



**MIDTOWN**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Evening Worship

## Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

### 06.27.2021

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**

Obviously, to be in the fear of the Lord is not to be scared of the Lord, even though the Hebrew word has overtones of respect and awe. "Fear" in the Bible means to be overwhelmed, to be controlled by something. To fear the Lord is to be overwhelmed with wonder before the greatness of God and his love. It means that, because of his bright holiness and magnificent love, you find him "fearfully beautiful." That is why the more we experience God's grace and forgiveness, the more we experience a trembling awe and wonder before the greatness of all that he is and has done for us. Fearing him means bowing before him out of amazement at his glory and beauty."

--Tim Keller

# The Word

## Call to Worship

Psalm 62:5-8

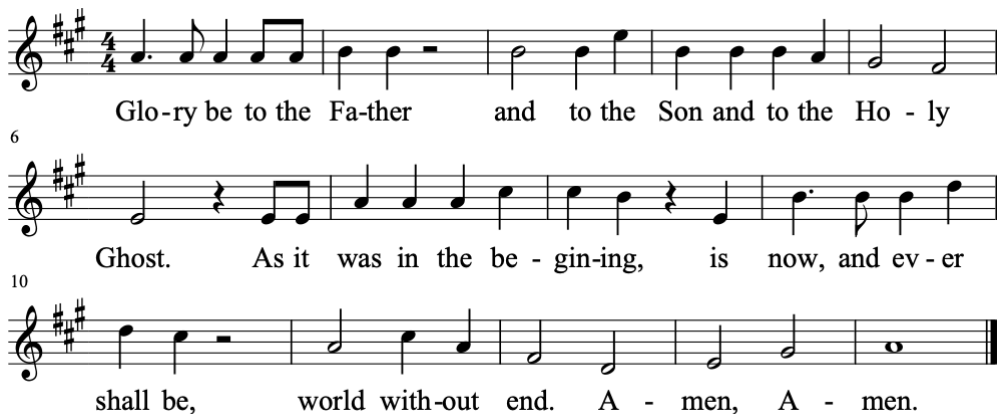
For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God. Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.

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.

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

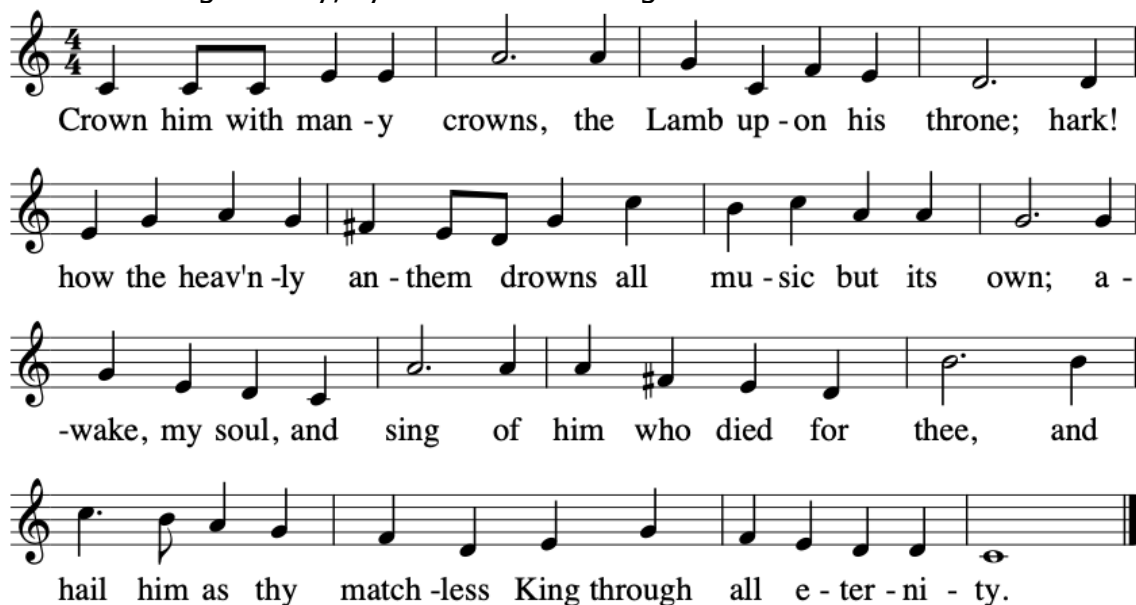


The musical score is written on three staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes.

6  
Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly  
10  
Ghost. As it was in the be - gin-ing, is now, and ev - er  
shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

# Crown Him With Many Crowns

Music: George J. Elvy; Lyrics: Matthew Bridges



Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; hark!  
how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -  
-wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and  
hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:  
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scepter sways  
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
absorbed in prayer and praise:  
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet  
Fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time;  
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime:  
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me:  
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

## Prayer of Invocation

### Call to Confession of Sin

Isaiah 55:6-7

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

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.

