



# MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 ✠ 10:30 AM

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

## ✠ GATHERING ✠

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PRELUDE

**“Amazing Grace/Peaceful, Easy Feeling”**  
John Newton (1725-1807) & Jack Tempchin

Matthias Young

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

ONE: We are here!

ALL: **Back at the Courtyard!**

ONE: We are here not by necessity!

ALL: **We are here to celebrate! To kickoff the fall season together!**

ONE: We do that with faithful character.

ALL: **The character that has inspired our faith to grow and persevere in this season.**

ONE: We are here to learn and grow as Timothy did.

ALL: **We are here because we belong to God and long to be equipped for every good work!**

**Let us worship God!**

† MORNING SONG

**“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”**

Rick Founds

Lord I lift Your name on high

Lord I love to sing Your praises

I'm so glad You're in my life

I'm so glad You came to save us

*Refrain*

You came from heaven to earth

To show the way

From the earth to the cross

My debt to pay

From the cross to the grave

From the grave to the sky

Lord I lift Your name on high

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

God of All Generations, in your Word revealed, the Apostle Paul tells Timothy to "continue in what you have learned, and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it." As we gather this day, striving to live into the same instruction, we know we fall short. We ask you, Merciful Lord, to forgive us for not living into what we have been taught, and forgive us for not unlearning that which is harmful. We know that through your son, Jesus Christ, the author and perfecter of our faith, that we are called to continuously grow, and to develop the character necessary to live out such faith. Lead us by your example. Lead us by the example you showed Timothy, so we may grow and future generations may continue to learn of your righteousness. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† RESPONSE

"Glory to God"

GLORIA (Taizé)

*(Cantor will sing the verse, followed by the congregation.)*

Glory to God

Glory to God

Glory in the highest

Glory to God

Glory to God

Alleluia

Alleluia

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 ✠

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Abernethy

SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 3:10-17

HOMILY

*Faithful Character: Timothy*

## ✠ RESPONSE ✠

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### † SONG IN RESPONSE

“Light the Fire”

Bill Maxwell

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  
Oh 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*)

### † 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.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. 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.

### OFFERTORY

“Take Up Your Cross”  
Guardian

Matthias Young

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

John Hibbard

✠ SENDING ✠

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† SONG FOR DISMISSAL

“Step By Step”

David Strasser

O God You are my God  
And I will ever praise You  
O God You are my God  
And I will ever praise You  
I will seek You in the morning  
And I will learn to walk in Your ways  
And step by step You'll lead me  
And I will follow You all of my days

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

POSTLUDE

“Improvisation in D”

Matthias Young

Matthias Young



*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 as you exit.*

Leading Today's Worship Service

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

We are located at  
471 Mount Vernon Hwy, NE  
Sandy Springs, GA 30328  
[mvpchurch.org](http://mvpchurch.org)



Our mailing address is  
P.O. Box 76051  
Sandy Springs, GA 30358

# MVPC Announcements....



**Welcome!** Updated Covid Protocols – In light of new CDC recommendations, we are strongly encouraging all people, whether vaccinated or not, wear a mask if they worship or if they engage in any indoor ministry gathering.

**Visitors & Membership:** Please go to our website: [mvpchurch.org](http://mvpchurch.org), contact our church office at **404.255.2211**, or speak with one of our pastors after the service. If you are interested in joining MVP Church, please talk to one of the pastors after the service.

## Upcoming Services:



September 19  
September 26

James 2:1-9, "Faithful Character: James", Rev. Barrett Abernethy  
Judges 4:1-9, "Faithful Character: Deborah",  
Rev. Barrett Abernethy

**Youth:** We are going to the Braves game **today**. We typically meet on Sunday from 5-6:30pm at Gailey Hall. We provide dinner, activity, and a lesson for the youth. We do need volunteers to provide dinners. Please contact Isaac to sign up.

**Fall Kickoff:** Today after **outdoor** worship service!

**Fall Outdoor Worship Services:** September 12, October 3, November 14



Join us on Sunday, September 19 after the service for lunch and to welcome our seminary intern, Shari Freeman. Shari is currently a middler (2nd) year student at Columbia Seminary.



**Small Groups:** It's time to sign up for small groups! The sign-up is in the narthex or send an email to [David.hill321@comcast.net](mailto:David.hill321@comcast.net) to get information or sign-up. Small groups will begin **Sunday, Sept. 26**.

**September 12, 2021**



**Adult Sunday School:** The Discovery class will meet today after the service in the Session room.

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

**Presbyterian Women:** Welcome back! We start this month with **CT** (9/7 @ 10 in Chapel); **Book Circle** (9/10 @ 10 in Session Room); **Circle of Grace** (9/19 at 6:30pm at Beppie Lever's house). The **PW Gifts of Wisdom** newsletter is now available in the Narthex. **PW Retreat** will be Sunday, September 26 at 11:45am in the Kirk Center.

**The MVPC Members' Gift of Wisdom** Fall issue is now available in the narthex. Be sure to pick one up.

**Afghanistan Refugee Outreach:** We are working with Memorial Drive Ministries, a PCUSA non-profit in Clarkston to support the effort to help with the Afghanistan refugees coming to the metro Atlanta area. If you would like to help, please bring a **complete Welcome Kit** packed in a box or bag with a label "Refugees" to the church by **Friday, October 1** and we will get it to them. Thank you as always for your donations!



**The September Communion Offering** will be for the Food Pantry at the Community Assistance Center (CAC). Most needed items include: canned fruits & vegetables, canned meats (chicken, tuna, ham), canned meat entrees (beef stew, chili, chicken & dumplings), cereal/oatmeal, peanut butter, soup, canned pastas and spaghetti sauce, rice, macaroni & cheese, instant mashed potatoes, dry or evaporated milk, child-friendly snacks (fruit cups, applesauce, granola bars, etc.). Donations may be brought to any worship service in September or dropped off in the outreach bin outside the church office at any time. Thank you for your generosity.

**Prayer Concerns:** Ann Addison, Anne Baynham, Julie Chesnutt, Inez Cole, Iva Corbin, Bruce Hagenau, Catie O'Hare, Kirk Pumphrey, Kirby Smith, Dave Whitacre

**Attendance:** 9/5 62(Sanctuary), 21(online)

*Giving*



## Financial Update

September 1-8	Actual	Actual YTD	2021 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$6,645	\$356,447	\$438,290
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 680	\$ 29,556	\$ 70,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 45	\$ 7,442	\$ 6,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,370</b>	<b>\$393,445</b>	<b>\$ 514,290</b>

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