



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

02.02.2020

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

We want a cozy church, and most churches are too dead to need these letters. When the gospel reaches different types of hurting people there will be problems. That is a good sign. You can have vital church sins, or dead church sins. There is no safe church.

—Tim Keller

The Word

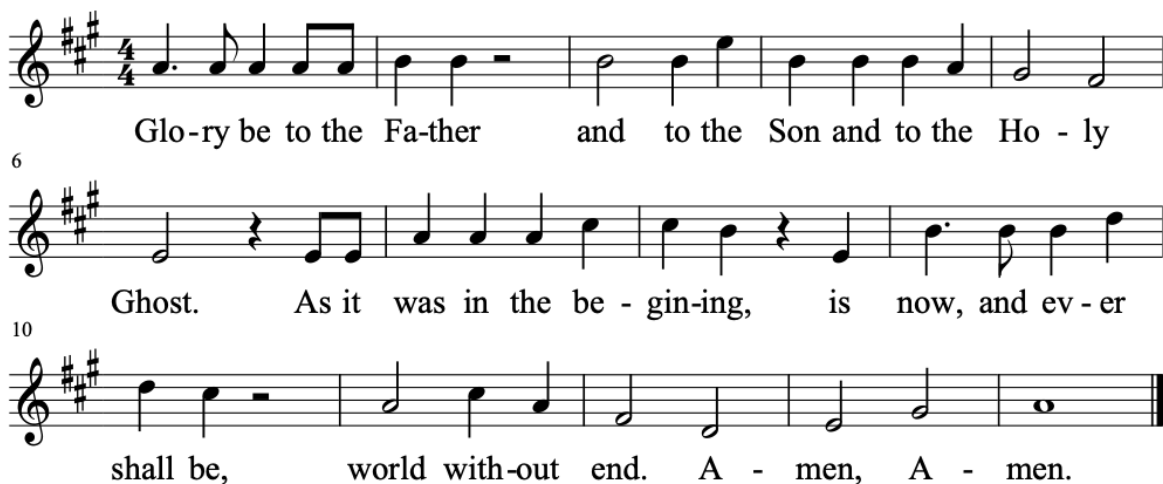
Call to Worship

Psalm 95:1-3

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

The Gloria Patri

Music: Charles Meineke

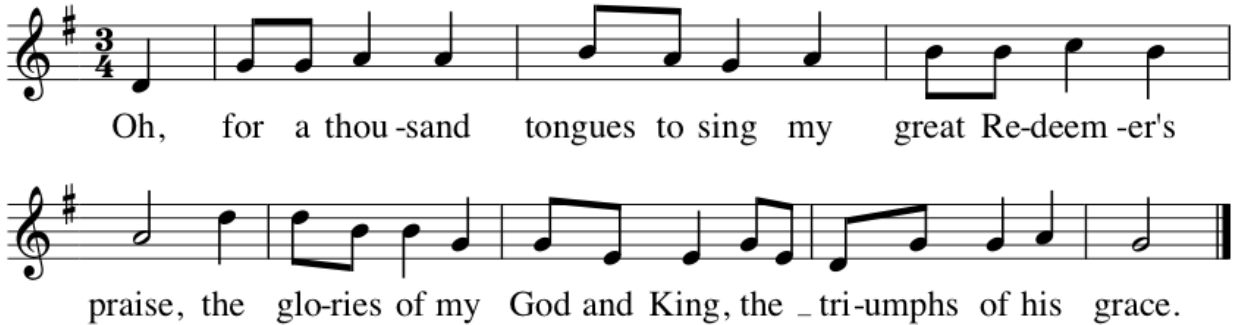


The musical score is written on three staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes.

6
Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly
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 3:19-20

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

Confession of Sin

[Pray the bold text aloud together]

Minister: Almighty and most merciful Father,

All: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. 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

Romans 3:23-24

For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

Thy Mercy My God

--Lyrics: John Stocker; Music: Sandra McCracken

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "Thy mer-cy, my God, is the theme _ of my song, the joy of my heart and the boast _ of my tongue; Thy free grace a - lone from the first to the last Hath won my af - fec - tions and bound my soul fast."

Thy mer-cy, my God, is the theme _ of my song, the
joy of my heart and the boast _ of my tongue; Thy
free grace a - lone from the first to the last Hath
won my af - fec - tions and bound my soul fast.

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair.
But through Thy free goodness my spirits revive
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies! Thy goodness I own
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son.
All praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine!

The Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Almighty God who is from everlasting to everlasting, grant us, amid the conflicts of this passing world, the comfort of a perfect trust in you:

Save and help us, O Lord.

From pride, selfishness, greed and anger; from passions that lead to war among brothers and sisters in Christ as well as war among nations:

Save and help us, O Lord.

