



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship ✠ 90.5 FM

Third Sunday of Easter

April 18th, 2021

— GATHERING —

Prelude

“Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum”

Ryan Sawyer

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Prayer of Invocation

† **Call to Worship**

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

O Divine Voice,

You sing and the universe comes into being;

O Divine Breath,

You breathe and all things spring to life;

O Divine Word,

You call and creation is sustained;

O Divine Flesh,

You are born among us,

and the Creator is clothed in creation;

O Divine Spirit,

You fill all that has been formed;

O Divine Life,

You are the pulse of all that is.

And so, in amazement and awe, in wonder and celebration

we marvel at this mystery:

In you all things live and move and have being,

In all things, you live and move and express your Divine artistry;

And so we join with creation

in the eternal song of worship and wonder...

Hymn

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Matthias Young

DIX

For the beauty of the earth, For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth Over and around us lies.
Lord of all, to Thee we raise, This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, Sun and moon, and stars of light.
Lord of all, to Thee we raise, This our hymn of grateful praise.

For Thy Church, that evermore Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore Her pure sacrifice of love.
Lord of all, to Thee we raise, This our hymn of grateful praise.

† **Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Eternal God,
Creator of all that is,
In you we live and move and have our being.
You have placed us on earth
and sustained our being through the produce of the land
and the cleanness of the air we breathe.
You have made us for each
to tend and care for the weak
and ensure a just sharing of the earth's resources.
But we are part of a proud and hard-hearted people
who hoard what the earth provides
and seem loath to share the fruits of our labours,
who live for today with little thought for tomorrow
who are afraid to let pain and suffering affect us.
Spirit of God
open our hearts and minds
that we may grasp your forgiveness,
and forgiven seek to forgive others
and to live a life of reconciling love
modelled on the example of Jesus Christ
in whose name we make this prayer...

Assurance of Pardon

Response

**“Alleluia”
VICTORY**

Matthias Young

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Passing of the Peace (*in a sacredly distant fashion*)

— **THE WORD** —

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Scripture

Genesis 2:4b-9, 18-24

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, 5 when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; 6 but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— 7 then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. 8 And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. 9 Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

18 Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." 19 So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. 20 The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. 21 So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. 22 And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 23 Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken."

24 Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Homily

The Mighty Mycorrhiza

Hymn

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Matthias Young

ROYAL OAK

Refrain

All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful: The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, Each little bird that sings:
God made their glowing colors, God made their tiny wings. *(to refrain)*

The cold wind in the winter, The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one. *(to refrain)*

God gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty, Who has made all things well. *(to refrain)*

— 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.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

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 —

Hymn

“O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright”

Matthias Young

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

O splendor of God’s glory bright, From light eternal bringing light;
Thou light of life, light’s living spring, True day, all days illumining.

Come, Holy Sun of heavenly love, Shower down Thy radiance from above,
And to our inward hearts convey The Holy Spirit’s cloudless ray.

O Lord, with each returning morn Thine image to our hearts is born;
O may we ever clearly see Our Savior and our God in Thee!

Benediction

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Postlude

“Cumulonimbus”

by Ryan Sawyer

*We thank you for worshipping with us today.
If you are so moved and would like to give a tithe or offering,
there are collection boxes on the table where you entered the courtyard.*

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



Congregational Poll

Would you be comfortable potentially starting indoor services in late May with the protocols mentioned in the top of the announcements? Please circle:

YES

NO

MVPC Announcements....



Congregation Poll: The Worship Ministry Team is asking that you participate in a poll to determine the congregation's comfort for worshipping indoors. Please go to the back of the bulletin to participate in our poll. We will follow all protocols with a max of 80 people (10% capacity), masks worn at all times, social distancing, we encourage no congregational singing, and reservations will be required.

Welcome! 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.

Visitor Info: We want to thank you for coming today. If you would like to learn more about who we are, please go to our website: mvpchurch.org, contact our church office at **404.255.2211**, or speak with one of our pastors after the service.

