



MIDTOWN  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Evening Worship

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
09.30.2018

## 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

*Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise—  
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,  
God of Power and Might,  
Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory .  
The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.  
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;  
Father, of majesty unbounded,  
Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.*

## **Reflection**

They were martyred. But what a martyrdom! I had long read about martyrdom in the lives of the saints — how the souls of the martyrs had gone home to Heaven, how they had been filled with glory in Paradise, how the angels had blown trumpets. This was the splendid martyrdom I had often seen in my dreams. But the martyrdom of the Japanese Christians I now describe to you was no such glorious thing. What a miserable and painful business it was! The rain falls unceasingly on the sea. And the sea which killed them surges on uncannily — in silence.

—Shūsaku Endō

# The Word

## **Call to Worship**

Psalm 100:1-5

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations.

## The Gloria Patri

Music: Charles Meineke

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.

## Praise the Savior, Now and Ever

Lyrics: William Moore; Music: Bruce Benedict

Praise the Sav-ior now and ev - er; praise him, all be - neath the skies;

pros-trate ly-ing, suf-fring, dy-ing on the cross, a sac - ri - fice.

Vic'try gain-ing, life ob - tain - ing now in - glo-ry he doth rise.

Man's work faileth, Christ's availeth;  
He is all our righteousness;  
He, our Savior, has forever set us free from dire distress.  
Through his merit we inherit light and peace and happiness.

Sin's bond severed, we're delivered;  
Christ has bruised the serpent's head;  
Death no longer is the stronger hell itself is captive led.  
Christ has risen from death's prison; o'er the tomb he light has shed.

For his favor, praise forever  
Unto God the Father sing;  
Praise the Savior, praise him ever, Son of God, our Lord and King.  
Praise the Spirit; through Christ's merit he doth us salvation bring.

## **Prayer of Invocation**

### **Call to Confession of Sin**

Acts 3:18-19

But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out.

### **Confession of Sin**

*Please pray aloud together*

Lord Jesus, I have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, and of neglect to seek you in my daily life. My sins and shortcomings present me with a list of accusations, but I thank you that they will not stand against me, for all have been laid on Christ. Deliver me from every evil habit, every interest of former sins, everything that dims the brightness of your grace in me, everything that prevents me taking delight in you.

*You are invited to confess your sins to God 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

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!*

## Psalms 126

Music: Issac Wardell



1. Our mouths they were filled, filled \_ with laugh - ter.  
2. The na - tions will say: "He has done great things!"



Our tongues they were loosed, loosed \_ with joy.  
the na - tions will sing songs \_ of joy.



Re-store us, O Lord.

Re-store us O Lord.

Although we are weep-ing. Lord help us keep sow - ing  
the seeds of your King-dom for the day you will reap — them.  
Your sheaves we will car - ry. Lord please do not tar - ry.  
All those who sow weep-ing will go out with songs of joy.

## The Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Leader: Let us pray.

(Please pray the italicized portions aloud together.)

You are God—

*we praise you;*

You are the Lord—

*we acclaim you;*

You are the eternal Father—

*all creation worships you.*

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise—  
    Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,  
    God of Power and Might,  
    Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory .  
The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
    *The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.*  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.  
    *Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims*  
    *you;*  
    *Father, of majesty unbounded,*  
    *Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,*  
    *and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.*  
You, Christ, are the king of glory,  
    *The eternal Son of the Father.*  
When you became man to set us free  
You did not shun the Virgin's womb.  
    *You overcame the sting of death*  
    *and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.*  
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
    *We believe that you will come and be our judge.*  
    *Come then, Lord, and help your people,*  
    *bought with the price of your own blood,*  
    *and bring us with your saints*  
    *to glory everlasting.*

(You are invited to bring your requests to God in silent prayer at this time.)

## Old Testament Reading

Psalm 3:1-8

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

## Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:10-12

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ

People: *Praise be to you, O Christ*

## Sing To The Lord

Lyrics & Music: Roots Worship Collective



Sing to the Lord a new song. Sing to the Lord all the earth.



Sing to the Lord a new song. Sing to the Lord all the earth.



For great - is our God most wor - thy to be praised.



Let the whole earth sing to the Name a - bove - all names.

## **New Testament Reading**

Revelation 2:8-11

<sup>8</sup> “And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: ‘The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life. <sup>9</sup> “I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. <sup>10</sup> Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. <sup>11</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.’”

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.]

## **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.]

# Before the Throne of God Above

Lyrics: Charitie Lee Bancroft; Music: Vikki Cook

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/4. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Be - - fore the throne of God a - bove, I have a strong and per - fect plea; A great High Priest whose name is Love, who - ev - er lives and pleads for me. My name is gra - ven on his hands, my name is writ - ten on his heart; I know that while in heav'n he stands, no tounge can bid me thence de - part, no tounge can bid me thence de - part."

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within;  
Upward I look, and see Him there who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free,  
for God the just is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there! the risen Lamb!  
My perfect, spotless righteousness,  
The great unchangeable "I AM," The King of glory and of grace!  
One with Himself, I cannot die; My soul is purchased by His blood;  
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God

# Holy, Holy, Holy

Lyrics: Reginald Heber; Music: John Dykes



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! Lord God Al - migh - ty!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee:



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and migh - ty!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Tri - ni - ty.

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Who wert and art and ever more shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,  
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name  
In earth, and sky, and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

## 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](http://www.mpctucson.org).

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*A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America*

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