



MIDTOWN  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Evening Worship

## Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

07.29.2018

### **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**

"It is called *Holy Communion* because when feeding at this implausible table, Christians believe that they are communing with the Holy One himself, his spirit enlivening their spirits, heating the blood and gladdening the heart just the way wine, as spirits, can. They are also, of course, communing with each other. To eat any meal together is to meet at the level of our most basic need. It is hard to preserve your dignity with butter on your chin or to keep your distance with asking for the tomato ketchup".

—Frederick Buechner

## Reflection

Forgiveness flounders because I exclude the enemy from the community of humans even as I exclude myself from the community of sinners. But no one can be in the presence of the God of the crucified Messiah for long without overcoming this double exclusion — without transposing the enemy from the sphere of the monstrous... into the sphere of shared humanity and herself from the sphere of proud innocence into the sphere of common sinfulness. When one knows that the torturer will not eternally triumph over the victim, one is free to rediscover that person's humanity and imitate God's love for him. And when one knows that God's love is greater than all sin, one is free to see oneself in the light of God's justice and so rediscover one's own sinfulness."

— Miroslav Volf

# 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

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.

## Glory Be to God the Father

--Lyrics: Horatio Bonar; Music: Blake Mundell



Glo-ry be to God the Fa - ther, - Glo-ry be to God the Son.



Glo-ry be to God the Spir - it, great Je - ho - vah, three in one.



Sing-ing glo - ry, sing-ing glo - ry.



Glo - ry while e - ter - nal a - ges run.

Glory be to Him who loved us, washed us from each spot and stain.  
Glory be to Him who bought us, made us kings with Him to reign.  
Singing glory, glory. Glory to the Lamb who once was slain.

Glory to the King of Angels, glory to the Church's King.  
Glory to the King of nations, heaven and earth your praises bring.  
Singing glory, glory. Glory to the King of Nations bring.

Glory, blessing, praise eternal, thus the choir of angels sings.

## Prayer of Invocation

## Call to Confession of Sin

Psalm 130:1-4

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord! O Lord, hear my voice!  
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!  
If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?  
But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

## Confession of Sin

*Please pray aloud together*

Dear Lord Jesus Christ, I feel my sins.  
They bite and gnaw and frighten me.  
Where shall I go?  
I look to you, Lord Jesus, and I believe in you.  
Although my faith is weak, I cling to you and am made sure,  
for you have promised that everyone who looks to the Son and  
believes in him shall have eternal life.  
Even if my conscience is troubled and my sins frighten me and  
make me tremble, you have still assured me that my sins have been  
forgiven on account of your name.  
I cannot help myself and so come to you for help.  
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

Psalm 130:7-8

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love,  
and with him is plentiful redemption.  
And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

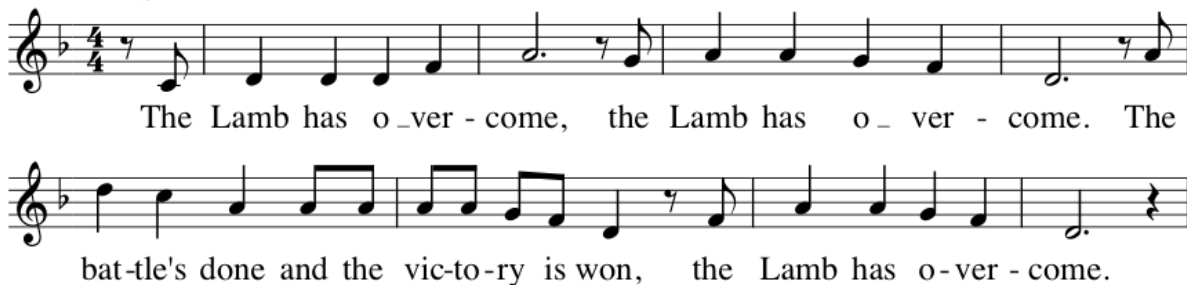
Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: *And also with you!*

