



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 ✠ 10:30 AM

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

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE

“Gabriel's Oboe”

Dr. Kenneth Sass

Ennio Morricone (1928-2020)

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

ONE: Who are we?

ALL: **We are children of God!**

ONE: Even those who only sit on the Johnson Ferry Side?

MOUNT VERNON SIDE & CHOIR: **Yes, they are children of God!**

ONE: What about those who only sit on the Mount Vernon side?

JOHNSON FERRY SIDE & CHOIR: **Yes, they are children of God!**

ONE: But what about the choir up in the loft?

MV & JF SIDES: **Without them, who will sing of God's love? Of course they are children of God.**

ONE: So if you all are children of God, who isn't a child of God?

ALL: **Everyone is a child of God! Let us worship the God who welcomes all!**

† MORNING SONG #138

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!”

NICAEA

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;

Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!

God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee,

Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,

Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,

Though the eye of sinfulness Thy glory may not see,

Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee

Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;

Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!

God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

God of impartiality, through your servant James you told us to not play favorites and to welcome all into fellowship with your Son, Jesus Christ. Yet, let's be honest, we play favorites all the time. We judge people based on how they look, how they speak, what they believe, who they love, and we support them only if their gain benefits us as well. Forgive us for the transactional way we extend your love, invite us to share that love in the transformational way you extend to us. Unconditional and eternally redeemable. Lead us to this vision, so we may show the faithful character you hopefully inspire. 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

“Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”

MORNING SONG



"For - give our sins as we for - give," You taught us, Lord, to pray,



But You a - lone can grant us grace To live the words we say.

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

James 2:1-9

HOMILY

Faithful Character: James

✠ RESPONSE ✠

† SONG IN RESPONSE #335

“Though I May Speak”

O WALY WALY

Though I may speak with bravest fire, And have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain; As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess, And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within, The profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; By this we worship and are freed.

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*The Nicene Creed*)

Shari Freeman

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our
salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became
truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at
the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom
will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father
and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the
prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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.

CHORAL ANTHEM

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

Ancient Irish Melody (c. 1855)

† 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

John Barber

✠ SENDING ✠

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL

“From the Rising of the Sun”

RISING SUN

From the rising of the sun
to the going down of the same,
the name of the Lord shall be praised.

From the rising of the sun
to the going down of the same,
the name of the Lord shall be praised.

So praise ye the Lord.

Praise ye the Lord.

From the rising of the sun
to the going down of the same,
the name of the Lord shall be praised.

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

† CHORAL RESPONSE

“Amen”

Matthias Young

† POSTLUDE

“Rondeau” from *Sinfonies de Fanfare*, 1st Suite, 1st Movement
Jean Joseph Mouret (1682-1738), arr. Elaine C. Gardner

Dr. Sass



*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
Dr. Kenneth Sass, Principal Organist
Shari Freeman, Seminary Intern

We are located at
471 Mount Vernon Hwy, NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30328
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, 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 26 Judges 4:1-9, "Faithful Character: Deborah",
Rev. Barrett Abernethy

October 3(outdoor) Philemon 8-21, "Faithful Character: Onesimus",
Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Fall Outdoor Worship Services: October 3, November 14

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



Join us **TODAY** after the service for lunch and to welcome our seminary intern, Shari Freeman. Shari is currently a middler (2nd) year student at Columbia Seminary. Her office hours are Tues. & Wed. from 9-noon.



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 to get information or sign-up. Small groups will begin **Sunday, Sept. 26**.

Presbyterian Women: The Fall Retreat will be on September 26 at 11:45 in the Kirk Center after the Sunday service. Mazi Robinson will lead the retreat and present the program, *Using Our Gifts*. The cost is \$25 and includes lunch. We have a choice of an Apple Walnut Chicken Salad or an Egg Salad Wrap. All women are invited! We need reservations by **September 22**. The Book Circle met on September 10 and reviewed *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman. The **Circle of Grace** will meet Sunday, September 19, 6:30-8:30 pm, at Beppie Lever's house.



September 19, 2021



Conversation (Adult Sunday School): At 9:30am the **Crossroads** class meets in the Session Room; and the **Discovery** class meets in the Chapel.

Ways to Connect: Are you on our mailing list for the weekly *Happenings* email? How about the monthly newsletter *The Good News*? If not and you would like to receive them, send an email to debbie@mvpchurch.org

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

Afghanistan Refugee Outreach: See bulletin insert for all the details including a list of items in a kit.

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, Dave Whitacre

Attendance: 9/12 88(outdoor), 37(online)

Giving



Financial Update

September 9-15	Actual	Actual YTD	2021 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$7,840	\$364,287	\$438,290
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 112	\$ 29,668	\$ 70,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 65	\$ 7,507	\$ 6,000
Total	\$8,017	\$401,462	\$ 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