



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

08.26.2018

Welcome to Worship at Midtown!

We are just starting our corporate worship services, and are really glad to have you with us. 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 in the patio room. You are welcome to keep them in the service with you if you prefer.

Worship Note

Though early Christians soon stopped offering sacrifices, food remained central to worship. Jesus came eating and drinking with prostitutes, publicans, and even Pharisees, using meals as occasions for healing and table manners as object lessons for disciples. After Pentecost, the disciples continued to gather to hear the apostolic teaching, to pray, and to break bread (Acts 2:42, 46). Paul assumes that the Corinthians “come together” to share the Lord’s Supper (1 Cor. 11:33). When we finally enter the new Jerusalem, we will enjoy the eternal marriage supper of the Lamb. In Christ, we are brought to a better Eden, a better feast where fruit has grown up to become wine.

—Peter Liethart

Reflection

Amiable agnostics will talk cheerfully about ‘man’s search for God.’ To me, as I then was, they might as well have talked about the mouse’s search for the cat.

—C.S. Lewis

The Word

Call to Worship

Psalm 47:1-2

Clap your hands, all peoples!

Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

For the Lord, the Most High, is to be feared,

A great King over all the earth.

The Gloria Patri

Music: Charles Meineke

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly

6

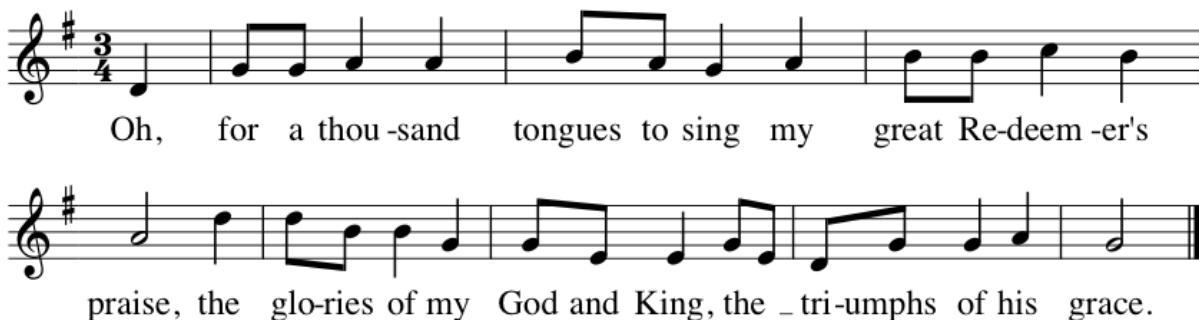
Ghost. As it was in the be - gin-ing, is now, and ev - er

10

shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Lyrics: Charles Wesley; Music: Charles Glaser



Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's
praise, the glo-ries of my God and King, the _tri-umphs of his grace.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad, the honors of thy Name.

Jesus, the Name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of reigning sin, He sets the pris'ner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean, His blood availed for me.

He speaks and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Savior come; and leap, ye lame, for joy.

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

Romans 7:21-24

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

Confession of Sin

Please pray aloud together

O God, we confess that we have fled when you have sought,
We have stopped our ears when you speak,
We have forgotten the good you bring,
and we have despised your correction.

Yet, in our lostness you have sent Christ to help us.

He is our mediator, our redeemer,
whose blood is our peace,
whose righteousness is our strength,
whose condemnation is our freedom,
whose Spirit is our power,
whose heaven is our heritage.

Grant us the strength of your grace:

