



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Twenty third Sunday After Pentecost
11.13.2022

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

Turning and turning in the widening gyre
The falcon cannot hear the falconer;
Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;
Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,
The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere
The ceremony of innocence is drowned;
The best lack all conviction, while the worst
Are full of passionate intensity.

Surely some revelation is at hand;
Surely the Second Coming is at hand.

--William Butler Yeats

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 118:8-9

It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.

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.

Crown Him

Music: Benji Pocta; Lyrics: Thomas Kelly

Look ye saints, — the sight is glo - rious: see the ex - alt-ed Sav-ior now;
— From the fight — re-turned vic-to - rious, ev-ery knee to him shall
bow; Crown him, crown him, — crowns be - come the Vic-tor's — brow. —

Crown the Savior! Saints adore him; Rich the trophies Jesus brings;
In the seat of power enthrone him, While the vault of heaven rings;
Crown him, crown him, Crown the Savior; King of Kings.

Hark, those bursts of acclamation!
Hark, those loud triumphant chords;
Jesus takes the highest station; O what joy the sight affords;
Crown him, crown him, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

Isaiah 64:6-7

We have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

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

[Pray aloud together]

**Lord,
I worry because I forget your wisdom.
I resent because I forget your mercy.
I covet because I forget your beauty.
I sin because I forget your holiness.
I fear because I forget your sovereignty.
You always remember me. Help me to remember you.
Amen.**

(You are invited to confess your sins 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

Isaiah 63:16

You, O Lord, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your name.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

Thy Mercy My God

--Lyrics: John Stocker; Music: Sandra McCracken

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 6/8. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Thy mer-cy, my God, is the theme _ of my song, the joy of my heart and the boast _ of my tongue; Thy free grace a - lone from the first to the last Hath won my af - fec - tions and bound my soul fast."

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;

Sin would reduce me to utter despair.

But through Thy free goodness my spirits revive

And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart

Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;

Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground

And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies! Thy goodness I own
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son.
All praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine!

The Prayers of the People

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

[Led by Tim Davis]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Almighty God,
In Jesus Christ you taught us to pray,
And to offer our petitions to you in His name.

**Guide us by your Holy Spirit,
that our prayers for others may serve your will
and show your steadfast love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Let us pray for our friends and family (silence). Amen.

God of all generations,
You formed your church from the despised of the earth
And showed them mercy that they might proclaim salvation to all.

**Strengthen those you have chosen
that they may faithfully endure all trials
by which you conform your church to the cross of Christ
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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 prayer.

God of comfort,

You bear the pain of the world and stand with those who sorrow.

**Look with compassion on those who are troubled,
cheer them by your word,
and bring them healing as a sign of your grace
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Let us pray for the sick and those who sorrow (silence). Amen.

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

We pray now in the words he 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.

Gospel Reading

[Reader: Nikki Smith]

Mark 13:1-23

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

Like a Wideness of the Sea

Music & Lyrics: Fredrich Faber, Ian Cron, Anthony Skinner



There's a wide-ness in — God's mer - cy like the



wide-ness of _ the sea; there's a kind-ness in _ his jus-tice that can



set the pris - oner free. There's no place where _ our sor-rows are more



felt than on _ the throne; no fail-ure is _ too great _ that it

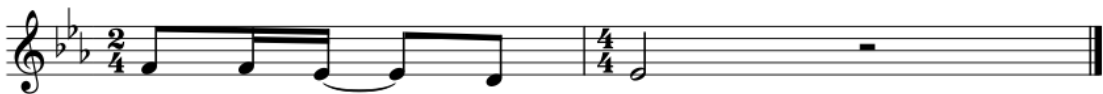
CHORUS



can-not be _ a-toned. — There's wel-come for the sin-ner so there's



room for you and me. There's a wide-ness in _ God's mer-cy like the



wide - ness of _ the sea.

For the love of God is broader than our minds can understand
And the heart of the eternal won't refuse a broken man
Was there ever a kinder Shepherd, half so gentle half so sweet
Why would anybody wander from a love so true, so deep? [Chorus]

Oh we make His love so narrow by the limits of our own,
And we magnify His strictness with a zeal He will not own. [Chorus]

Gospel Reading

Mark 13:1-37

And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!" ² And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."

³ And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?" ⁵ And Jesus began to say to them, "See that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷ And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains.

