



## MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Online Order of Worship  
Third Sunday After the Epiphany  
January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### — GATHERING —

**Welcome & Announcements**

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

**Prayer of Invocation**

**Call to Worship**

Jeannie Lee

The invitation is given to every person, "Come to me! Follow me! Be my disciples!"

**We come to this place, to this time, at the invitation of Jesus Christ.**

In the name of Christ,

**as his disciples, we worship and praise God.**

Come let us worship together

**and share our witness of God's living presence in the world.**

**Hymn**

**"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"**

**CORONATION**

All hail the power of Jesus' Name!

Let angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown Him Lord of all!

Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown Him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe,

On this terrestrial ball,

To Him all majesty ascribe,

And crown Him Lord of all!

To Him all majesty ascribe,

And crown Him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng

We at His feet may fall!

We'll join the everlasting song,

And crown Him Lord of all!

We'll join the everlasting song,

And crown Him Lord of all!

**Prayer of Confession**

Merciful and loving God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling to proclaim the good news in word and deed. We are quick to speak when we ought to listen and remain silent when it is time to speak. We put too much faith in our own actions and fail to trust the strength of your spirit. O God, forgive our sinful ways. Strengthen us anew to follow Christ's way in the world. By your Holy Spirit, give us the grace we need to be faithful disciples and fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior...Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

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

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

## 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.

## — THE WORD —

## Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

## Scripture

John 1:43-51

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” 44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” 46 Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” 47 When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” 48 Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” 49 Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” 50 Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” 51 And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

## Sermon

*Energy, Intelligence, Imagination, and Love*

## Hymn

### “The Summons”

KELVINGROVE

Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown  
in you and you in me?  
  
Will you leave yourself behind  
if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer  
in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in you and you in me.

— **RESPONSE** —

**Prayers of the People**

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

**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.

— **SENDING** —

**Song**

**"You're Worthy of Our Praise"**

We will worship  
With all of our hearts  
We will praise You  
With all of our strength

We will seek You  
All of our days  
We will follow  
All of Your ways

*Refrain*

We will give You all of our worship  
We will give You all of our praise  
You alone we long to worship  
You alone are worthy of our praise

We will bow down  
And hail You as King  
We will serve You  
Give You everything

We will lift up  
Our eyes to Your throne  
We will trust You  
Trust You alone (*to refrain*)

**Benediction**

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

## **Announcements**

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 today.

### **Zoom Ordination**

If you are watching this on Sunday morning, January 24<sup>th</sup>, we hope you will stay with us because right at noon we will go live via Zoom to celebrate the ordination and installation of our new church elders: Angie Hawthorne, Amy Kiley, and Youth Elder Ben Barber. We had hoped to do this in-person, but as we shared last week, we are pausing our in-person worship services through the month of February. Next month, we will reevaluate this decision and hope that, should the weather and viral cases trend downward, we will return to our outdoor services in March.

### **Installation of Returning Elders**

In addition to Angie, Amy, and Ben, we also celebrated the installation of current church elders David Barclift, Joy Carden, and Charlie Gray. David, Joy, and Charlie are currently on Session and humbly agreed to serve additional years, we are grateful for their leadership and the continuity of leadership they will provide the church at this time.

### **Session Retreat Notes**

This installation took place yesterday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> during our annual Session retreat. I can tell you we met via Zoom and were able to discuss plans and ideas for the upcoming year and beyond. We look forward to sharing those ideas with you in the day, weeks, and months to come. This also marked the last meeting for Elders Wit and Mackenzie Truitt, Bryce Cumming, and Donna Neumann. We are grateful to each of them for their service and leadership through this unique time.

### **Worship Highlights in February**

Next month we will have several services for you to look forward to:

On February 10<sup>th</sup>, we will hold our monthly Taizé service and this one will be unique in that we will also burn the palm leaves that we will use for Ash Wednesday as we prepare for the season of Lent. Look for more information about that service this coming week.

On February 21<sup>st</sup>, we will hold our annual Youth Sunday service which will coincide with the first Sunday of Lent and mark the beginning of six word stories of faith. If you have not yet sent your six word story to Debbie or me, you still have time. Isaac and I are getting together this coming week to plan this sermon series, so the more stories we get from you, the better. If you are unsure about what to do, the prompt is simple: in six words, tell us your faith story.

### **Other Ways to Connect**

Please also feel free to connect to the church. Our adult Sunday school class is still meeting each morning prior to worship and our Stephen Ministers are always ready to pray and speak with you, please contact the church office and let us know how we can support you at this time.

### **Prayer Concerns**

Finally, let us be in prayer. We lift up our country and President Biden as he begins his term and we hope for healing and unity. We also continue to be in prayer for those affected by the coronavirus. I know several of our members have recently contracted Covid-19 and we are thankful that we have not heard of any severe complications. We pray for continued recovery for all of you. We also lift up many in our church who are dealing with the loss of a loved one, the recuperation of various ailments, as well prayers of praise for hope and healing. If you would like to join us in weekly prayer, please reach out to the church office, to learn how you can get connected to our Prayer Vine so we can support one another through the gift of prayer.

And in that spirit, let us go to God in prayer as we prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.