



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Online Order of Worship
Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost
August 16th, 2020

Greetings and Welcome

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship

Tom Rounds & Rita Sheffey

Move among us, O God; give us life.

Let your people rejoice in you.

Make our hearts clean within us,

renew us in mind and in spirit.

Give us again the joy of your help,

with your spirit of freedom sustain us.

“Romans 12:1”

Brothers and sisters I beg you
In light of all He's done for us
To offer yourselves in worship to our God
Brothers and sisters I ask you
Present yourselves a living sacrifice
Holy and acceptable to our God

Refrain

Jesus we come to worship You
Jesus we come to lift You high
Jesus we come to honor You with our lives

Father we come to You humbly
Recognizing Your infinite glory
Jesus we're so grateful for Your sacrifice
Spirit we ask You to fill us
To come in and change us and move us
To carry our mortal worship to the divine (*to refrain*)

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
we confess how easy it is for us to begin to adopt
the attitudes and actions of the world around us;
to let our lives be shaped by contemporary culture
rather than by Your call.
Lord, in Your mercy, **hear and forgive.**

We confess how often we think of our own interests first—
more concerned with our own status and well-being
than with the well-being of others.
Lord, in Your mercy, **hear and forgive.**

We confess that we have not always treated one another
as valued members of Your Body, the Church;
that we have allowed intolerance and resentment to tear us apart.
Lord, in Your mercy, **hear and forgive.**

We confess that we do not always acknowledge You as Lord,
trusting in our own abilities and following our own goals
rather than submitting ourselves to Your will and Your call.
Lord, in Your mercy, **hear and forgive.**

Through the power of Your Holy Spirit, transform us.
Change us from the inside out,
so that our words and our lives would bring honour and glory to You,
our Savior and Lord...

Assurance of Pardon

One: ...Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Response

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”
ST. ANNE

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, 5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. 6 We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; 7 ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; 8 the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Running In Circles

Hymn #435

“We All Are One in Mission”
ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

We all are one in mission,
We all are one in call,
Our varied gifts united
By Christ, the Lord of all.
A single, great commission
Compels us from above
To plan and work together
That all may know Christ's love.

We all are called for service
To witness in God's name;
Our ministries are different,
Our purpose is the same:
To touch the lives of others
By God's surprising grace
So every folk and nation
May feel God's warm embrace.

Now let us be united
And let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel
For God's redeeming word.
We all are one in mission,
We all are one in call,
Our varied gifts united
By Christ, the Lord of all.

Prayers of the People

*After each petition, the Pastor will say, “...Lord, In Your Mercy,”
Respond with “Hear Our Prayer.”*

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Hymn #438

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”
DENNIS

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne
We pour our ardent prayers;

Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
Our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes,
Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil, and pain,
And sin we shall be free;
And perfect love and friendship reign
Through all eternity.

Benediction

Announcements: August 16

Good morning, grace, mercy, and peace in the name of Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Welcome to Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church. We are glad you have chosen to worship with us today. If this is your first-time worshipping with us, welcome and know that during this pandemic we are committed to bringing the church home. Please peruse our website to learn more about how we are remaining connected at this time.

Session Meets Today

Today, August 16th, following worship, the Mount Vernon Church Session will gather for its monthly meeting. There we will continue our deliberate discussions regarding how best to open our campus for church activities. Should any changes to our current structure take place, we will keep you apprised of any developments.

Upcoming Worship/Welcoming Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Over the next several weeks, you will witness a transition through worship. Next Sunday we will celebrate God with another Hymn Sing service. This service will revolve around the Apostles' Creed, so we hope you will join us for that. The following Sunday, I will interview our newest staff member, Associate Pastor Isaac Toney-Schmitt, so you may get to know him and learn more about his background and his vision for ministry. Finally, on Labor Day weekend, you will hear solely from Isaac as he will lead and preach, and I will rest from my labor (Hallelujah!).

Welcome Ryan Sawyer

Next week, you will also meet another person who already has a connection to the MVPC family, but is sharing his gifts in a different way, and that is our Organ Intern, Ryan Sawyer. Ryan is a member of MVPC, and is the son of Doug and Susan Sawyer. He is a talented piano player who recently took up the organ while studying at Brown University. Starting next week, you will hear and see him during worship as he provides the melody to our hymnody.

Mission Update

We want to thank you, once again, for your generosity at this time. This past Sunday at our mission drive thru you gave 534 pounds of food to CAC, 10 laptops/tablets to Los Ninos Primero, and prayed with students, teachers, and parents as they began the school year. The spirit of benevolence is strong at Mount Vernon, so if you would like to join in this culture of compassion, please head over to the giving tab of our website and support our Covid-19 Fund, who just this week sent \$2,000 to the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta's New Church Development Team who is faithfully working with immigrant and refugee communities here in Atlanta as they struggle like so many at this time. We also encourage you to continue to give to the church. Through your giving, we have been able to thrive and feel confident to hire a pastor and an intern, so that we can continue to carry out our mission to serve God and serve neighbor.

Prayer Concerns

Let us also remain in prayer. For the world, our country, our state, and our city. We especially think of those closest to us at MVPC. Please be in prayer for Yvonne White. One of our staff members, Yvonne found out this week that three of her family members, including her father and sister, have contracted Covid-19. Thankfully, they are all improving at this time. Let us also remain in prayer for Gail Williams, Inez Cole, Iva Corbin (who is recovering from a fall and doing much better), and so many others who go unnamed but are on our hearts. Let us also remain in prayer for our students, teachers, and parents as they return to school. We pray especially for those whom we share space with here on the Mount Vernon campus. And now let us, under the guise of a peaceful God, prepare our hearts and minds to worship...