



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 4, 2021 ✠ 10:00 AM

† *For those who are able, please stand.*

✠ GATHERING ✠

INTROIT

“Kyrie”

Matthias Young

Matthias Young

PRELUDE

“Crazy Quilt”

Ryan Sawyer

Patrick Zimmerli

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

† CALL TO WORSHIP (BASED ON PSALM 33)

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

ONE: Come rejoice, all you who love and serve the Lord! Sing songs and hymns of praise;
celebrate together in God's presence! For the word of the Lord holds true forever,
and everything he does is worthy of our trust.

ALL: Let all the earth stand in awe of our God, for he spoke, and the world came into being;
he breathed, and the heavens were born.

ONE: God shatters the plans of the nations, and frustrates all their schemes.

ALL: But the plans of our Maker stand firm forever; his intentions are unshakeable.

ONE: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, whose people are known by his name.

ALL: Let your unfailing love surround us, O God, for our hope is in you alone.

† HYMN #561 (v. 1, 3, 4)

“My Country, 'Tis of Thee”

AMERICA

My country, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died, Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside, Let freedom ring!

Let music swell the breeze, And ring from all the trees, Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake; Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break, The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of liberty, To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King.

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION (BASED ON ISAIAH 2:4-5)

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

Eternal God, before you nations rise and fall,
Help us to repent our country's wrongs,
and to choose your way of reunion and renewal.
Great God, renew this nation.

Give us a glimpse of the Kingdom you are bringing to earth,
where death and violence and hunger will be no more,
and where all nations gather in the light of your presence.
Great God, renew this nation.

Teach us peace,
that we may plow up battlefields
and pound weapons into building tools,
and learn to talk across old boundaries
as brothers and sisters in your love.
Great God, renew this nation.

Talk sense to us,
so that we may wisely end all prejudices,
and may put a stop to injustice and cruelty,
which divides or wounds the human family.
Great God, renew this nation.

Draw us together as one people who do your will,
so that we may be a light to our nation,
leading the way to your promised kingdom,
which is even now coming among us.
Great God, renew this nation.

Great God, eternal Lord,
show us there is no law or liberty apart from you;
and let us serve you whole-heartedly, as your devoted followers,
through Christ our Lord.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: ...In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† 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.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

(All children 5th grade and younger are invited to come forward for storytelling and prayer.)

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

(Please greet each other with the peace of Christ, in a manner comfortable for one another.)

✠ THE WORD ✠

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Abernethy

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 14:1-12

HOMILY

Interdependence Day

✠ RESPONSE ✠

† HYMN

"It is God Who Holds the Nations"

BATTLE HYMN

It is God who holds the nations in the hollow of his hand;
It is God whose light is shining in the darkness of the land;
It is God who builds his City on the Rock and not on sand;
May the living God be praised!

It is God whose purpose summons us to use the present hour;
Who recalls us to our senses when a nation's life turns sour;
In the discipline of freedom we shall know his saving power:
May the living God be praised!

God reminds us every sunrise that the world is ours on lease—
For the sake of life tomorrow, may our love for it increase;
May all races live together, share its riches, be at peace:
May the living God be praised!

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*The Apostles' Creed*)

Rev. 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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ONE: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

ONE: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

ALL: 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

OFFERTORY

“Wild Mountain Thyme”
Arr. by Scott Tennant (b. 1962)

Matthias Young

† DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”
OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Abernethy

✠ SENDING ✠

† HYMN #564 (v. 1, 2, 4)

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”
MATERNA

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet, Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat Across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam, Undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

† POSTLUDE

“Royal March of the Lion”
Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

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 plates in the Narthex as you exit.*

Leading Today's Worship Service

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Senior Pastor
Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor
Matthias Young, Director of Music
Ryan Sawyer, Organist Apprentice



Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church
471 Mount Vernon Hwy, NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30328
mvpchurch.org

MVPC Announcements....



