



**MIDTOWN**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Evening Worship

First Sunday in Lent  
02.18.2024

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**

I will rise from my bed with a question again  
As I work to inherit the restless wind  
The view from my window is cold and obscene  
I want to touch what my eyes haven't seen

We are soot-covered urchins running wild and unshod  
We will always be remembered as the orphans of God  
They will dig up these ruins and make flutes of our bones  
And blow a hymn to the memory of the orphans of God  
—Mark Heard

# 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 117:1-2

Praise the Lord, all nations! Extol him, all peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!

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 Ye Sinners

Lyrics: Joseph Hart Music: Southern Harmony



Come ye sin-ners, poor and need-y, weak and wounded, sick and sore;



Je-sus rea-dy stands to save you, full of pit - y, - love and power.

*Refrain*



I will a-rise and go to Je-sus; he will em-brace me in his arms;



in the arms of my dear Sav - ior,



O there are ten - thou - sand charms.

Come, ye thirsty; come and welcome, God's free bounty glorify,  
True belief and true repentance, Every grace that brings you nigh.  
[Refrain]

Come, ye weary, heavy laden, Lost and ruined by the fall;  
If you tarry till you're better, You will never come at all. [Refrain]

Lo! The incarnate God ascended Pleads the merit of His blood;  
Venture on Him, venture wholly; Let no other trust intrude. [Refrain]

## 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!**

## 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!"

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!

## **The Prayers of the People**

[Led by Tim Davis]

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

Most gracious God, who has promised to reveal His glory among all nations,

**Hear us as we pray for Your church.**

**Bless all the ministers of Your word and**

**sacraments and unite all Christians in the bonds of holy faith, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(Pray silently for the Church.). Amen.

Lord God of our fathers,

who has promised to take care of our every need,

**Give us peaceful times and fruitful seasons.**

**Grant all in authority over us**

**wisdom and strength to do Your will through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(Pray silently for our world.). Amen.

Most merciful Father,  
comfort all who believe the good news of Your grace.

**We pray for all who are distressed:**

**the poor,**

**the homeless,**

**the sick,**

**the bereaved,**

**and those afflicted in body and mind.**

**Comfort and relieve them according to Your will,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(Pray silently for all who suffer.). Amen.

And now, as our Savior taught us, let us humbly 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: Hannah Johnson]

2 Corinthians 4:7-12

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Matthew 25:45-46

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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



# Be Thou My Vision

Music & Lyrics: Traditional Irish Hymn



Be thou my vis - ion, O Lord of my heart.



Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.



Thou my best thought, by day or by night, —



Wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.

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.

# Old Testament Reading

## Psalm 88

A Song. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. To the choirmaster: according to Mahalath Leannoth. A Maskil of Heman the Ezrahite.

O Lord, God of my salvation, I cry out day and night before you.

<sup>2</sup> Let my prayer come before you; incline your ear to my cry!

<sup>3</sup> For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol.

<sup>4</sup> I am counted among those who go down to the pit; I am a man who has no strength,

<sup>5</sup> like one set loose among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, like those whom you remember no more, for they are cut off from your hand.

<sup>6</sup> You have put me in the depths of the pit, in the regions dark and deep.

<sup>7</sup> Your wrath lies heavy upon me, and you overwhelm me with all your waves. Selah

<sup>8</sup> You have caused my companions to shun me; you have made me a horror to them. I am shut in so that I cannot escape;

<sup>9</sup> my eye grows dim through sorrow. Every day I call upon you, O Lord; I spread out my hands to you.

<sup>10</sup> Do you work wonders for the dead? Do the departed rise up to praise you? Selah

<sup>11</sup> Is your steadfast love declared in the grave, or your faithfulness in Abaddon?

<sup>12</sup> Are your wonders known in the darkness, or your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?

**13** But I, O Lord, cry to you; in the morning my prayer comes before you.

**14** O Lord, why do you cast my soul away? Why do you hide your face from me?

**15** Afflicted and close to death from my youth up, I suffer your terrors; I am helpless.

**16** Your wrath has swept over me; your dreadful assaults destroy me.

**17** They surround me like a flood all day long; they close in on me together.

**18** You have caused my beloved and my friend to shun me; my companions have become darkness.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Rev. Charles Garland

# 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.]

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.

## **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.]

# We Labor Unto Glory

Music & Lyrics: Craig Harris, Paul Zach, Isaac Wardell



1. My God, my God, where - e'er I go, glo - ry.  
2. The sun it shines and then goes down, glo - ry.  
3. My heart my hands they're king-dom bound, glo - ry. Where



Where I reap and where I sow, glo - - ry.  
Rain, it pours and beats the ground, glo - - ry.  
thorns no long - er curse the ground, glo - - ry.



When my hands, they grip the thorn glo - - ry.  
Dust, it blows and ends my days, glo - - ry.  
Trim the wick and light the flame, glo - - ry. My



In the still and in the storm, glo - ry. glo - ry.  
Hearts they burn be - neath your gaze, glo - ry. glo - ry.  
work it will not be in vain, glo - ry. glo - ry.

## REFRAIN



Oh, we la - bor un - to glo - ry 'til hea - ven and earth are



one. Oh, we la - bor un - to glo - ry, un - til God's king - dom comes.

# How Long?

Music & Lyrics: Isaac Wardell



1. How long? Will you turn your face a-way?  
2. How long 'til your child- ren find their rest?



How long? Do you hear us when we pray?  
How long 'til you draw them to your breast?



On and on, still we walk this pil - - grim way. How long?  
We go on, hold- ing to your pro - - mi - ses. How long?



*Chorus*

'Til you wipe a-way the tears from eve - ry eye?



'Til we see our home de - scend - ing from the sky?



Do we wait in vain? Je- sus give us hope a- gain!

How long 'til your word will still the storm?  
How long 'til you bare your mighty arm?  
How we groan 'til you snatch us from the thorns. How long?

How long? Sweet the dawn that ends the race.  
How long? Weak our hearts but strong our legs.  
Looking on, great that cloud of witnesses! How long? [Chorus]  
Amen, Jesus 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.

**Lenten Food Bank Serving:** Our next Saturday morning at the food bank will be on March 2nd.

**Church Pot Luck Dinner:** Tonight is our church Potluck. Please stay and eat with us—there should be plenty of food.

**For The Children's Sake:** Nancy Price is here today and will give us an update on the For The Children's Sake Ministry in Kenya. Our church has been connected to this ministry for several years now.

**Pastor:** Charles Garland  
**Music Director:** Sarah Lewis  
**Nursery Director:** Sami Skaare  
**RUF Staff:** Matt & Sarah Esswein  
**RUF Intern:** Paige Jackson

Midtown Presbyterian Church  
[www.mpctucson.org](http://www.mpctucson.org)  
P.O. Box 40517, Tucson, AZ 85717  
678.849.7918