Ushers Needed! Starting in May we will worship in person every Sunday. To prevent exhaustion, we will need teams of 3-4 ushers to alternate Sundays. If you are interested in becoming an usher (no experience required), please contact Wendy Hagenau, Dale Morine, Amy Kiley or contact the church office.

How We Are Responding to Covid-19: 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 April 13 - \$80,882, Disbursements - \$77,471, Balance on Hand - \$3,411. You can give online or make a check payable to MVP Foundation and designate it for Covid-19.

Upcoming Services: Rev. Barrett Abernethy will be preaching. Reservations for all outdoor services need to be made by the previous Saturday at 6:00 p.m.

- April 25: Online Worship (11:00) - "Doubting Thomas", John 20:19-31
- May 2: Outdoor Worship(11:00) - Senior Recognition, Judges 12: 1-6
- May 9: Outdoor Worship (11:00) - Mother's Day, Mark 7: 24-30
- May 16: Outdoor Worship (11:00) - Ascension of the Lord, Luke 24: 44-53

Taize Outdoor Service: Our next service, due to a weather delay, is **April 21** at 7:30 p.m. at Gailey Hall. Reservations on our website are required and space is limited to 25.

Sunday School: The Discovery class meets Sundays at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. Barrett & Isaac will lead a class starting in June focusing on sermons they have written.

Youth: We will meet again on today & April 25 at Top Golf.

Weekly Ways to Connect: Tuesday Phone Devotional @ 2:00 p.m., Daily Mount Vernon Moments on Facebook, Children's Sunday School on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. with Carrie Southard via Zoom.

April 18, 2021

Presbyterian Women: The Day Circle met on April 13 and the Sunday Circle met on April 11. Pat Davis taught Lesson 9: "Don't Fixate on What You Don't Have". The Book Circle met on April 9 and reviewed *Ordinary Grace* by William Krueger.

Small Groups: Groups are off to a great start! There's still time to sign up. You can get information and sign-up by emailing David Hill at david.hill321@comcast.net.

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: Still feeling uncertain, even with glimmers of hope in this pandemic? Have an unrelated hard time you are experiencing? Feel like no one hears your hurt? Then a Stephen Ministry one-on-one and confidential relationship may be for you! We will listen, ask questions to help you think deeper and find clarity, be dependable and constant in your life as things around you are falling apart, offer you scriptural comfort and prayer, help you find alternative solutions, and suggest resources. We are temporary companions who ride with you through the roughest part of your journey and see you to safe shores. Contact a minister or Pat Bartee, Stephen Leader, to get connected.

The April Communion Offering is for the International Women's House, a homeless shelter for refugee and immigrant women and their children who are the victims of domestic abuse. For more information on the shelter, please go online to: internationalwomenshouse.org. Most needed items include: paper towels, bathroom tissue, Kleenex, laundry and dish detergent, non-perishable foods (especially cereal and oatmeal), child friendly snacks (juice boxes, fruit cups, granola bars, etc.), diapers - all sizes, women's and children's new underwear - all sizes. Donations may be brought to any in-person worship service in April or dropped off in the bin outside the entrance to the office at the church. Thank you for your generosity.

Church Office Hours: We are back to our regular hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Pastor Office Hours: Barrett, Monday-Friday 8-noon; Isaac, Tuesday-Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 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, Hazel Cofield, Corny Laube, Kirk Pumphrey

Ways to Give Tithes: Online, Mail, the QR code, or give in our "Donations" drop boxes at the check-in table.

Attendance: 4/1 Maundy Thursday: 10 (drive-in), 23 (online)
4/4 29 (Easter Sunrise), 146 (outdoor), 79 (online)
4/11 83 (online)

Giving



Financial Update

April 8-15	Actual	Actual YTD	2021 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$17,675	\$183,371	\$438,290
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 330	\$ 7,860	\$ 70,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 90	\$ 522	\$ 6,000
Total	\$18,095	\$191,753	\$ 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.