



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 14, 2021 ✠ 10:30 AM

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

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE

“First Snow”

Matthias Young

Paul O'Neill (1956-2017) of Trans-Siberian Orchestra

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Shari Freeman

ONE: Come before winter!

ALL: That is Paul's call to Timothy!

ONE: Come before winter!

ALL: It is also our call!

ONE: Who must you come for?

ALL: The imprisoned, the deserted, the lonely, and the lost.

ONE: Who are they?

ALL: Sometimes they are the stranger, sometimes they are the neighbor,
and sometimes they are us.

ONE: Come before winter!

ALL: And let us worship God!

† MORNING SONG

“You're Worthy of My Praise”

David Ruis

I will worship (I will worship)

With all of my heart (With all of my heart)

I will praise You (I will praise You)

With all of my strength (With all of my strength)

I will seek You (I will seek You)

All of my days (All of my days)

I will follow (I will follow)

All of Your ways (All of Your ways)

Refrain

I will give You all my worship

I will give You all my praise

You alone I long to worship

You alone are worthy of my praise

I will bow down (I will bow down)
And hail You as King (And hail You as King)
I will serve You (I will serve You)
Give You everything (Give You everything)
I will lift up (I will lift up)
My eyes to Your throne (My eyes to Your throne)
I will trust You (I will trust You)
Trust You alone (Trust You alone) *(to refrain)*

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Transcendent God, you meet us in courtyards and chapels, and you respond to us in each season. We witness you in the spring of new life, in the warmth of summer, and now in the crispness of the fall air. Because you meet us, and are present with us, we sometimes view your grace as a crutch. Sometimes we put off that which needs to be done today, tomorrow. Remind us this day to live into Paul's call, to come before winter. For the coldness that is to come must be met with the kindness, love, and mercy that we witness in these days. Guide us to the places we are called to today. Perhaps it's right here, perhaps it's down the road, perhaps it's a phone call, perhaps it's a prayer. Whatever that place, we ask that your Son, Jesus Christ, lead us there, so that when the winter does come, we may feel the blanket, feel the fire, and witness the life that thrives through you. 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 ✠

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Abernethy

SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 4:9-22

HOMILY

Come Before Winter

✠ RESPONSE ✠

† SONG IN RESPONSE

“Lord Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary”

John W. Thompson • Randy Scruggs (1953-2018)

Lord prepare me To be a sanctuary

Pure and holy Tried and true

With thanksgiving I'll be a living

Sanctuary for You

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

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

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

Shari Freeman

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

“I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For”

U2

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Braegan Abernethy

✠ SENDING ✠

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL

“The Heart of Worship”

Matt Redman (b. 1974)

When the music fades all is stripped away And I simply come

Longing just to bring something that's of worth That will bless Your heart

I'll bring You more than a song For a song in itself is not what You have required

You search much deeper within Through the way things appear

You're looking into my heart

Refrain

I'm coming back to the heart of worship
And it's all about You all about You Jesus
I'm sorry Lord for the thing I've made it
When it's all about You all about You Jesus
King of endless worth no one could express
How much You deserve
Though I'm weak and poor all I have is Yours
Ev'ry single breath

I'll bring You more than a song
For a song in itself is not what You have required
You search much deeper within
Through the way things appear
You're looking into my heart (*to refrain*)

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

POSTLUDE

"First Snow" (Reprise)

Matthias Young

Paul O'Neill (1956-2017) • Arr. Matthias Young



Leading Today's Worship Service

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Senior Pastor
Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor
Matthias Young, Director of Worship
Shari Freeman, Seminary Intern

*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.*

*If you are interested in joining MVP Church, go to the Visitor's Table to pick up a visitor bag with a little gift
and someone will be there to greet you.*

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....

From your car
radio tune into FM
90.5 to listen to
the service.



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 stop at the **Welcome Table in the Narthex** and pick up a visitor bag where someone will be there to greet you.



Upcoming Services:



November 21 John 18:33-38, "Finding Truth", Rev. Barrett Abernethy
November 28 Matthew 24:32-35, "Our Advent Hope", Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Vespers: TODAY at 5:00pm at Mount Vernon Towers led by our youth

Drivers Needed: We are in need of drivers to pick up residents from the MV Towers and bring them to church on Sunday mornings. Sedans are preferable to SUVs for mobility issues. Please contact the church if you would like to help in this ministry.



Stephen Ministry: Rain does fall into our lives and disrupt our happy lives. Sometimes, it seems more than we can handle, and we feel very alone in our shock, disappointment, anger, loss, and confusion. Here at Mount Vernon church, you are not alone. Our session has provided a Stephen Ministry to walk with you and help you through a hard place. The confidential nature of this assistance allows for a true helping relationship. Call a minister or Pat Bartee, Stephen Leader to get started.



Save the Date: Hanging of the Greens on Sunday, Nov. 28 at 5:00 with dinner to follow. Please come help decorate our Christmas trees, sing Christmas carols, and make some crafts.

Youth: Meet at the church at 4:30pm and we will go over to the Towers together.

Family Promise: It's time, once again, to begin thinking of the many different ways you can assist with this very worthwhile outreach program. Our scheduled time for hosting the current two families (with 11 children between them) is December 26 to January 1, 2022. More details to come.

November 14, 2021



Zooming Thru the Carols

Please send us your favorite Christmas Carol!



Make sure to follow us on social media to stay up to date!

Conversation (Adult Sunday School): (NOT MEETING TODAY) At 9:30am the **Crossroads** class meets in the Session Room; and the **Discovery** class meets in the Chapel.

Children's Christian Education will be on the patio during the second half of worship.



Presbyterian Women: Shari Freeman led the Bible study last Tuesday for the Day Circle and the Sunday Circle. The **Book Circle** will meet this Friday, November 12 at 10:00 and discuss *A Prayer for Owen Meany* by John Irving. The **Circle of Grace** will meet on November 14 at 6:30pm at the home of Meg Christian. They will be

assembling care packages for college students. Contact Beppie Lever at beppielever@earthlink.net with questions.

Save the Date: The Presbyterian Women's Christmas Lunch and Celebration will be on December 12 in the Kirk Center after the Sunday service. Rev. Isaac and Christina Toney-Schmitt will share some *Advent Poems*. We will start taking reservations before the service on November 14. The cost is \$15.

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

The November Communion Offering - Stuff the Bus We will be collecting non-perishable foods for Stirred Up Ministries to distribute Thanksgiving baskets to vulnerable families in the East Lake area of Atlanta. Most needed items include: canned vegetables and fruits, cranberry sauce, instant mashed potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, rice, macaroni and cheese, Jello, cake mix, pie filling, tea or lemonade mix, stuffing mix, cornbread mix, and grocery store gift cards (to purchase hams and turkeys). Donations may be brought to the church any time until **November 21**. Please write "Stirred Up Ministries" on the gift cards. Darrell Jones, director of Stirred Up Ministries, will be



here with the ole blue bus and will worship with us on **Sunday, November 21**, and can personally take donations before and after the service.

Prayer Concerns: Carol Beckman, Inez Cole, Bruce Hagenau, Alistair Morine, Richard Player, Rob Southard, Katie Spotloe, Dave Whitacre, and vulnerable families

Attendance: 11/7 72(Sanctuary), 27(online)

Please sign the attendance pad and pass it down the pew.

Giving



Financial Update

November 1-11	Actual	Actual YTD	2021 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$12,315	\$427,030	\$438,290
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 425	\$ 36,361	\$ 70,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 119	\$ 8,238	\$ 6,000
Total	\$12,859	\$ 471,629	\$ 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