### Confession of Sin

[Please pray aloud together]

**Father in heaven, we thank you for the freedom you have given us through the life, death and resurrection of your Son. But we confess today that we often live like slaves.**

**Instead of living like you delight in us, we avoid you in shame and guilt.**

**Instead of receiving your favor as a gift, we try to earn it with our efforts.**

**Instead of accepting your freedom, we prefer our chains.**

**Instead of pursuing your purposes, we cling to our short-sighted agendas.**

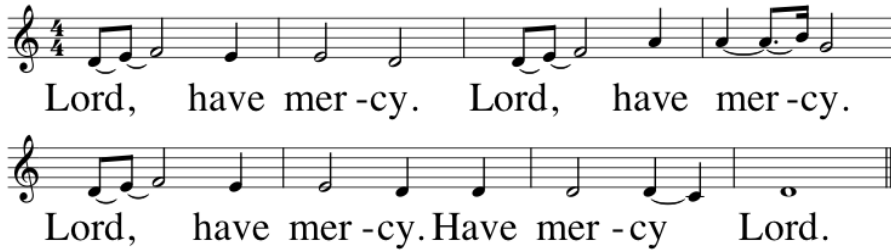
**Forgive us. Embrace us. Cleanse us. Heal us. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

[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.

# Kyrie Eleison

Music: Greg Wilbur



Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy.  
Lord, have mer-cy. Have mer-cy Lord.

## Assurance of Forgiveness

Isaiah 53:4-5

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.

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.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!  
**All: And also with you!**

# A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Lyrics & Music: Martin Luther



A migh-ty for-tress is our God, a bul-wark ne-ver fail — ing;



Our help-er He — a-mid the flood of mor-tal ills pre-vail — ing; For



still our an-cient foe doth seek to work us woe; His craft and pow'r are



great, and armed with cru-el hate, on earth is not his e — qual.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;  
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing;  
Dost ask who that may be: Christ Jesus it is He;  
Lord Sabbaoth His name, from age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.

And though this world with devils filled, should threaten to undo us  
We will not fear for God hath willed, his truth to triumph through us  
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him  
His rage we can endure, for lo his doom is sure,  
One little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'r, no thanks to them abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth;  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still,  
His kingdom is forever!

# The Prayers of the People

[Led by Nick Dunlap]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

Almighty God who is from everlasting to everlasting, grant us, amid the conflicts of this passing world, the comfort of a perfect trust in you:

**Save and help us, O Lord.**

From pride, selfishness, greed and anger; from passions that lead to war among brothers and sisters in Christ as well as war among nations:

**Save and help us, O Lord.**

Let us pray for peace (silence). Amen.

As you have blessed our nation so richly, we pray for the President and all in authority over us, that they would lead with wisdom and truth:

**Save and help us, O Lord.**

Let us pray for those who lead (silence). Amen.

For all who are afflicted by war within themselves, by the conflicts of doubt, a rebellious will, and the darkness of despair:

**Save and help us, O Lord.**

Let us pray for all who struggle with the gospel (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 prayer.



For all who suffer: the sick, the poor, and the prisoner, that they would be touched by your compassion in their time of need:

**Save and help us, O Lord.**

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: Nancy Price]

Acts 10:34-43

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

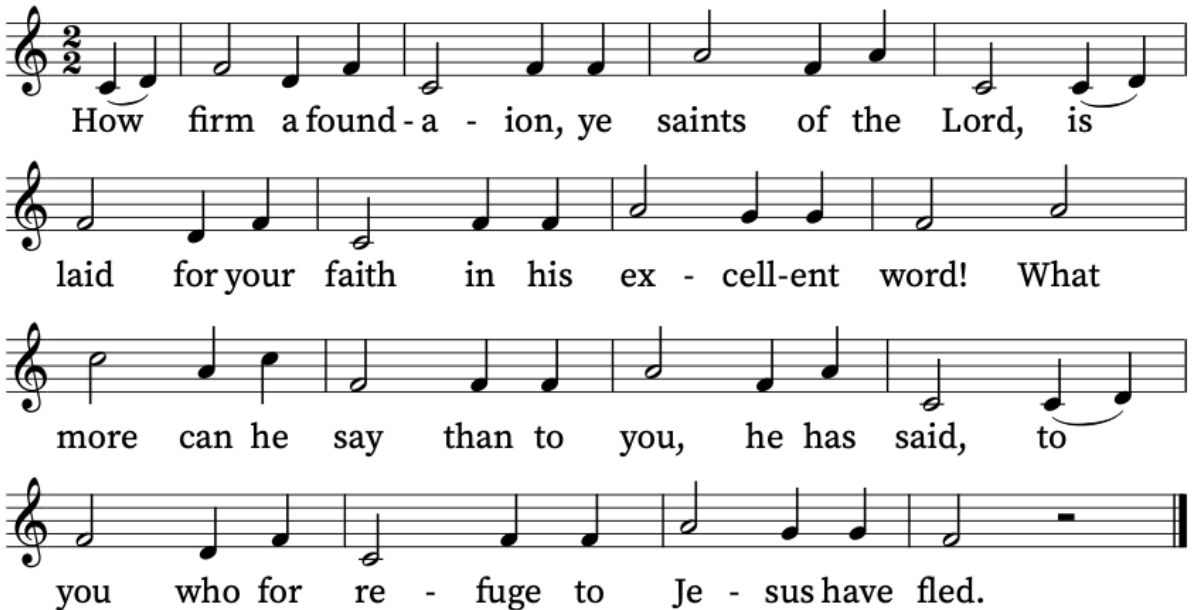
Luke 23:39-43

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

# How Firm A Foundation

Music & Lyrics: Traditional



How firm a found-a - ion, ye saints of the Lord, is  
laid for your faith in his ex - cell-ent word! What  
more can he say than to you, he has said, to  
you who for re - fuge to Je - sus have fled.

