



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Online Order of Worship
Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
October 11th, 2020

Greetings and Welcome

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship

Marguerite Nelson

Now is the time to praise,
and now is the time to imagine.

Join us!

Now is the time to create,
and now is the time to connect.

Join us!

Now is the time to remember our God.

Join in, and let's worship God!

Hymn #487

"When Morning Gilds the Skies" LAUDES DOMINI

When morning gilds the skies,
My heart awaking cries:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer
To Jesus I repair:
May Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind?
A solace here I find:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Or fades my earthly bliss?
My comfort still is this:
May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine,
My canticle divine:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this the eternal song
Through all the ages long:
May Jesus Christ be praised!

Prayer of Confession

Marguerite Nelson

Creator God, all things abide in and through you. Nothing was, nothing is, and nothing will be apart from you. We have heard this in story and in shared experience, but we struggle to remember it. Instead, we rest our faith in human institutions and ignore you. We willingly promote competition over compassion. We rely on systems of inequality. We nurture daily idols that distract us from your hope. We fail to see your kingdom that bends us all toward justice. Oh God, reveal to us the true source of the world around us. Call us each out by name and reveal to us our role in your world. Redeem us in your mercy and truth. 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

Colossians 1:15-23

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; 16 for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

21 And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, 22 he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him— 23 provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

*Living the Questions:
How Does God's Plan Fit In with the World's Policies?*

Hymn #343

“Called as Partners in Christ's Service”

BEECHER

Called as partners in Christ's service
Called to ministries of grace
We respond with deep commitment
Fresh new lines of faith to trace
May we learn the art of sharing
Side by side and friend with friend
Equal partners in our caring
To fulfil God's chosen end

Christ's example Christ's inspiring
Christ's clear call to work and worth
Let us follow never faltering
Reconciling folk on earth

Men and women richer poorer
All God's people young and old
Blending human skills together
Gracious gifts from God unfold

So God grant us for tomorrow
Ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow
With a calm that conquers strife
Make us partners in our living
Our compassion to increase
Messengers of faith thus giving
Hope and confidence and peace

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.

"Thy Word"

Refrain

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path

When I feel afraid
And I think I've lost my way
Still You're there right beside me
Nothing will I fear
As long as You are near
Please be near me to the end (*to refrain*)

I will not forget
Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering
Jesus be my guide
And hold me to Your side
I will love You to the end (*to refrain*)

Benediction

Announcements Transcript

Good morning. Grace, mercy, and peace in the name of Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Welcome to Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church. We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us this day. Please take a moment now if you are watching on our website to fill out our virtual friendship pad. We look forward to connecting with you as we continue to bring the church home in this season.

Last week, we celebrated our first outdoor worship service on the lawn of the MVPC campus and it was a wonderful experience. We want to thank all of you who attended for adhering to Covid protocols. We will have three more of these services: Oct. 18, Nov. 1, and Nov. 15. After that your worship ministry team and Session will gather to determine next steps. If you are comfortable, please sign-up to reserve your spot for these services on our website or simply call the church office.

Next Sunday, at our Outdoor Service, we will celebrate our 4 confirmands: Sam Nelson, Anna Barber, Nathan Peji, and Sage Allen as they become full communicants in the church of Jesus Christ. We hope you will join us either via livestream right here, or in person. During this service, you are invited to bring food items to benefit the Community Assistance Center.

Please go on to our website or social media pages to learn more about how you can connect with the church at this time. Feel free to contact us should you like to know more or wish to speak with a pastor on staff.

We continue to be amazed and thankful for the generosity you have shown during this season. Please continue to support our Covid-19 relief fund as well as the church's general fund. Because of your benevolence we have been able to continue in our mission of service and to reimagine what it means to be the church at this time.

Finally, let us continue to be in prayer for all those affected by the pandemic. We especially lift up our political leaders and essential workers at this time. Please also be in prayer for Eleanor Brazell and Elizabeth Small as they remain in the hospital or rehab facilities. We also pray for Barbara Hughes as she recovers from a broken arm, as well as Julie Chesnutt, Kirk Pumphrey as he has returned home, welcome back, Kirk. Please also continue to be in prayer for the family of Clarice Elder. Her memorial service will be held Sunday, November 1st at 3pm. Because of the pandemic, we will livestream the service for those who cannot attend. We lift all of these concerns and those that go unnamed to God.

And now in that spirit of prayer, let us prepare our hearts to worship God.