



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Outdoor Order of Worship ✠ 90.5 FM On-Campus Broadcast

Third Sunday in Lent

March 7th, 2021

— GATHERING —

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Come sons and daughters,
mothers and fathers,
sisters and brothers and aunts!

Come grandmas and grandpas,
uncles and nephews,
nieces and neighbors and friends!

Christ calls us together as parts of one Body,
for worship and service and praise!

Let's worship God together!

Song

"Light the Fire"

I stand to praise you
But I fall to my knees
My spirit is willing
But my flesh is so weak

Refrain

So light the fire in my soul
Fan the flame make me whole
Lord you know where I've been
So light the fire in my heart again

I feel your arms around me
As the power of your healing begins
Your spirit runs through me
Like a mighty rushing wind (*to refrain*)

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Merciful God, in the old creed we confess that we believe in "the communion of saints and the forgiveness of sins," so it is appropriate that we confess and ask forgiveness of the sins we make with the communion of saints present, past, and future. For we confess of the sins of the past. The sins that have shaped our world and instilled inequity and injustice. The sins of the present that fail to correct wrongs and maintain status quos. We confess to the sins we've yet to commit, but will, because we are too arrogant, too stubborn, and too broken. Grant us the courage to move by the work of your Spirit toward a new hope, a new vision, to be a new body of Christ. One thankful for the past, present, and future, but one also ready to see that past, present, and future shine with a Christly light. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

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

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

Response

“Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

— **THE WORD** —

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Scripture

Romans 12:4-13

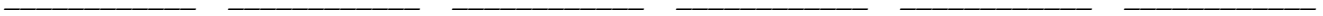
For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, 5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. 6 We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; 7 ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; 8 the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; 10 love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Sermon

Wherever Two or More are Gathered

(During the sermon, you are invited to craft your own 6-Word Story of Faith)



Hymn

“Be Still, My Soul”

FINLANDIA

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide,
who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
to guide the future surely as the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever with the Lord;
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

— RESPONSE —

Affirmation of Faith (*The Apostles' Creed*)

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Rev. Abernethy & Rev. Toney-Schmitt

Invitation to the Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer Over the Elements & *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.

Words of Institution & Communion of the People

Post Communion Prayer

— SENDING —

Hymn

“Blessed Assurance”

ASSURANCE

Blessed assurance: Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels, descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *(to refrain)*

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with His goodness, lost in His love. *(to refrain)*

Benediction

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Leading Today's Worship Service

Rev. Barrett Abernethy: Pastor & Head of Staff
Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt: Associate Pastor of Faith Formation
Matthias Young: Director of Music
Ryan Sawyer: Organist Apprentice

MVPC Announcements....



WELCOME BACK! We are excited to see you back on our campus. Please be assured we are taking all measures to follow the CDC guidelines and ask that you wear a mask. Reservations are required by Sat. evenings at 6:00 p.m. In case of inclement weather, we will cancel the outdoor service and record the service to post on our website. While here, please scan the QR codes using the camera on your smartphone to access the bulletin and also giving your tithes. Here are our next services:

- March 14: Online Service, Matthew 13:10-17, "Great is Thy Faithfulness"; Join the Fellowship Zoom at noon!
- March 21: Outdoor Worship, Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt preaching; Godly Play for children; Annual Meeting following worship
- March 28: Outdoor Palm Sunday Worship; Celebration of Baptism of Jacqueline Nix, granddaughter of Pieter & Amanda Badenhorst

Taize Outdoor Service: Our next service is **March 10** at 6:30 p.m. at Gailey Hall. Reservations on our website are required and space is limited to 15.

Fellowship: All are welcome to join us via Zoon on **March 14** at noon to connect & reconnect!

Annual Meeting of the Congregation: **March 21** immediately following the outdoor service.

Youth Group: We will meet on **March 21 & 28** at 5:00 p.m. at Gailey Hall. Masks required!

