



**MIDTOWN**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Evening Worship

Pentecost Sunday

05.20.2018

## **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**

On the day called Sunday, all who live in cities or in the country gather together in one place, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read... Then we all rise and pray... when our prayer is ended, bread and wine and water are brought, and the president in like manner offers prayers and thanksgivings and the people assent saying 'amen.'

- Justin Martyr (d.165 A.D.)

## Reflection

Her good, kind, and jovial siblings were good, kind, and jovial consciously and visibly. Even as children they had been good in fact, but also in order to be seen as good.

—Marilyn Robinson, in *Home*

You can't commiserate. You have never felt disreputable.

—Marilyn Robinson, in *Home*

“Dear God,” she said. “Dear God in heaven, I give up. I throw up my hands.”

“Please don't say that, Glory. I'm alone here—“

“Well,” she said, “you know I don't mean it.”

After a moment he said, “Why don't you mean it?”

“Well, I'm your sister, for one thing. And for another thing—“

He laughed.

“—I'm your sister. That's reason enough.”

He nodded. “Thank you,” he said. “That's very kind.”

—Marilyn Robinson, in *Home*

# The Word

## Call to Worship

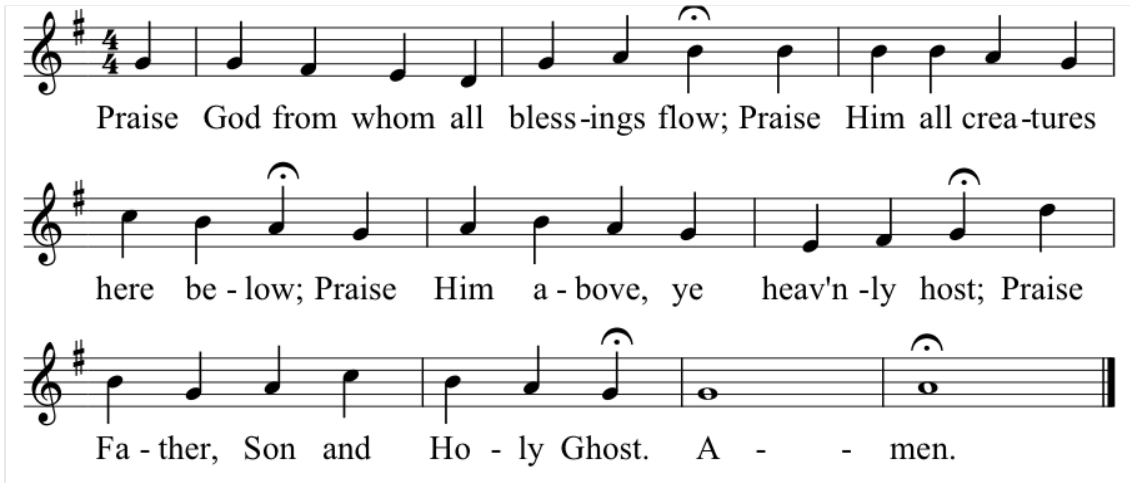
Psalm 149:1-2

Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song,  
his praise in the assembly of the godly!

Let Israel be glad in his Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in  
their King!