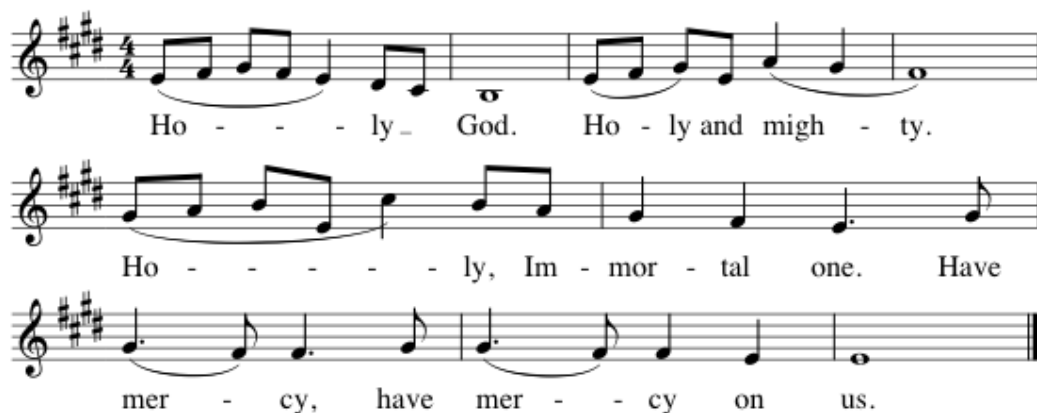
subdue that within us that must be changed,
free us from those things which would bind,
support us in trials,
be near us in temptation,
cleanse our consciences of offense before you and others.

Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

You are invited to confess your sins to God 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 8:1

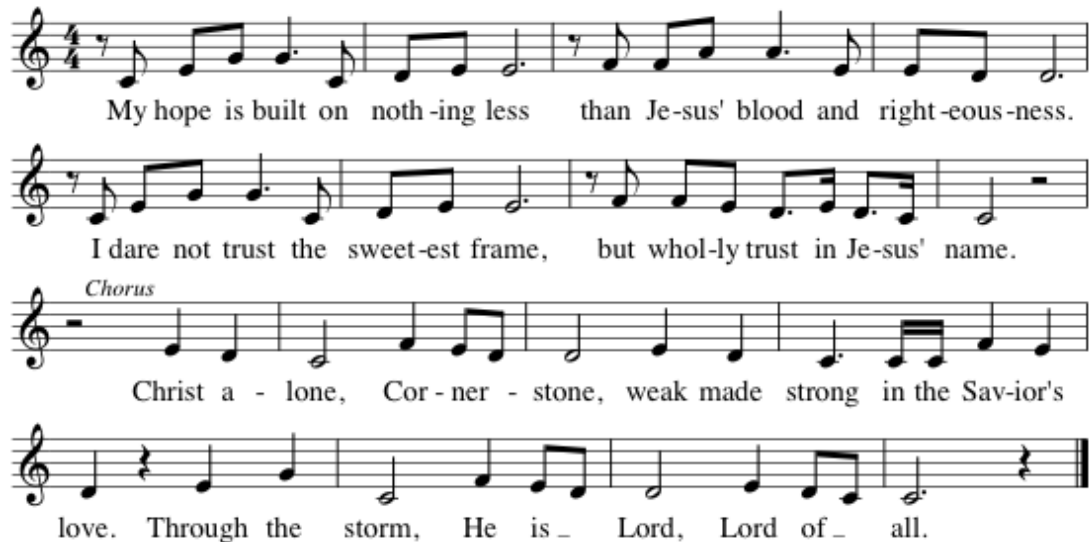
There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: *And also with you!*

Cornerstone

--Lyrics: Edward Mote; Music: Eric Liljero



My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' blood and right - eous - ness.
I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but whol - ly trust in Je - sus' name.
Chorus
Christ a - lone, Cor - ner - stone, weak made strong in the Sav - ior's
love. Through the storm, He is - Lord, Lord of - all.

When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.

The Prayers of the People

(Please pray the italicized portions aloud together.)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Leader: Let us pray.

Let us pray to the Lord, for the mission of the church,
that in faithful witness
it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth,
we pray to You, O Lord.

(Please pray silently for the church throughout the world.)

Amen.

For those who do not yet believe and those struggling with their faith:
that they may receive the light of the gospel,
we pray to You, O Lord.

(Please pray silently for those yet to believe.)

Amen.

For the peace of the world,
*that a spirit of respect and forbearance
may grow among nations and peoples,
according to Your will,
we pray to You, O Lord.*

(Please pray silently for the world.)

Amen.

For the poor, the persecuted, and all who suffer; for refugees,
prisoners, and all who are in danger;
*that they may be relieved and protected,
we pray to You, O Lord.*

(Please pray silently for those who suffer.)

Amen.

