!

Once he died, our souls to save; Alleluia!

Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!

Foll'wing our exalted Head; Alleluia!

Made like him, like him we rise: Alleluia!

Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Alleluia!

# Prayer of Invocation

## Call to Confession of Sin

Titus 2:14

He gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

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.

## Confession of Sin

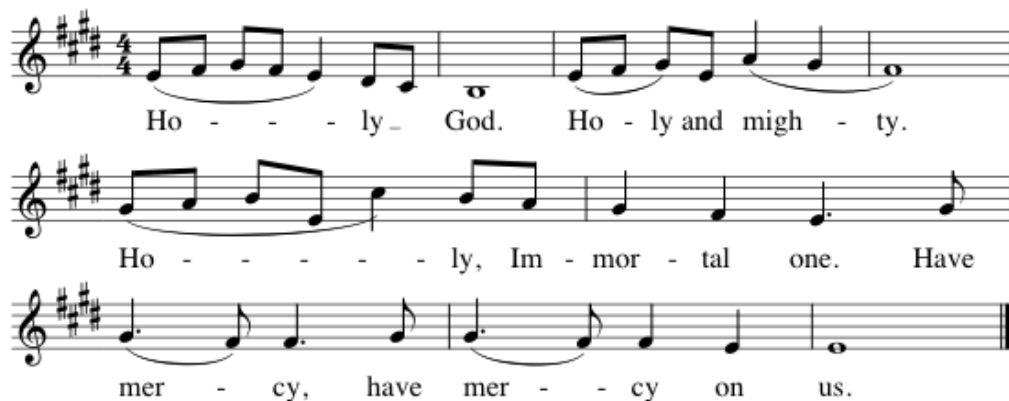
[Please pray aloud together]

**Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. Yet, we confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We confess that we have not bowed before Jesus or acknowledged His rule in our lives. We have gone along with the way of the world and failed to give Him glory. We confess that we overlook those Jesus sought—the poor, the hungry and those who mourn. Our ears are deaf to the cries of the oppressed and indifferent to calls for peace. Forgive us, God of mercy! Lord, revive us! Bring new, resurrection life where we are worn and tired; new love where we have turned hard-hearted; forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded; and the joy and freedom that comes from the Holy Spirit. 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

Romans 4:25

[Righteousness] will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

**All: And also with you!**

# In Christ Alone

Lyrics & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend

3 In Christ a - lone, my hope is found, He is my  
6 light, my strength, my song; This cor - ner - stone, this sol-id  
9 ground, firm through the fier-cest drought and storm. What heights of  
12 love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv-ings  
14 cease! My com - fort - er, my all in  
all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied,  
For every sin on Him was laid here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth, in glorious Day, up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.



No guilt in life, no fear in death! This is the power of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry, to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.  
'Til He returns, or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

## The Prayers of the People

[Led by Dave Adams]

[Pray the bold 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 our  
congregation might live in your peace  
together; We ask you to come again  
soon to fully establish your peace on earth.**

(Pray silently for peace.)

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.)

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.

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**

[Reader: Shelly Gauger]

Ecclesiastes 9:3-6

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

John 11:23-27

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

# Praise the Savior, Now and Ever

Lyrics: William Moore; Music: Bruce Benedict



Praise the Sav-ior now and ev-er; praise him, all be - neath the skies;



pros - trate ly - ing, suf - fring, dy - ing on the cross, a sac - ri - fice.



Vic - try gain - ing, life ob - tain - ing now in - glo - ry he doth rise.

Man's work faileth, Christ's availeth;  
He is all our righteousness;  
He, our Savior, has forever set us free from dire distress.  
Through his merit we inherit light and peace and happiness.

Sin's bond severed, we're delivered;  
Christ has bruised the serpent's head;  
Death no longer is the stronger hell itself is captive led.  
Christ has risen from death's prison; o'er the tomb he light has shed.

For his favor, praise forever Unto God the Father sing;  
Praise the Savior, praise him ever, Son of God, our Lord and King.  
Praise the Spirit; through Christ's merit he doth us salvation bring.

## **New Testament Reading**

1 Corinthians 15:2-26

<sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup>For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. <sup>23</sup>But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup>Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Minister:     The Word of the Lord.

