



## MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Online Order of Worship

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### Greetings and Welcome

### Prayer of Invocation

### Call to Worship

Settle in,  
Gather close,  
Rest easy,  
Breathe deeply,  
Recognize yourself,  
Open toward God.  
God is all around us,  
Let us worship!

### Hymn #466

### “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

AZMON

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
My dear Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of God's grace!

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.

Christ breaks the power of reigning sin,  
And sets the prisoner free;  
Christ's blood can make the sinful clean,  
Christ's blood availed for me.

My gracious Master and my God,  
Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad  
The honors of Thy name.

### Prayer of Confession

Almighty God,  
you love us, but we have not loved you;  
you call, but we have not listened.  
We walk away from neighbors in need,  
wrapped up in our own concerns.  
We have gone along with evil,  
with pride, quarrelling, and divisiveness.

Holy God, help us to face up to ourselves,  
so that, as you move toward us in mercy,  
we may repent, turn to you, and receive mercy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **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**

**John 6:16-24**

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, 17 got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. 18 The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. 19 When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” 21 Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

22 The next day the crowd that had stayed on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there. They also saw that Jesus had not got into the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. 23 Then some boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. 24 So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

**One:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God!

#### **Sermon**

*God On the Move*

#### **“Step By Step”**

O God You are my God  
And I will ever praise You  
O God You are my God  
And I will ever praise You  
I will seek You in the morning  
And I will learn to walk in Your ways  
And step by step You'll lead me  
And I will follow You all of my days

## **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 #510**

### **"Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts"**

QUEBEC

Jesus, Thou Joy of loving hearts,  
Thou Fount of life, Thou Light of all,  
From the best bliss that earth imparts  
We turn, unfilled, to heed Thy call.

Our restless spirits yearn for Thee,  
Where'er our changeful lot is cast,  
Glad when Thy gracious smile we see,  
Blest when our faith can hold Thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay,  
Make all our moments calm and bright;  
O chase the night of sin away,  
Shed o'er the world Thy holy light.

## **Benediction**

## Announcements Transcript for September 6th, 2020

Good morning! How wonderful it is for you to be there and for me to be here, and yet, we are together. Welcome to Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church. We are happy to have you. During this season we want to bring the church home to you, whether you are here in the Atlanta metro area or if you are on the other side of the country, or you are my immediate family who are all over the Mount Vernon Facebook page. We long to connect with you. Each day we offer Mount Vernon Moments on our Facebook page and every Tuesday we hold our phone devotionals at 2pm. Adult Sunday School classes meet each Sunday morning and our Small Groups will return next month for their fall gatherings. Look out for an announcement from David Hill in next week's worship service about how to connect with a small group this Fall.

As for a Covid 19 update... we have new protocols for outdoor gatherings here at Mount Vernon. All church groups may reserve an outdoor space on the church campus where no more than 15 people may gather, wearing masks, and sitting at least 6 feet apart. Please contact the church office or email Debbie Nysewander to make a reservation.

We are in the midst of Labor Day weekend, but next Sunday, September 13th, Barrett and I will begin our fall sermon series, Living the Questions. During this series, we will examine the questions that have arisen during this pandemic and wonder together where is God in this season defined by uncertainty and pain, but also hope in unexpected places. Additionally, we will celebrate the sacrament of communion next Sunday. Come ready with your bread and wine of choice, and please send us pictures of your home communion set-up.

Thank you for your continued generosity in giving toward the Covid-19 relief fund. To date, we have received more than \$55,000 dollars and have dispersed more than \$45,000 of those dollars to partner organizations. Thank you! Please also consider giving to the church at this time. Through your benevolence, we can continue in our mission to serve Christ and neighbor through vibrant worship, Christian Education, and missional outreach. If you would like to give, please head over to the giving page on our church website.

Finally, let us open ourselves to concerns and prayers. We pray for those who are hurting and lamenting, those isolated from family and friends, those worried and anxious, and everyone whose life has shifted during this Covid 19 pandemic. Please continue to celebrate and pray with the family of Charlie Gray as his newborn grandson, Will, continues to improve in health and is now home from the NICU. Please extend your prayers to Brent Schweiger, whose father recently died. Please keep the family of Pat Yost, who died earlier this week, in your prayers. Pat faithfully served this congregation as an office administrator for Rev. Rick Summers. Please also be in prayer for members Dave Whitaker, Clarice Elder, Louise Lord, Kirk Pumphrey, Julie Chesnutt, and Inez Cole. We also pray for those requests that go unnamed as well as those beyond our walls: our schools, teachers, parents, and health care workers. We pray for everyone impacted by Hurricane Laura. Finally, we pray for unity in our country. Let us continue to listen, to learn, to pray, and to work for peace. May we all recognize God in our neighbor and challenge ourselves to lift up the fullness of life for everyone, no matter their race.

Now in that spirit, let us prepare our hearts to worship God...