

Good morning! Grace, mercy, and peace in the name of Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Welcome to Los Ninos Primero Sunday at Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church. We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us today. Started by Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church 20 years ago, Los Ninos Primero has become a stand alone educational and justice-oriented non-profit meant to nurture and serve the Latino community here in Sandy Springs and across metro Atlanta. Today, we will give thanks for their work and celebrate the continued partnership that we share. Helping us to celebrate this day are church members, Los Ninos Board Members, students who are know thriving as young adults, and volunteers who heeded the vision to live into this calling.

Covid-19 Update

As of now, there are no updates for when we will return to in person worship. As I have stated in previous services, we are continuing to monitor the situation and glean all new pertinent information. Please know that we continue to hold you in prayer and look forward to connecting with you.

Upcoming Events

We do have a lot going on at this time. From 2-4pm today, we will have our CAC Food Drive and drive-thru Blessing of the Animals. You will also have the opportunity walk through the newly updated Gailey Hall, the building where CAC first began.

Next Sunday we will celebrate the spirit of July 4th, so wear red while you watch as we focus on healing and hope for our country during this time. Then on July 5th, Matthias and I will lead you in a different direction as we offer a special hymn sing service that will walk us through the Christian Calendar.

Several other ministries continue to grow and take place. Please reach out if you would like more information regarding our Presbyterian 101 Sunday School Class, Tuesday Phone Devotionals, Youth or Presbyterian Women ministries.

Stewardship

We also want to thank you for your support of the church at this time. Your continued support allows us to be a shining light in Sandy Springs. Because of you, we can continue in our mission as well as our call to serve those affected by this pandemic. If you would like to give, please go to the giving tab on our website which you can find at the bottom of the screen or you can donate via postal mail.

Prayer Concerns/Praises

Finally, please be in prayer for our world and country, for our president and leaders, as well as protesters, and police. We pray for our city and for the family of Rayshard Brooks as they mourn his death. Closer to home we also lift up Helen Johnson, who has returned home, as well as Dave Whitacre, and so many others battling physical, mental, and spiritual afflictions at this time. We also give thanks and praise for all our father's out there today, whether you are a biological father or if you play a fatherly role to someone, we celebrate you today and give thanks for your wisdom and love.

Now, in that spirit of wisdom and love, let us listen to the still, small voice of the Holy Spirit, and prepare our hearts to worship God.

**Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church
June 21st Worship Service**

Opening Words

Ms. Maritza Morelli & Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Introit — Los Niños Primero

Greetings and Announcements

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship

Margaret Schafer & Elsa Jimenez, LNP Board Members

Margaret: 20 years ago

Elsa: God molded a new creation for the goodness of the children of God.

Margaret: Los Ninos Primero has been an instrument of Christ's grace in the world.

Elsa: Through the hands of Christ, we have witnessed love, compassion, and hope.

Margaret: Our work is only beginning. There is still much to be done.

Elsa: With God's help, we will continue to live out our vision: to inspire Latino children to be lifelong learners and exemplary members of the community.

Margaret and Elsa (Unison): Thanks be to God!

Hymn #157 "Jesús es mi Rey soberano (Our King and our Sovereign, Lord Jesus)"

Our King and our sovereign, Lord Jesus, With joy we will sing forth Your praise;
You call us Your sisters and brothers, Your love You share with us always.
You gave up Your throne in God's glory To save us, O wonderful story!
And now we rejoice, Yes, now we rejoice in You.

Our friend for whom we long for, O Jesus, In sunshine and storm here You stay;
You patiently walk close beside us To comfort and help us each day;
From You nothing ever can sever, We'll follow You now and forever.
And now we rejoice, Yes, now we rejoice in You.

O what can we give You, Lord Jesus, For all you have done and still do?
Is serving You here all that matters? Or saying we love only You?
Yours only, to You consecrated, Our lives, Lord, are now dedicated;
Dear Lord, we rejoice, Yes, Lord, we rejoice in You.

Unison Statement of Hope Ken Mead, Chair of LNP Board and MVPC Church Member

We do not know when the earth and humanity will be consummated, nor do we know how the universe will be transformed. This world's present state, deformed by sin, is to pass away. But God teaches us that He is preparing a new dwelling place and a new earth where justice dwells and whose blessedness will fulfill and surpass all the longings for peace which spring up in the human heart. This is the hope that inspires us Christians. We know that every effort to better a society, especially one that is so enmeshed in injustice and in sin, is an effort that God blesses, that God desires, that God demands of us. May we, as the people of Mount Vernon Presbyterian live out this reality in our continued partnership with our brothers and sisters of Los Ninos Primero. Amen.

Musical Presentation — Los Niños Primero

Prayer for Illumination

Reading **Matthew 18:1-5** **Michelle Martinez, Los Ninos Primero Alumna**

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” He called a child, whom he put among them, and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

Interview with Maritza Morelli, Executive Director of Los Ninos Primero

Hymn #322

“Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Santo Espiritu de Dios, ven sobre mi.
Santo Espiritu de Dios, ven sobre mi.
Tómame, cábiame, lléname, úsame.
Santo Espiritu de Dios, ven sobre mi.

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

Sam & Mary McClurg

Hymn #432

“Canto de Esperanza (Song of Hope)”

May the God of hope go with us every day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace,
Singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new,
Faithful when we hear Christ's call.

Benediction

Closing Song

“Just Sing”

Rachel Coon-Arnott