# Doxology

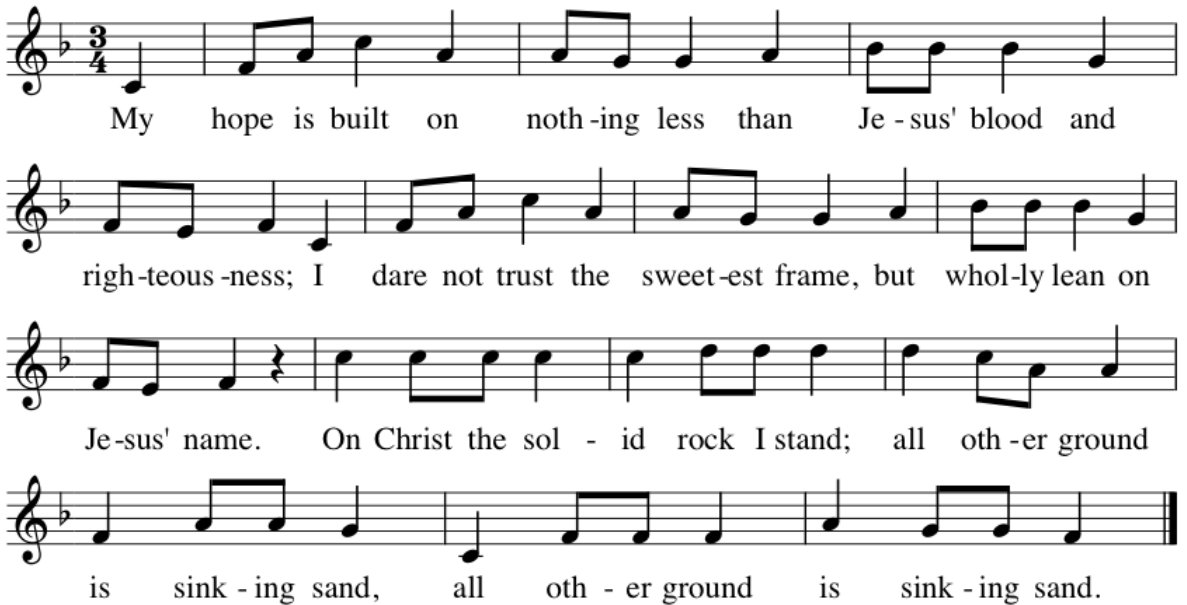
Music: The Old One Hundredth



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.

# My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

Lyrics: Edward Mole; Music: William B. Bradbury



My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je - sus' blood and  
righ-teous-ness; I dare not trust the sweet-est frame, but whol-ly lean on  
Je - sus' name. On Christ the sol - id rock I stand; all oth - er ground  
is sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the 'whelming flood;  
When all around my soul gives way He then is all my hope and stay.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found,  
Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

## **Prayer of Invocation**

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

Matthew 22:37-40

And he said to them, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

### **Confession of Sin**

*Please pray aloud together*


O Lord, forgive us for our failure to keep your commandments. We confess that we often cleanse the outside of our lives, yet do nothing about the inside of our hearts. Outside we look righteous, moral and upright, yet inside we are filled with anger, lust, greed, lies and idolatry. Outwardly we go to church, give money and read your Bible, yet inwardly we neglect justice, purity, love, encouraging speech and mercy. Lord, we should have done the latter without neglecting the others. We have thrust ourselves into the best positions, because we thought we deserved them, yet the truth is we are unworthy of any blessing. Have mercy on us for being like the

Pharisees. May you cleanse us—all of us and all of who we are—from the inside out. Amen.


*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**

John 3:16-17

Minister: For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

*All: And also with you!*

# Jesus What A Friend For Sinners

—Lyrics: Wilbur Chapman ; Music: Luke Smith

The musical score is written on five staves in a 9/8 time signature with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is simple and features several double bar lines with a '2' above them, indicating a two-measure rest. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

Je - sus! What a friend for sin - ners! — Je - sus! Lo - ver  
of my soul. — Friends may fail me foes as - sail me, — He my  
Sav - ior makes me whole. — Hal - le - lu — jah! What a  
Sav - ior! Hal - le - lu - jah! What a friend! — Sav - ing,  
help - ing, keep - ing, lov - ing, — He is with me to the end. —

Jesus! What a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him;  
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, He my strength my vict'ry wins.

Jesus! What a help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll;  
Even when my heart is breaking, He my Comfort helps my soul.

Jesus I do now receive Him, More than all in Him I find;  
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His and He is mine.

## **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.

Holy Spirit, Lord and Giver of Life:

At the beginning of time you moved over the face of the waters;  
you breathe into every living being, the breath of life.