⁹ "But be on your guard. For they will deliver you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them. ¹⁰ And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations. ¹¹ And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. ¹² And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death. ¹³ And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

¹⁴ "But when you see the abomination of desolation standing where he ought not to be (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁵ Let the one who is on the housetop not go down, nor enter his house, to take anything out, ¹⁶ and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. ¹⁷ And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! ¹⁸ Pray that it may not happen in winter. ¹⁹ For in those days there will

be such tribulation as has not been from the beginning of the creation that God created until now, and never will be. ²⁰ And if the Lord had not cut short the days, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect, whom he chose, he shortened the days. ²¹ And then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'Look, there he is!' do not believe it. ²² For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform signs and wonders, to lead astray, if possible, the elect. ²³ But be on guard; I have told you all things beforehand.

²⁴ "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸ "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰ Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³² "But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵ Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning— ³⁶ lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake."

Minister: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

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 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.]

The Dreadful Tree

Music & Lyrics: David Isaac Waters

Jesus cast a look on me, Give me sweet simplicity.
Make me poor and keep me low, Seeking only You to know,
Seeking only You to know.

All that feeds my busy pride, Cast it evermore aside.
Bid my will to Yours submit; Lay me humbly at Your feet,
Lay me humbly at Your feet.

Refrain: For way over yonder on the dreadful tree,
Way over yonder on the dreadful tree,
You shed your blood and you died for me.

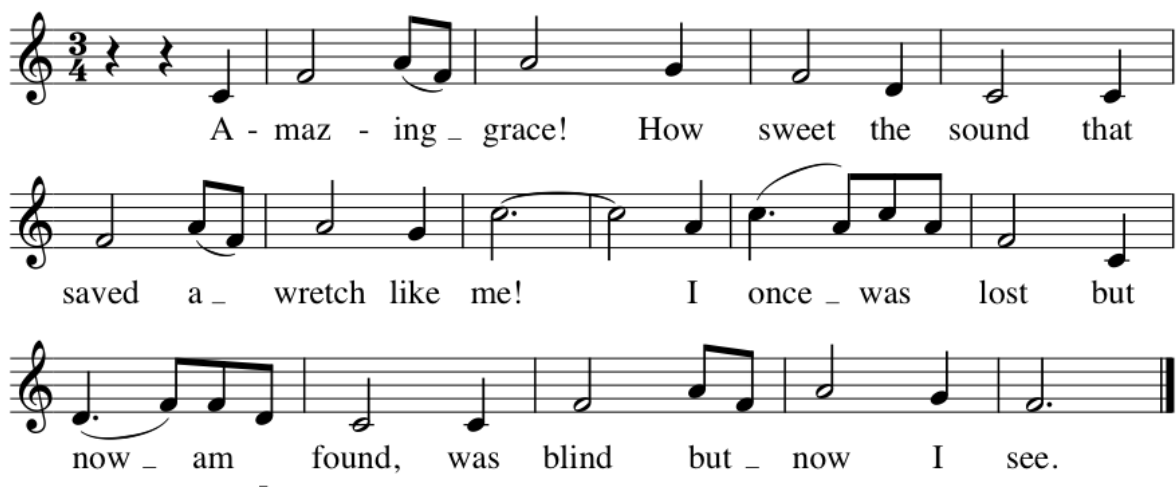
Make me like a little child, Of my strength and wisdom spoiled.
Seeing only in Your light; Walking only in Your might,
Walking only in Your might.

Leaning on Your loving breast, Where a weary soul can rest.
Feeling well the peace of God, Flowing from Your precious blood,
Flowing from Your precious blood [Refrain]

In this posture let me live, And hosannas daily give.
In this temper let me die, And hosannas ever cry,
And hosannas ever cry. [Refrain]

Amazing Grace

Lyrics & Music: John Newton



A - maz - ing - grace! How sweet the sound that
saved a - wretch like me! I once - was lost but
now - am found, was blind but - now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we've been there, ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun;
We've no less days, to sing God's praise than when we first begun.

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). ----->>>

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.

Women's Fall Bible Study: On Seeing Jesus in the Prophets, based on Nancy Guthrie's book. Last meeting this Wednesday night at 7:00 at Shelly Gauger's home ([525 S 4th Ave](#)).

Intro to Midtown Class: Sunday morning, 11/20. This is for people interested in joining Midtown or just finding out more about the church. There is a booklet to read in advance. Please let Charles know if you are interested. 9:00-11:30 am at the Garland's (1324 N Norton Ave).

Pastor: Charles Garland
Music Director: Sarah Lewis
Nursery Director: Sami Byker
Church Planting Resident: Nick Davis
RUF Staff: Matt & Sarah Esswein

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