Let us pray for peace (silence). Amen.

As you have blessed our nation so richly, we pray for the President and all in authority over us, that they would lead with wisdom and truth:

Save and help us, O Lord.

Let us pray for those who lead (silence). Amen.

For all who are afflicted by war within themselves, by the conflicts of doubt, a rebellious will, and the darkness of despair:

Save and help us, O Lord.

Let us pray for all who struggle with the gospel (silence). Amen.

For all who suffer: the sick, the poor, and the prisoner, that they would be touched by your compassion in their time of need:

Save and help us, O Lord.

Let us pray for all who suffer (silence). Amen.

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.**

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 4:27-31

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 9:9-13

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

What A Friend We Have In Jesus

--Lyrics: Joseph Scriven; Music: Charles Converse



What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!



What a priv-i-lege to car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer.



O what peace we of-ten for - feit, O what need-less pain we bear,



all be-cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
Jesus, Savior, is our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer!
Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Jesus knows our every weakness, take it to the Lord in prayer.

Blessed Savior, you have promised, all our burdens you will bear;
May we ever, Lord, be bringing all to you in earnest prayer.
Soon, in glory bright unclouded, face to face it is our prayer!
Joyful praise and endless worship will be our sweet portion there.

New Testament Reading

Acts 18:1-16

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. ² And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. And he went to see them, ³ and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. ⁴ And he reasoned in the syna-gogue every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks.

⁵ When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus. ⁶ And when they opposed and reviled him, he shook out his garments and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles." ⁷ And he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. His house was next door to the synagogue. ⁸ Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized. ⁹ And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, "Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, ¹⁰ for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people." ¹¹ And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

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.]

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 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.]

The Love of God

Music & Lyrics: Fredrick Martin Lehman

The love of God is great-er far - than tongue or pen can ev-er
tell. It goes be - yond the high-est star, - and reach-es to the low-est
hell. The guilt-y pair, bowed down with care. - God gave his Son - to
win. His err-ing child, he re-con - ciled, - and par-doned from - his
Refrain
sin. O love of God, how rich and pure - how mea-sure - less - and
strong. It shall for-ev - er-more en - dure the saints' and an - gels' song.

When years of time shall pass away, And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall;
When men, who here, refuse to pray, On rocks and hills and mountains call;
God's love, so sure, shall still endure, All measureless and strong;
Redeeming grace to Adam's race, The saints' and angels' song. [Refrain]

Could we with ink the ocean fill, And were the skies of parchment made;
Were ev'ry stalk on earth a quill, And ev'ry man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God above Would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole Tho' stretched from sky to sky. [Refrain]

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

Lyrics: Samuel Stennett; Music: Christopher Miner

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'On Jordan's Stormy Banks'. It consists of five 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 4-measure rest, then begins with 'On'. The second staff continues with 'Jor - dan's stor - my ba-nks I stand and'. The third staff continues with 'cast a wish-ful eye, to Can - aan's fair and'. The fourth staff continues with 'hap-py land, where my pos-ses-sions lie. I am bound, I am'. The fifth staff continues with 'bound, I am bound for Prom-ised La - nd. I am'. The sixth staff continues with 'bound, I am bound, I am bound for Prom-ised La - nd.' and ends with a double bar line.

4 On Jor - dan's stor - my ba-nks I stand and

7 cast a wish-ful eye, to Can - aan's fair and

11 hap-py land, where my pos-ses-sions lie. I am bound, I am

14 bound, I am bound for Prom-ised La - nd. I am

bound, I am bound, I am bound for Prom-ised La - nd.

All o'er those wide extended plains, Shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns, And scatters night away.

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath Can reach that healthful
shore; Sickness, sorrow, pain and death, Are felt and feared no more

When shall I reach that happy place, And be forever blessed?
When shall I see my Father's face, And in His bosom rest?

Benediction

Notes

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

Email List: Please sign up for our email list on the table in the back. We send out the bulletin and announcements every week before worship and would love to include you.

Women's Bible Study Wednesday 2/12, at 7:00, at the Garland's home (1324 N Norton Ave). We'll be studying chapter 3 of Tim Keller's book on Romans 1-7.

February Book Studies: Women: Friday, February 7th, at 7 PM at Julie Garland's house to discuss Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe. Men: Tuesday, February 11, at Matt McReynolds' house to discuss The Coddling of the American Mind by Greg Lukianoff and Jonathan Haidt.

Super Bowl Party: Today at the Garland's (1324 N Norton Ave.). We might delay the kickoff a few minutes to give us time to clean up after worship. Anyone is welcome.

Pastor: Charles Garland
Music Director: Sarah Lewis
RUF Staff: Dan & Brittany Smith

Midtown Presbyterian Church
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A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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