"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;  
for I am your God, and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

"When through the deep waters I call you to go,  
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to you your deepest distress."

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply;  
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design  
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

## **Old Testament Reading**

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7

Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. To draw near to listen is better than to offer the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they are doing evil. <sup>2</sup>Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few. <sup>3</sup>For a dream comes with much business, and a fool's voice with many words.

<sup>4</sup>When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow. <sup>5</sup>It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay. <sup>6</sup>Let not your mouth lead you into sin, and do not say before the messenger that it was a mistake. Why should God be angry at your voice and destroy the work of your hands? <sup>7</sup> For when dreams increase and words grow many, there is vanity; but God is the one you must fear.

Minister:     The Word of the Lord.

People:       **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Rev. Charles Garland

# The Table

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.

## Confession of Faith

--The Heidelberg Catechism, Question #1

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 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 red cups have wine and the grape juice is white/gold.]

# How Deep the Father's Love For Us

Music and Lyrics by Stuart Townsend

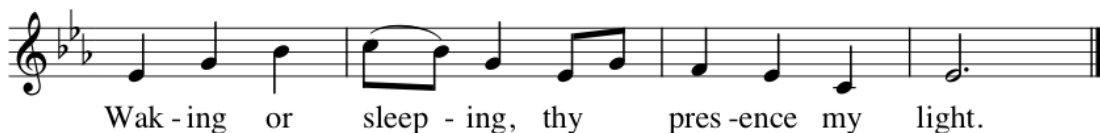
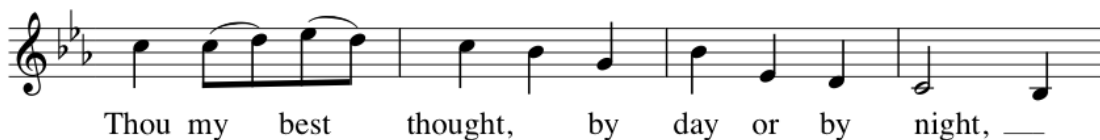
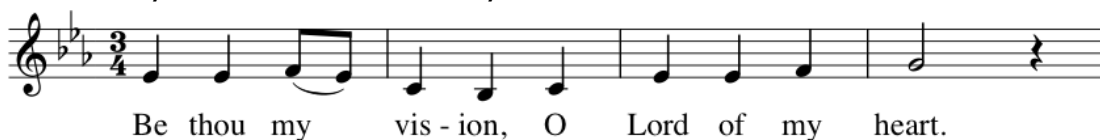
How deep the Fa-ther's love for us, how vast be-yond all mea -  
5  
sure, that he should give his on-ly Son to make a wretch his trea -  
9  
sure. How great the pain of sear-ing loss, the Fa-ther turns his face a -  
13  
way; as wounds which mar the Cho - sen  
15  
One bring ma - ny sons to glo - - ry.

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished;  
His dying breath has brought me life—I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer.  
But this I know with all my heart; his wounds have paid my ransom.

# Be Thou My Vision

Music & Lyrics: Traditional Irish Hymn



Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, I thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight; be thou my dignity, thou my delight; Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r; Raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always: Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

## Benediction

# Notes

**Offering:** We have placed an offering box at the back of the sanctuary that you can use as you enter or leave. (Note that the Midtown box is separate from the Vineyard ones—ours cleverly says “Midtown”!) You can also give online at our website [www.mpctucson.org](http://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](mailto:charles@mpctucson.org)) to get on the list.

**Midtown Institute:** Our next meeting will be Sunday morning, July 11, from 9:00-10:30 at the McReynold’s home (1241 E Sobre Lomas). We are skipping the 6/27 meeting, so the 7/11 meeting will cover Sessions 9 **and** 10.

**Monday Soccer:** Monday at 6:00 at Mansfield Park in the NW corner.

**Women’s Sermon Discussion:** Monday Nights @ 7:00 at Dana McReynold’s home (1241 E Sobre Lomas). We’ll discuss the Ecclesiastes sermons referring to Charles’ sermons and William Price’s book As Far As the Curse is Found.

**Be The Bridge Movie Night:** Saturday, July 3 at Chris & Nikki Smith’s home (5601 E Cooper St) at 7:00. We’ll watch and discuss Yankee Doodle Dandy.

**July Book Group Books:** Men: Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? by Phillip Dick. Women: C. S. Lewis, Till We Have Faces. Get going.

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

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