



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY ✠ BAPTISM OF THE LORD
JANUARY 9, 2022 ✠ 10:30 AM

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

✠ GATHERING ✠

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Shari Freeman

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

ONE: In the beginning, darkness covered the deep,
And God said: Let there be light.

ALL: **The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

ONE: Through the words of the prophet, the Lord said:
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

ALL: **The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

ONE: Do not fear, says the Lord; I am with you.
I have called you by name; you are mine.

ALL: **The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

ONE: When Jesus was baptized by John,
Suddenly the heavens were opened.

ALL: **The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

ONE: And as Jesus was coming out of the water,
The Spirit of God rested on him like a dove.

ALL: **The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

ONE: And a voice said: You are my beloved Son;
With you I am well pleased.

ALL: **The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

† **MORNING SONG**

"Morning Has Broken"

BUNESSAN

Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation; praise every morning, God's re-creation of the new day!

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Shari Freeman

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ.
We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another.
We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another.
We allow the past to hold us captive.
In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin.
Fulfill the promises of our baptism so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† RESPONSE

“Glory to God”

GLORIA (Taizé)

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

MVPC Pastors

PROFESSION OF FAITH

...Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I do.**

Who is your Lord and Savior? **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love? **I will, with God's help.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

ASPERSION

RESPONSE

“Baptized in Water”

BUNESSAN

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our King;
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children; joyfully now God's praises we sing.

✠ THE WORD ✠

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Abernethy

SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:1-11

HOMILY

I Baptize You in the Name of the Father...

✠ RESPONSE ✠

† SONG IN RESPONSE

“We Know That Christ is Raised”

ENGELBERG

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Alleluia!

We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn we share with him an Easter life
as living members of a living Christ. Alleluia!

The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's power shakes the church of God.
Baptized we live with God the Three in One. Alleluia!

A new creation comes to life and grows
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe, restored and whole, will sing: Alleluia! Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Joan Rownd

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Abernethy & Shari Freeman

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

✠ SENDING ✠

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL

“I Could Sing of Your Love Forever”

Martin Smith (b. 1970)

Over the mountains and the sea
Your river runs with love for me
And I will open up my heart
And let the Healer set me free

I'm happy to be in the truth
And I will daily lift my hands
For I will always sing
Of when Your love came down

I could sing of Your love forever
I could sing of Your love forever
I could sing of Your love forever
I could sing of Your love forever

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

POSTLUDE

“Khorovod” from *The Firebird*
Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)

Ryan Sawyer



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
Ryan Sawyer, Guest Pianist

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! Per Church Policy – We recommend the wearing of masks while indoors. If you would like more information on the church protocols, you can find a link on our website.

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 Livestream Services:



January 16 “...and of the Son”, Matthew 3:13–17, Rev. Barrett Abernethy

January 23 “...and the Holy Spirit”, Luke 3:15–17, 21–22, Rev. Barrett Abernethy

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: Joy to the World! The Lord is come! Stephen Ministers may be the ones you need when you feel joyless in a joyful world. They listen and hear your concerns and sorrow in a non-judgmental, unconditional, one-on-one relationship that will help you gain perspective, clarify goals, find new coping strategies, and begin rebuilding a healthy life. Essentially they bring the longed-for hope and joy. Please call a minister or Stephen Leader, Pat Barte, to begin that relationship.

January Communion Offering will be non-perishable foods for the Food Pantry at the Community Assistance Center (CAC). Please bring donations to the church at any time in January to help re-stock their shelves after the busy holiday season.

January 9, 2022



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

Youth in January:

January 9: S'mores by the fire at Gailey Hall from 5-6pm

January 16: *Potential* off-campus trip to Stone Summit Atlanta (climbing gym) from 4-6:30pm; meet at Gailey Hall at 4 and return to Gailey Hall by 6:30.

January 23: Gailey Hall – Prepare for Youth Sunday

January 30: Gailey Hall – Prepare for Youth Sunday

February 6: Youth Sunday at 10:30am!!

Conversation (Adult Sunday School): Will not meet today. Discovery will meet via Zoom.



In January the **Day Circle** and the **Sunday Circle** will meet together on Tuesday, January 11, at 10:00. They will study lessons 4 and 5 from the Horizons Bible Study, *What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*. To be safe they will meet via Zoom. A link will be sent before the meeting. The **Book Circle** will meet on Friday, January 14 at 10:00 and discuss *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult.

The MVPC Members' Gift of Wisdom Winter issue will be available in January.

Prayer Concerns: Carol Beckman, Inez Cole, Bruce Hagenau, John Moran, Alistair Morine, Beverly Northrop, Richard Player, Rob Southard, Katie Spotloe, Dave Whitacre, and vulnerable families, Zambia, Los Niños Primero, CAC, Family Promise

Attendance: 1/2 104(online), 33(livestream)

Giving



Financial Update

December 30-31	Actual	Actual YTD	2021 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 4,010	\$510,618	\$438,290
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 11,180	\$ 55,723	\$ 70,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 570	\$ 11,648	\$ 6,000
Total	\$ 15,760	\$577,989	\$ 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