People:       **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Rev. Charles Garland

# The Table

## Profession of Faith & Receiving Members

**Ivy Horton**

**Paige Jackson**

**Sarah Esswein**

**Nora Esswein**

**Juniper Esswein**

## Baptisms

**Enoch Jules Edgar**

**Imogene Violet Edgar**

**Miles Joseph Lewis**

## Baptismal Vows

1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises in (his) behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for (his) salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before (him) a godly example, that you will pray with and for (him), that you will teach (him) the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring (him) up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

## 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.]

# Ain't No Grave

Music & Lyrics: Crowder, Bentley, Philpott, Matt & Dana McReynolds

1.0 my Lord, - it's a wind - ing road.  
2.0 my Lord, - I can bare - ly sing,

It's \_\_\_ all bent from a heav - y load.  
wait - ing for you and your reck - on - ing.

Feel the weight \_\_\_ bea - neath the ground;  
Ang - gels hum - ming can you hear the sound?

Ain't no grave gon - na hold me down. *to verse 2*  
Ain't no grave gon - na hold me down.

**CHORUS**

I will rise, \_\_\_\_\_ I will rise, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will rise, \_\_\_\_\_ I will rise! \_\_\_\_\_

Trou - bles come for ev - 'ry - one. - Death has no re - spect for love.

Roll that stone; - I won't be found, ain't no grave gon - na hold me down.

Lord I'm crooked from head to toe, Got dirty hands and a dirty soul.  
I was lost but now am found;  
Ain't no grave gonna hold me down,  
Ain't no grave gonna hold me down. [Chorus]

When night has come and daylight fades,  
It's time to see you face to face.  
This old body's gonna leave the ground,  
'Cause there ain't no grave that could hold you down,  
Ain't no grave that could hold you down. [Chorus]

## His Kingdom Now Has Come

—Paul Zach, Isaac Wardell, Leslie Jordan, Lorenzon Baylor. Brian Nhira

### VERSE



The light shines (the light shines) in the dark - ness (in the dark-ness) and the



dark-ness can-not o - ver come. (And the dark-ness can-not o - ver-come.)

### REFRAIN



Be - hold! Be-hold! His king-dom now — has come! —

The valleys (the valleys) will be lifted (will be lifted),  
and the mountains will be brought down low  
(and the mountains will be brought down low.)  
The valleys (the valleys) will be lifted (will be lifted),  
and the mountains will be brought down low  
(and the mountains will be brought down low.)



Behold, behold! His kingdom now has come!

Hear the voice cry (hear the voice cry)  
from the highway (from the highway),  
"Make way for the Prince of Peace!"  
(Won't you make way for the Prince of Peace?)  
Hear the voice cry (hear the voice cry)  
from the highway (from the highway),  
"Make way for the Prince of Peace!"  
(Won't you make way for the Prince of Peace?)  
Behold, behold! His kingdom now has come!

God of Justice (God of Justice), Righteous Judge (righteous Judge),  
Behold, behold, behold!  
Our Defender (our Defender), Prince of Peace (Prince of Peace),  
Behold, behold, behold!

Father to the fatherless (Father to the fatherless),  
our strong Deliverer (our strong Deliverer),  
Behold, behold, behold!

He's troubling the water (troubling the water)  
and we're marching through:

Behold, behold! His kingdom now has come!  
Behold! Behold! His kingdom now has come!

**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.

**Instagram:** We have a new instagram site: @mpctucson. Check it out. Also if you have good pictures from around our congregation that might be useful for our website ([www.mpctucson.org](http://www.mpctucson.org)), please send them to Annalyse ([annalyse@mpctucson.org](mailto:annalyse@mpctucson.org)).

**Men's Book group:** Tuesday April 9 at the McReynolds' at 7pm ([1241 E Sobre Lomas](#)). The book for April is C.S. Lewis' The Weight of Glory. Any men are welcome to come.

**Church Family Picnic:** Saturday April 13 11:00 am at Himmel park. Bring food for your family, we will provide Eegees and lawn games!

**Ladies Happy Hour** by the pool @ the McReynolds ([1241 E Sobre Lomas](#)). April 19th at 530pm. More details to come.

**Change in Nursery Location:** Starting this week **ALL** children will be in the Hamilton House. Check in and pick up will be through the side door of the Hamilton House in the courtyard from here on out. The front door of the Hamilton House will remain locked at all times, for safety reasons. Please talk to Annalyse Rash with any further questions.

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

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