



DRAWING IN • GROWING UP • SENDING OUT

*"The most significant question in understanding personal identity is not "Who am I?" but "Whose am I?"*

*•Brian Rosner*

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November 7, 2021

# Welcome to Midtown's Worship Service!

## A Message From the Pastor

Welcome to Midtown Community Church. Wherever you are worshipping from geographically, emotionally, or spiritually, we are glad you can join us as we turn our hearts and minds towards God in worship.

## Connect and Prayer Card

New to Midtown? Need Prayer? We'd love to hear from you! Our QR code will bring you to our Connect & Prayer Card Form. To scan, simply open the camera app or download a QR scanner onto your phone and hover over the QR barcode. If you have any additional questions or need assistance, please contact Mo Wilbur at [admin@midtown-church.org](mailto:admin@midtown-church.org).



## Find Us Online



[midtown-church.org](http://midtown-church.org)



[@midtowncommunitychurch](https://www.instagram.com/midtowncommunitychurch)



[midtownchurchraleigh](https://www.facebook.com/midtownchurchraleigh)



[midtown community church](https://www.youtube.com/midtowncommunitychurch)

# Call to Worship

## Taken from Ephesians 2; 1 Peter 2

Leader: Remember at one time we were separated from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

**All: But now in Christ Jesus we who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.**

Leader: For you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

**All: Once we were not a people, but now we are the people of God. Once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy. Praise be to our God!**

# Song of Invocation

## 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

(chorus)

Bless the Lord oh my soul,

Oh my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before

Oh my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning

It's time to sing Your song again

Whatever may pass and

whatever lies before me

Let me be singing when the evening comes

(chorus)

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

(chorus)

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 forever more

(chorus)

Words & Music: Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman

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worshiptogether.com songs

# Confession of Faith

## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He shall come to judge the living 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.

\*The word "catholic" refers not to the Roman Catholic Church, but to the universal, or "catholic", church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

# Song of Adoration

## Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery

Come behold the wondrous mystery,  
in the dawning of the King  
He the theme of heaven's praises,  
robed in frail humanity  
In our longing, in our darkness,  
now the light of life has come  
Look to Christ, who condescended,  
took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery,  
he the perfect Son of Man  
In his living, in his suffering,  
never trace nor stain of sin  
See the true and better Adam,  
come to save the hell-bound man  
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law,  
in him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery,  
Christ the Lord upon the tree  
In the stead of ruined sinners  
hangs the Lamb in victory  
See the price of our redemption,  
see the Father's plan unfold  
Bringing many sons to glory,  
grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery,  
slain by death the God of life  
But no grave could e'er restrain him,  
praise the Lord, He is alive  
What a foretaste of deliverance,  
how unwavering our hope  
Christ in power resurrected,  
as will we be when he comes.

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McKinney Music, Inc. (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

# Song of Thanksgiving

## O God Of Mercy Hear Our Plea

O God we've seen Your faithfulness  
You brought us from the wilderness  
But now our faith is frail and weak  
O God of mercy hear our plea

When will You comfort our distress  
How long until the promised rest  
We cry to You from deepest need  
O God of mercy hear our plea

(chorus)

Abba, Father, our Redeemer  
In this barren land be our hope and strength  
Until glory we will trust and sing  
Abba Father hear our plea

We join creation's longing groan  
To take Your ransomed children home  
For then the eyes of all will see  
The God of mercy hears our plea  
(chorus)

For then the eyes of all will see  
The God of mercy hears our plea  
(chorus) x2

Abba, Father, hear our plea

CCLI Song # 7096628

Brittany Kaufflin | Matt Merker

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# **Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Children age 4 through Grade 5 are now dismissed to Children's Church.*

## **Midtown News**

Please see details on pages 11-13 of the bulletin.

