



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Second Sunday in Lent
02.23.2024

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

You're the lucky one, so I've been told
As free as the wind blowing down the road
Loved by many, hated by none
I'd say you're lucky 'cause I know what you've done
Not a care in the world, not a worry in sight
Everything's gonna be alright
Cause you're the lucky one

You look at the world with a smiling eye
And laugh at the devil as his train goes by
Give you a song and a one night stand
And you'll be looking at a happy man
'cause you're the lucky one

—Bruce Roberts

The Word

Call to Worship

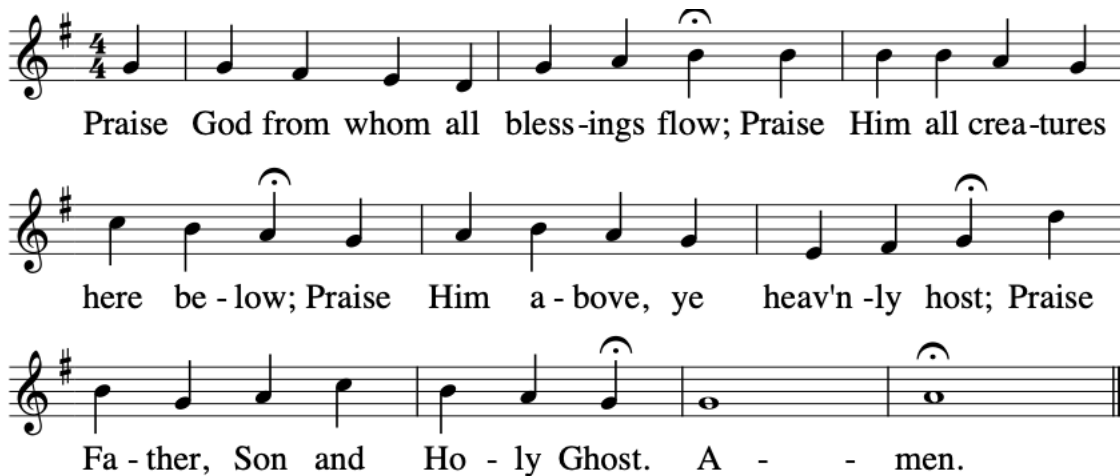
Psalm 95:6-7

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

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.

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.

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.

Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above

Music: Leigh Nash; Lyrics: Charles Wesley



Praise the Lord who reigns a - bove _ and keeps his courts be - low!



Praise the ho - ly God of love _ and all his great -ness show!



Praise him for his no -ble deeds! _ Praise him for his match -less pow'r!



Him from whom all good pro -ceeds, let earth and hea -ven a - dore, let

Chorus



earth and hea -ven a - dore! Praise the name _ of Christ, cel - e -



brate _ and lift him up high! Praise the Lord _ of life!



We'll sing the sto -ry of hon -or and glo -ry and praise the name of Christ.

God in whom they move and live, let every creature sing;
Glory to their maker give, and homage to their king!
Hallowed be Thy name beneath, as in heaven on earth adored;
Praise the Lord in every breath, let all things praise the Lord,
Let all things praise the Lord! [Chorus]

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, We'll sing the story of honor and
glory, and praise the name! [Chorus]

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

Isaiah 55:6-7

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near.
Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let
him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our
God, for he will freely pardon.

Confession of Sin

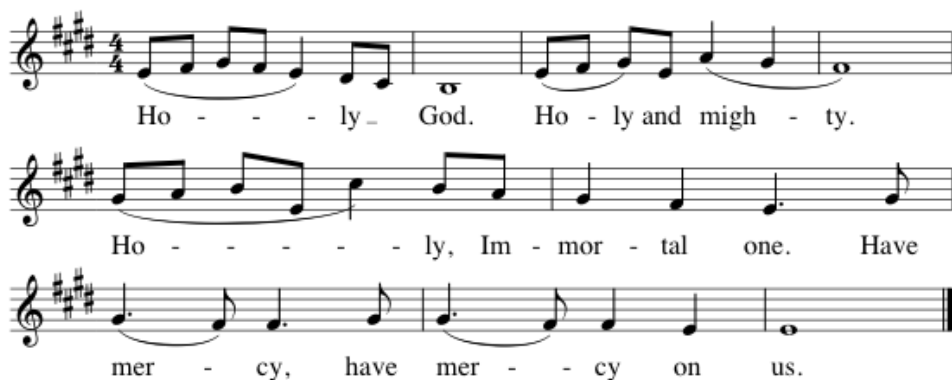
[Pray aloud together.]