*Come, Creator Spirit, and renew the whole creation.*

Holy Spirit, voice of the prophets:

You enflame men and women with a passion for your truth,  
and through them call your people to the ways of justice and compassion.

*Come, Spirit of Righteousness, and burn in our hearts.*

Holy Spirit, Spirit of Jesus:

By your power Jesus came to bring good news to the poor  
and release to those held captive.

*Come, Liberating Spirit, and free us from the powers of sin and death.*

Holy Spirit, Advocate, Teacher:

You speak to us of our Lord, and show us the depth of his love.

*Come, Spirit of Truth, abide in us and lead us in the way of Jesus Christ.*

Holy Spirit, wind and flame:

You filled disciples with joy and courage,  
empowering them to preach your word and to share your good news.

*Come, Spirit of Power, make us bold witnesses of your redeeming love.*

Holy Spirit, Spirit of Peace:

You break down barriers of language, race, and culture,  
and heal the divisions that separate us.

*Come, Reconciling Spirit, and unite us all in the love of Christ.*



Holy Spirit, Lord and Giver of Life:

At the close of the age all creation will be renewed to sing your praises.

*Come, Creator Spirit, and make us new creations in Jesus Christ.*

*Amen.*

## Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 37:4-14

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

## New Testament Reading

Acts 2:1-8

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

## Pslam 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!"

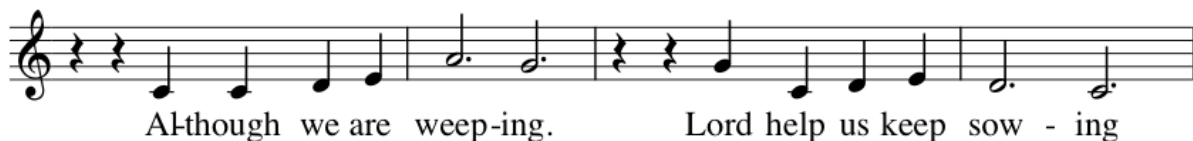


Our tounge they were loosed, loosed \_ with joy.  
the na - tions will sing songs \_ of joy.



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.

## Gospel Reading

Luke 15:20-32

<sup>20</sup> And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup> And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup> But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup> but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your

command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' <sup>31</sup> And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ

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

## Sermon

Rev. Charles Garland

# The Table

## Confession of Faith

--The Heidelberg Catechism, Question #1

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 using the prayers provided below as guidelines. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the Church.]

## 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 on a single treble clef staff in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of six lines of music with lyrics underneath. 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." The music features a variety of note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with rests and slurs.

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.

# We Will Feast In the House of Zion

Lyrics and Music: Sandra McCracken and Joshua Moore

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "We will feast in the house of Zi - on! We will sing with our hearts re-stored. He has done great things, we will say to - ge - ther, We will feast and weep no more. 1. We will not be burned by the fire: He is the Lord our God. We are not consumed by the flood. Up-held, pro-tect-ed, ga - thered up." The score includes a key signature change to 2/4 time for a brief section and a final double bar line.

We will feast in the house of Zi - on! We will sing with our  
hearts re-stored. He has done great things, we will say to - ge - ther,  
We will feast and weep no more. 1. We will not be  
burned by the fire: He is the Lord our God. We are not con-  
sumed by the flood. Up-held, pro-tect-ed, ga - thered up.

We will not be burned by the fire, He is the LORD our God.  
We are not consumed, by the flood, Upheld, protected, gathered up!

In the dark of night, before the dawn, My soul, be not afraid.  
For the promised morning, oh how long? Oh God of Jacob, be my  
strength!

Every vow we've broken and betrayed, You are the Faithful one.  
And from the garden to the grave, Bind us together, bring shalom!

## 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 Change: 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.

Prayer time before the services. We will meet in the Patio Room from 3:30 -3:45 each Sunday to pray for the church and the worship service. Everyone is invited.

Midtown Presbyterian Church

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

P.O. Box 40517, Tucson, AZ 85717

678.849.7918

*A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America*

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