## The Lamb Has Overcome

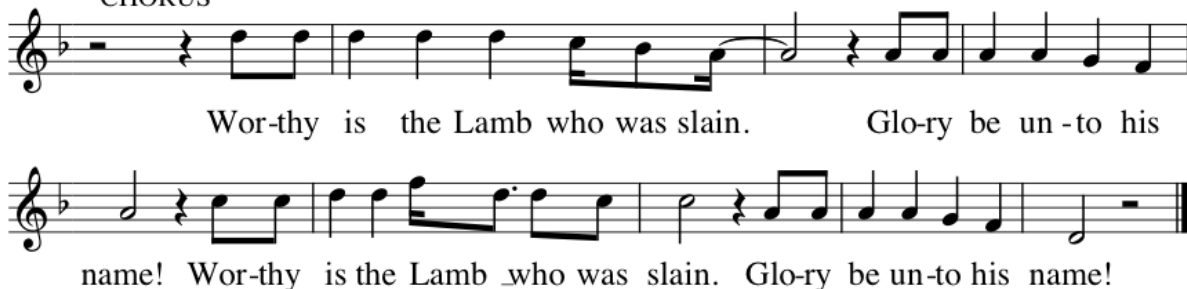
Lyrics & Music: Luke Morton

VERSE



The Lamb has o-ver - come, the Lamb has o-ver - come. The  
bat-tle's done and the vic-to-ry is won, the Lamb has o-ver - come.

CHORUS



Wor-thy is the Lamb who was slain. Glo-ry be un-to his  
name! Wor-thy is the Lamb who was slain. Glo-ry be un-to his name!

No grave could hold him down, no grave could hold him down.  
Up from the ground, "He is risen!" was the sound,  
No grave could hold him down

At God's right hand is he, at God's right hand is he.  
Our Perfect Plea, how he lives to intercede!  
At God's right hand is he.

*Chorus*

The table now is spread, the table now is spread  
This wine and bread broken body and blood shed  
The table now is spread.

The day is drawing near, the day is drawing near  
He shall appear and will wipe away each tear,  
The day is drawing near.

*Chorus*

## **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.

Jesus, remember us when you come in your kingdom,  
*Have mercy upon us and hear our prayers.*

For all who carry out your ministries within your church,  
*We ask for grace and wisdom.*  
(Pray for those who minister the gospel.)

For those who don't yet believe the gospel,  
*We ask for your faithful love.*  
(Pray for the unbelieving.)

For governors and rulers in every land,  
*We ask for your guidance.*  
(Pray for our leaders.)

For people who suffer and grieve,  
*We ask for your healing peace.*  
(Pray for the suffering.)

Holy God, your Son, Jesus Christ has spoken to us the word of reconciliation. We come to you now in the words He taught us, saying:

*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**

Exodus 34:4-7

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

## **New Testament Reading**

Colossians 3:12-13

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*



# I 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?  
We should never be discouraged; Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness; Take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge; Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; Thou will find a solace there.

## Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup> “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants.<sup>24</sup> When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup> And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup> So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup> And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup> But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup> So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup> He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup> Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup> And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup> And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt.<sup>35</sup> So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

Minister: The Gospel of Jesus Christ

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

**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 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.]

# We Abide in You

Lyrics & Music: Sandra McCracken



We are the vine - yard you have plan - ted tend our  
leaves and wi - ld bran - ches, we a - bide, we a - bide in  
You. We a - bide, we a - bide in You.

## Refrain



Where can my soul \_ find liv - ing wa - ter? A - part from  
you we bear no fruit! O plant my feet \_\_\_\_ down  
by \_ the ri - ver. We a - bide, we a - bide in You.

We are the vineyard You have planted  
Tend our leaves and wild branches:  
We abide, we abide in You. We abide, we abide in You. *Refrain*

Fruit growing from our strength and labor,  
Rain on us with grace and favor:  
We abide, we abide in You. We abide, we abide in You. *Refrain*

We abide, we abide in You. We abide, we abide in You.

# Take Us, O Lord

Lyrics & Music: Isaac Wardell

O how he takes \_ the cross, O how he lifts \_ it up  
to take the weight from us. O how he pays \_ the cost,  
O how he drinks the cup, to make a place \_ for us.

CHORUS

Take us, \_ O Lord, and all we have known. Shape us, O  
Lord, and form us in - to your own. Take eve - ry heart and  
know eve-ry sin. Break us, O Lord, that we may be whole a - gain.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of three systems of music. The first system contains the first two lines of lyrics. The second system contains the next two lines of lyrics. The third system is labeled 'CHORUS' and contains the final three lines of lyrics. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and ties.

Hear how he breaks the curse, hear how he cries aloud,  
Hear how his voice resounds. O how he forms the words,  
O how he cries them out, "See it is finished now!" *Chorus*

How deep the wounds he wears, how dark the scars he shows,  
How well the name he knows; written upon his palms,  
O what a name to find. That name before him: Mine! *Chorus*

## 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).

Book Group: Everyone is invited to come and discuss Tyler Wigg-Stevenson's book, *The World Is Not Ours To Save*. Our next meeting will be this Friday, August 3rd, at 7:30, at the Garland's home (1324 N. Norton Ave.) We will cover chapters 4-5 that week. We will have refreshments, but eat dinner beforehand.

Midtown Presbyterian Church

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

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*A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America*

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