God of love, it is your will that we should love you with heart, soul, mind, strength, and our neighbor as ourselves, but we are not sufficient for these things. We confess that our affections continually turn away from you: from purity to lust, from freedom to slavery, from compassion to indifference, from fullness to emptiness. Have mercy on us. Order our lives by your holy Word, and make your commandments the joy of our hearts. Conform us to the image of your loving Son, Jesus, that we may shine before the world to your glory. 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

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!

We Are Not Overcome

—Lyrics & Music: Isaac Wardell & Robert Heiskell



Flesh will fail _ and bones will break; thieves will steal, _ the earth will



shake. Night will fall, _ the light will fade; _ the Lord will give, and take a-

Refrain



way; Be-cause of His great _ love, we are not o-ver-come!



Be-cause of His great _ love we are not o-ver-come!

Put no trust in the earth, in the sod you stand upon.

Flowers fade into dust;

The Lord will make a place for us. [Refrain]

Have no fear for your life, Turn your cheek! Turn your cheek!

Bear the yoke of love and death;

The Lord will give all life and breath. [Refrain]

The Prayers of the People

[Pray the bold portions aloud together]

[Led by Ryan Jankowski]

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Almighty God and Heavenly Father, since You have promised to grant our requests, we make our supplications to You in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

**We pray for our world leaders,
that they will rule with wisdom and peace,
especially in administering justice in troubled lands.**

Let us pray for the world (silence). Amen.

We pray to You also, dear Father, for Your church, the body of Christ,
**that guided by Your Holy Spirit, we would be found to
be wise, zealous, and faithful worshippers.**

Let us pray for the church (silence). Amen.

Moreover, we pray for all men and women throughout the world,
**that they would come to a knowledge of Your saving
grace through the spread of Your gospel.**

Let us pray for those in need of God's grace (silence). Amen.

Finally, we commend to You all who suffer tribulation,
**that it would please You to make them feel
Your Fatherly affection toward them,
so they would find refreshment
and healing in You.**

Let us pray for all who suffer (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.

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: Yunuen Jankowski]

Hebrews 11:13-16

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 6:25-34

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

Nothing But the Blood of Jesus

Lyrics & Music: Robert Lowry

5 What can wash a - way my sin? No-thing -but the blood of Je - sus!

9 What can make me whole a-gain? No-thing but the blood of Je - sus!

13 O, pre-cious is the flow, that makes me white as sn - ow!

No o-ther fount I know. No-thing but the blood of Je - sus!

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Nothing But the Blood of Jesus'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: '5 What can wash a - way my sin? No-thing -but the blood of Je - sus!'. The second staff continues the melody: '9 What can make me whole a-gain? No-thing but the blood of Je - sus!'. The third staff has a longer note for 'O,': '13 O, pre-cious is the flow, that makes me white as sn - ow!'. The fourth staff concludes the phrase: 'No o-ther fount I know. No-thing but the blood of Je - sus!'.

For my pardon, this I see, nothing but the blood of Jesus;
For my cleansing, this my plea, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Oh! Precious is the flow, that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone, nothing but the blood of Jesus
Naught of good that I have done, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Oh! Precious is the flow, that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace, nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Oh! Precious is the flow, that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 73

A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.
- 2 But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled,
my steps had nearly slipped.
- 3 For I was envious of the arrogant
when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
- 4 For they have no pangs until death; their bodies are fat and sleek.
- 5 They are not in trouble as others are;
they are not stricken like the rest of mankind.
- 6 Therefore pride is their necklace;
violence covers them as a garment.
- 7 Their eyes swell out through fatness;
their hearts overflow with follies.
- 8 They scoff and speak with malice; loftily they threaten oppression.
- 9 They set their mouths against the heavens,
and their tongue struts through the earth.
- 10 Therefore his people turn back to them, and find no fault in them.
- 11 And they say, "How can God know?
Is there knowledge in the Most High?"
- 12 Behold, these are the wicked;
always at ease, they increase in riches.
- 13 All in vain have I kept my heart clean
and washed my hands in innocence.
- 14 For all the day long I have been stricken
and rebuked every morning.
- 15 If I had said, "I will speak thus,"
I would have betrayed the generation of your children.