Sunday School: The Discovery class meets Sundays at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Weekly Ways to Connect: Tuesday Phone Devotional @ 2:00 p.m., Daily Mount Vernon Moments on Facebook, Children's Sunday School on Mondays at 1:00 p.m. with Carrie Southard via Zoom.

Presbyterian Women: The Day Circle will meet on **March 9**, and Sunday Circle will meet on **March 14**. Sarah Chalpan will lead the bible study, *Lesson 8: Ninth Word: Speak Truthfully*. The Book circle will meet on **March 14** and review *The Hamilton Affair* by Elizabeth Cobbs.

Family Promise: A huge thank you to everyone who signed up! We begin our support week **today thru March 7**. If you would like to drop off grocery cards or gas cards we will still take them. Not only are they used for our families in the program, but they provide much needed help to other families close to becoming homeless. We are always looking for people for support in other ways and our new volunteer coordinator would love to find out who would like to help! If interested, please fill out the online survey that was in the Happenings, or contact Moira Speirs.

Small Groups: Registration for our Spring Small Groups begins today! A table is set-up near the courtyard entrance area where you can check the small group studies that will be offered and also sign-up for your group. Groups often fill-up quickly so be sure to sign-up today or at any of our outdoor worship services this month. You can also get information and sign-up by emailing David Hill. Please stop by the table as you leave worship this morning.

March 7, 2021

Stewardship: The Covid Task Force continues to meet regularly by conference call to evaluate current needs of our ministry partners and discern how to most effectively disperse the funds so generously donated by the congregation. Donations as of March 1 - \$66,385, Disbursements - \$65,471, Balance on Hand - \$914.

Ways to Give Tithes: online, mail, or the QR code.

Liturgists Needed: Please contact Barrett if you are willing to read scripture during our online services.

The Worship Ministry Team is looking for volunteers to serve as Funeral/Memorial Service Coordinators. For questions or more info, contact Malinda Holmes malinda128.holmes@gmail.com or Beppie Lever beppielever@earthlink.net if you are interested.

The MVPC Stephen Ministry: We feel there are people in our church, school community, and neighborhoods around our church who are hurting and we want to help. We are standing here, reaching out with open arms to you. But we have to know who you are. We listen, encourage, help you think options through, bring new ways to approach the problem, and share a Christian perspective and relationship that bolster the spirit. All you share is confidential. Contact Barrett, Isaac, or Pat Barte, Stephen Leader.

March Communion Offering is for Clifton Sanctuary Ministries, a Presbyterian-affiliated homeless shelter serving older men and veterans, most with health issues. Most needed items needed: PineSol & Clorix, cereal, instant oatmeal, instant grits, coffee, sugar, creamer, Styrofoam bowls, lunch bags, & sandwich-size Ziplocks. Items for sack lunches: cookies, chips, granola bars, juice boxes. Also, men's deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, reading glasses, first aid supplies, single bed sheets and pillowcases.

Church Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You can catch Yvonne from 8-noon, and Debbie from noon - 4:00 p.m.

Pastor Office Hours: Barrett, Sundays 3-5 p.m. & Thursdays 8-10 a.m.; Isaac, Tuesdays 8-10 a.m. & Wednesdays Noon - 2 p.m. Please contact them directly to make an appointment.

Do you feel a need for prayer? Have our Prayer Vine pray for you! Email your requests to prayerrequests@mvpchurch.org or call the church office at 404.255.2211.

Prayer Concerns: Julie Chesnutt, Corny Laube, Kirk Pumphrey, John Green who passed away 2/8, Gail Bennett who passed away 2/28

Attendance: January 334 (5 Sundays)

2/7	76
2/14	54
2/21	102
2/28	64



Give Here

Financial Update

February 25-28	Actual	Actual YTD	2021 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$5,995	\$123,367	\$438,290
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 440	\$ 4,310	\$ 70,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 0	\$ 112	\$ 6,000
Total	\$ 6,435	\$127,789	\$ 514,290

If you have any announcements that you would like to appear in the *Happenings*, weekly email, or Good News, please email them to Terri Clayton, terri@mvpchurch.org.