We have a new mailing address!
P.O. Box 76051, Sandy Springs, GA 30358
(please note a different zip code)

Welcome! Please be assured we are taking all measures to follow the CDC guidelines. We encourage you to follow the CDC's guidance to keep your mask on if you are not fully vaccinated. If you are able, please get vaccinated.

Visitor Info: 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.

Membership: If you are interested in joining MVP Church, please talk to one of the pastors after the service.



Called Congregational Meeting: On **Sunday, July 25** we will meet to vote on selling a small portion of MVPC property to the City of Sandy Springs to make improvements on Mount Vernon Highway.

4 Ways to Give Tithes: Online, Mail, QR code in the pew, or give in our "Donations" drop boxes in the narthex.

Upcoming Services:

July 11 Acts 9:1-10, "On the Road", Rev. Barrett Abernethy

July 18 Exodus 16:1-3, John 7:37-39, "We Go Outside", Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt



Greeters, Ushers, Drivers, & A/V Helpers Needed: Contact the church office if you would like to help out with worship.



Nursery Help: We need help to work in the nursery on Sunday mornings. If interested, please contact Yvonne by calling 404.255.2211.

 **Family Promise** We need people to sign up for overnight hosts between July 4 – July 17.
Sign up here: mvpchurch.org/serve/

Meeting Space: As programs and activities are returning to "normal", please let us know if you need meeting space. Send an email to debbie@mvpchurch.org.



Office Closed on Monday, July 5 in observance of Independence Day.

July 4, 2021

Taize Service will resume in August – in the narthex!

Godly Play will resume in August.

Sunday School: The Discovery class will meet **July 4** at 11:00 a.m. after the service in the Session Room. Barrett & Isaac will lead our class in June & July focusing on sermons they have written.

Weekly Ways to Connect: Tuesday Phone Devotional @ 2:00 p.m., Facebook, Instagram, weekly *Happenings*

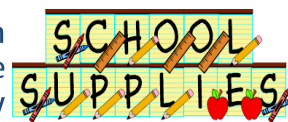


The MVPC Members' Gift of Wisdom Spring/Summer issue is available in the narthex. If you haven't already done so, please pick one up on your way out.



The MVPC Stephen Ministry: If you or a friend could use an encouraging and compassionate listener, please call on our church's skilled and caring Stephen Ministry. In a one-on-one confidential relationship, they can help you travel, and often transform a difficult road to an easily-traversed journey. Call or email our ministers or Pat Barte, Stephen Leader, to set up your first visit.

The July Communion Offering is school supplies for Stirred-Up Ministries, a youth enrichment program in the East Lake area of Atlanta, and for the Teacher's Supply Closet at the Community Assistance Center (CAC) which provides school supplies for local teachers to distribute to their economically disadvantaged students. School supplies for students of all ages from kindergarten through high school are needed. Donations may be brought to the worship service in July or dropped off in the bin outside the church office at any time. A list of requested supplies is listed in the weekly *Happenings*. Thank you for your generosity!



Staff Update: We celebrate the time that Terri Clayton has been on staff as our Communications Coordinator and thank her for her dedication to MVPC. Going forward, Debbie Nysewander has taken on the task of including all communications in addition to her regular duties as our Administrative Assistant. Please direct all communication needs to debbie@mvpchurch.org.

Pastor Office Hours: Barrett, Monday–Friday 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.; Isaac, Tuesday–Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Please contact them directly to make an appointment.

Prayer Concerns: Anne Baynham, Julie Chesnutt, Bruce Hagenau, Corny Laube, Richard Player, Kirk Pumphrey, Dave Whitacre

Attendance: 6/27 74(Sanctuary), 38(online)

Giving



Financial Update

June 24-30	Actual	Actual YTD	2021 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$5,252	\$276,815	\$438,290
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 510	\$ 15,731	\$ 70,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 85	\$ 5,729	\$ 6,000
Total	\$5,847	\$298,275	\$ 514,290

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