- 16 But when I thought how to understand this,
it seemed to me a wearisome task,
17 until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end.
18 Truly you set them in slippery places; you make them fall to ruin.
19 How they are destroyed in a moment,
swept away utterly by terrors!
20 Like a dream when one awakes,
O Lord, when you rouse yourself,
you despise them as phantoms.
21 When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart,
22 I was brutish and ignorant; I was like a beast toward you.
23 Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand.
24 You guide me with your counsel,
and afterward you will receive me to glory.
25 Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.
26 My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.
27 For behold, those who are far from you shall perish;
you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you.
28 But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the
Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.

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!

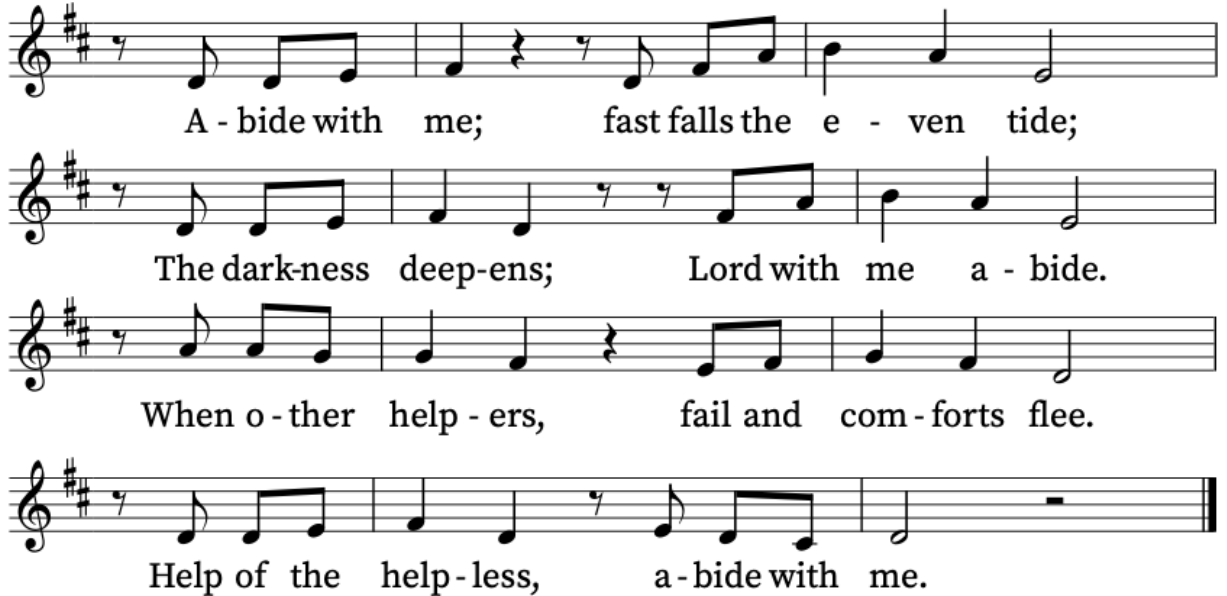
Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

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.]

Abide With Me

Lyrics: Henry Lytle; Music: Justin Smith



The image shows the musical notation for the hymn 'Abide With Me'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first two lines of the hymn. The second staff contains the next two lines. The third staff contains the next two lines. The fourth staff contains the final line of the hymn, ending with a double bar line.

A - bide with me; fast falls the e - ven tide;
The dark-ness deep-ens; Lord with me a - bide.
When o - ther help - ers, fail and com - forts flee.
Help of the help - less, a - bide with me.

I need Thy presence, every passing hour.
What but Thy grace, can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless
Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross, before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

Take My Life And Let It Be

Lyrics & Music: Frances Havergal



Take my life _ and _ let it be con - se - crat - ed,
Lord, to thee. Take my mo - ments _ and my days; _ let them flow in
cease _ less _ praise _ let them flow in _ cease less _praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,
Swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose,
Every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord,
I pour at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,
Ever, only, all for thee.

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.

Food Bank Serving: Our next Saturday morning at the food bank will be on March 9th. It goes from 9am-noon, and involves packing up boxes of food for them to distribute later to those in need.

Men's Book Group: Our book for March 12th is C.S. Lewis's Reflections on the Psalms. Read up!

Women's Book Group: Our March book is Lucy By the Sea by Elizabeth Strout. Julie Garland will be hosting.

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
P.O. Box 40517, Tucson, AZ 85717
678.849.7918

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