## **Congregational Prayer**

Lindsey Williams

## **Scripture Reading**

Nick Gibson

1 Timothy 3:14-16

# **Sermon**

## **Identity Born**

Reverend Lindsey Williams



# Sermon Outline

## **Identity Born**

1 Timothy 3:14-16

# Song of Response

## In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease  
My Comforter, my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Words & Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend  
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# Benediction

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# This Week at Midtown

DATE	EVENT	TIME & PLACE
Sunday 11.7.2021	Cary Central Community Group	After Church  Cleary Home
Sunday 11.7.2021	Westside Community Group (bring your own picnic)	Lunch Time   Tinsley Home (outside)
Monday 11.8.2021	Staff Meeting	7:30pm   Room 206
Tuesday 11.9.2021	Men's Disc Golf	11:30am   Kentwood Park
Tuesday 11.9.2021	Apex Community Group	5:45pm   Wilbur Home
Tuesday 11.9.2021	Durant Trails Community Group - MEN	7:30pm   Wallace Home
Tuesday 11.9.2021	Men's Mutual Benefit Society	7:00pm   Lynnwood Brewing Concern
Wednesday 11.10.2021	Women's Bible Study - Morning	9:30am   Fellowship Hall
Wednesday 11.10.2021	Regional Community Group	6:30pm   Stephens Home
Wednesday 11.10.2021	Cameron Village Community Group	7:30pm   R. & K. Williams Home

## Midtown News

### MIDTOWN SPROUTS

#### *Today at Sprouts*

All Midtown's Children's Ministry Classes will meet today.

**Acorns and Sunshine** children may be checked in before the service at their classroom in the Preschool Building.

**Oaks and Midtown Kids** children are dismissed after the Doxology and will meet their teachers in the sanctuary foyer and be escorted to their classrooms. Please sign in your Oaks and Midtown Kids on the clipboards in the sanctuary foyer BEFORE the service.

**All children need security wristbands.**

#### *Midtown Sprouts Volunteers*

We are still in need of a few more substitutes. Please email Sarah to sign up at [Sarah@midtown-church.org](mailto:Sarah@midtown-church.org)

### ***Fall Classes for Children's Ministry***

We have four classes to serve our Midtown children who are 9-months through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Sprouts Acorns • 9-24 months • Room 5  
Sprouts Sunshine • 2 & 3-yr-olds • Room 1  
Sprouts Oaks • 4yrs-1<sup>st</sup> Grade • Room 2  
Midtown Kids • 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade • Room 4

### **FIRESIDE CHAT ON "THE RISE AND FALL OF MARS HILL" TONIGHT NOV. 7TH • 7:00PM**

Join Pastor Lindsey around his fire pit as we debrief the most popular religious podcast today. This podcast chronicles the rise and fall of one of the more well-known evangelical churches of the past 20 years. It's a great opportunity to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the evangelical movement in the U.S. If you have listened to some of this podcast, we hope you will join us. Address is 2417 Basil Drive, Raleigh, NC 27612.

If you aren't able to listen before the Fireside Chat but still looking for a good podcast, Pastor Lindsey encourages you to check out this one out! Access it at [www.christianitytoday.com](http://www.christianitytoday.com) under podcasts.

### **CHECK OUT THE NEW TOPICAL MINIBOOK DISPLAY IN FOYER**

On the table as soon as you walk into the sanctuary is a stand featuring 25 different minibooks on a wide range of relevant topics on subjects like sexuality, marriage, addiction, singleness, aging, chronic pain, infertility, anxiety, etc.. These books are free to you. Feel free to pick one up and take home to read. With all these subjects feel free to reach out to an elder or member of the Women's Shepherding Team if you want to process through the material further.

### **WELCOME TO OUR NEW PASTORAL INTERN FOR YOUTH**

We are pleased to announce that Midtown Community Church has hired Eric Major as a pastoral intern focusing on youth ministry. Eric comes with over 10 years of youth ministry experience. He is currently enrolled at Reformed Theological Seminary and pursuing ordination in the Presbyterian Church in America. Eric is married to Heather, and they are the parents of children William-8, JJ-6 and Lorelei-4.

## **COMMUNITY GROUPS**

Our Community Groups are small groups (anywhere from 6-15 people) that meet regularly (weekly or every other week) in homes throughout Raleigh for Bible study or sermon discussion and prayer. If you want to get to know other people, grow in your faith, find encouragement and support, or simply learn more about Jesus, visiting a Community Group is a great way to start! We have published our finalized list of Community Groups; see our website and the informational brochure in the church foyer. Any questions you can email Pastor Duane at [duane@midtown-church.org](mailto:duane@midtown-church.org) or any community group leader.

## **LADIES LUNCH LADDER STARTS THIS MONTH**

The Ladies Ladder is a way for Midtown women to connect with each other. Each month you will be assigned one woman to meet with, and you and that person can choose whatever way you feel comfortable to meet (walk, coffee, phone call, Zoom, etc). If you are interested in being a part of the Ladies Ladder, please contact Catie Killinger at [catie.lawson@gmail.com](mailto:catie.lawson@gmail.com)

## **WOMEN'S ORNAMENT EXCHANGE: DECEMBER 11TH**

It is time to start blocking those Saturdays off for important holiday events. Save the date for this upcoming women's fellowship!