And hear us as we pray as our Savior 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

Isaiah 5:1-7

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Jesus I My Cross have Taken

Lyrics: Henry Lyte; Music: Bill Moore



Je-sus I my cross have tak-en, all to leave and fol - low Thee.



Na-ked, poor, de-spied for-sak-en. Thou from hence my all shall be.



Per-ish ev-ery fond am-bi-tion, all I've sought or hoped or known.



Yet how rich is my con - di - tion,



God and heav'n are still my — own.

Let the world despise and leave me, they have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me; Thou art not, like them, untrue.
O while Thou dost smile upon me, God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends disown me, show Thy face and all is bright.

Man may trouble and distress me, 'twill but drive me to Thy breast.
Life with trials hard may press me; heaven will bring me sweeter rest.
Oh, 'tis not in grief to harm me, while Thy love is left to me;
Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me, were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Gospel Reading

Mark 12:1-12

And he began to speak to them in parables. “A man planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a pit for the winepress and built a tower, and leased it to tenants and went into another country. ² When the season came, he sent a servant to the tenants to get from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. ³ And they took him and beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ⁴ Again he sent to them another servant, and they struck him on the head and treated him shamefully. ⁵ And he sent another, and him they killed. And so with many others: some they beat, and some they killed. ⁶ He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ⁷ But those tenants said to one another, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ ⁸ And they took him and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard. ⁹ What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. ¹⁰ Have you not read this Scripture:

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;

¹¹ this was the Lord's doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

¹² And they were seeking to arrest him but feared the people, for they perceived that he had told the parable against them. So they left him and went away.

Minister: The Gospel of Jesus Christ
People: *Praise be to you, O Christ*

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.]

Sursum Corda

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.

Words of Institution

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 provide individual cups of grape juice and gluten-free wafers in the tray at the front. We partake in the Supper by intinction, that is, we dip the bread into the cup. Children who have not yet professed their faith in Christ nor been admitted to the Table are encouraged to come forward for a prayer of blessing.]

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.

Ten Thousand Reasons

—Lyrics and Music: Matt Redman & John Myrin




Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul, wor-ship His ho - ly name.




Sing like ne-ver be-fore, O my soul I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.

Verse




The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn - ing; -



It's time to sing your song a-gain. What - e-ver may pass and what-



-e - ver lies be - fore - me;



Let me be sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger,
Your name is great and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness I will keep on singing,
10,000 reasons for my heart to find.

And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come.
Still my soul will sing your praise unending,
10,000 years and then forevermore.

Benediction

Silent Prayers During Communion

Prayer for Covenant Children (Not Yet Confirmed): Lord Jesus, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you, and to follow you as your faithful disciple. Amen.

Prayer for Those Taking Communion: Lord Jesus, your perfect life, your death and resurrection are the source of all blessing in this life and the life to come. As I eat this bread and drink this cup, renew me in the Joy and glory of knowing and serving you. I come to this table on the basis of your merit only and not my own. As you have completely and fully offered yourself for me, I now completely and fully offer myself to you as a living sacrifice. Amen.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth: Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief: Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin: Lord Jesus, you have called me to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Grant also that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.

Notes

Offering: We have placed an offering box in the back of the nave that you can use as you enter or leave, or as you come to communion. You can also give online at our website www.mpctucson.org.

Kickoff Party Tonight!

We are going to have a dinner party at the Garland's house (1324 N Norton Ave) tonight after the service. Everyone is invited—we'll have plenty to go around.

Book Group Change: Everyone is invited to come and discuss Tyler Wigg-Stevenson's book, *The World Is Not Ours To Save*. Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, August 29th**, at 7:30, at the Garland's home (1324 N. Norton Ave.) We will cover chapters 9-10. We will have refreshments, but you should eat dinner beforehand.

Tucson Women's Conference

All of the PCA churches in Tucson are joining together for this conference, and Rondi Lauterbach will be the speaker.

From Empty to Full: Living in the Plenty of Christ

Friday, 9/14, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. & Saturday, 9/15, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Buffet style lunch provided

Registration:\$30 (scholarships available)

Payment can be made during registration or on-line at the DSPC website.

Midtown Presbyterian Church

www.mpctucson.org

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A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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