## **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: WEDNESDAY MORNINGS AND EVENINGS • 9:30AM/7:30PM**

The Women's Shepherding Team is leading our Fall Women's Bible Study with a morning and evening option! It's not too late to join! For the morning option we meet at Midtown in the Fellowship Hall Wednesdays at 9:30AM. Childcare will be provided each Wednesday morning throughout the semester. Contact Katherine Williams ([krosew82@gmail.com](mailto:krosew82@gmail.com)) with any questions. For the evening option we are meeting bi-weekly at Karen Howell's home Wednesday evenings at 7:30PM. You can contact Kara Williams ([karanc75@gmail.com](mailto:karanc75@gmail.com)) for address information. Both groups are currently studying Romans. Study book found here: <https://tinyurl.com/cu76ztmr>

# Serving at Midtown

*If you are interested in serving, please contact [admin@midtown-church.org](mailto:admin@midtown-church.org).*

## Week of October 31<sup>st</sup>

### AV Team

Jayson Cleary

Brian Neal

### Welcome Team

Devin Steele

### Worship Leader

Michael Merritt: guitar and vocals

### Worship Team

Mike Harrigan: electric guitar

Steven Hillerman: piano

Eric Major: cajon

Amanda Merritt: vocals

Mike Reese: bass guitar

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# Sprouts

MCC KIDS

## Week of Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>

### ACORNS

9 - 24 months

Garret &

Katherine Dysart

### OAKS

4S - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Joseph &

Mo Wilbur

April Eason

### SUNSHINE

2S and 3S

Mallory Wojciechowski

Hartley/Matt Watts

### MIDTOWN KIDS

2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Graders

Jordan &

Kristen Nitz

## Week of Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>

### ACORNS

9 - 24 months

Liz Houghton

Kayla Beucke

### OAKS

4S - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Pat &

Marissa Wallace

Catie Killinger

### SUNSHINE

2S and 3S

Eowyn &

Alden Tinsley

Ashley Lucisano

### MIDTOWN KIDS

2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Graders

Wally Tinsley

Tim Dement

# Staff and Ministry Leader

## Staff

Lindsey Williams, Head Pastor  
*[lindsey@midtown-church.org](mailto:lindsey@midtown-church.org)*  
919.601.3903

Duane Davis, Assistant Pastor  
*[duane@midtown-church.org](mailto:duane@midtown-church.org)*

Eric Major, Pastoral Intern for Youth  
*[eric@midtown-church.org](mailto:eric@midtown-church.org)*

Sarah Breazeale  
Director of Children's Ministry  
*[sarah@midtown-church.org](mailto:sarah@midtown-church.org)*

Charity Cleary  
Assistant Director of Children's Ministry  
*[charity@midtown-church.org](mailto:charity@midtown-church.org)*

Jason Harrod, Worship Director  
*[jason@midtown-church.org](mailto:jason@midtown-church.org)*

Erin Wright, Administrative Coordinator  
*[erin@midtown-church.org](mailto:erin@midtown-church.org)*

Mo Wilbur  
Interim Administrative Coordinator  
*[admin@midtown-church.org](mailto:admin@midtown-church.org)*

## Ministry Leaders

### ELDERS

*[elders@midtown-church.org](mailto:elders@midtown-church.org)*  
Jayson Cleary  
Wally Tinsley  
Warren Wright

### DIACONATE

*[deacons@midtown-church.org](mailto:deacons@midtown-church.org)*  
Rand Williams  
Adam Wright  
Seth Peterson (on sabbatical)

### WOMEN'S SHEPHERDING TEAM

*[womensshepherding@midtown-church.org](mailto:womensshepherding@midtown-church.org)*  
Kayla Beucke  
Meredith Schauer  
Kara Williams  
Katherine Williams

Renewed by Jesus Christ for the purpose  
of **drawing** people into community, **growing**  
as an authentic worshipping community,  
and **sending** them out to renew and create  
communities locally and globally.



**Worship**

2011 Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC 27607

**Mail**

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**Financials**

PO Box 51674, Durham, NC 27717

**Website**

[www.midtown-church.org](http://www.midtown-church.org)