



# MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 23, 2022 ✠ 10:30 AM

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

## ✠ GATHERING ✠

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### RINGING OF THE BELLS

### WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

### † CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

ONE: We return again to the waters.

ALL: **We are thankful you welcome us back.**

ONE: Often we think of baptism as a ritual of long ago.

ALL: **Remind us today that baptism comes from the fire of the Holy Spirit.**

ONE: A Spirit that burns continuously,

ALL: **and calls us to come back to the waves that spring up like flames.**

ONE: Hence our call to you this day:

ALL: **Enflame our faith and let us worship God!**

### † MORNING SONG

#### "Amazing Grace"

#### AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,

That saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,

Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,

And grace my fears relieved;

How precious did that grace appear

The hour I first believed!

When we've been there ten thousand years,

Bright shining as the sun,

We've no less days to sing God's praise

Than when we'd first begun.

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

God of redemption, the baptismal covenant is one that goes beyond you and me.  
It is a promise shared as a community of faith. That is what truly inspires spiritual vitality.  
Teach us that it is not something we can quantify or improve.  
We know it's delivered through your eternal grace. So walk us to the font this day.  
Walk us there to know we are forgiven.  
Walk us there to know we are enough.  
Walk us there to know that like your waters and your flame, we can make this walk again and again  
and know that the baptism we received by you never ceases, but continually cleanses and restores...

† 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!

WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBER

Clark Nelson

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (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.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Rose, Finley, Thomas, & Henry Nelson

PRESENTATION

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

THE BAPTISM

LAYING ON OF HANDS & ANOINTING

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

*(Children are invited to meet in the Narthex to depart for Sunday School)*

## ✠ THE WORD ✠

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DEDICATION OF ARTWORK

Donna Martin, Artist

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Abernethy

SCRIPTURE

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

HOMILY

*...and of the Holy Spirit...*

## ✠ RESPONSE ✠

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† SONG IN RESPONSE

“Acquaint Now Thyself with Him”  
Michael Head (1900-1976)

Rebecca Shipley, Soprano

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Malinda Holmes

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.

## ✠ SENDING ✠

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† SONG FOR DISMISSAL

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

HYMN TO JOY

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, Opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the gloom of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Singing bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus Which the morning stars began;  
Love divine is reigning o’er us, Joining all in heaven’s plan.  
Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life.

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

POSTLUDE

“Finale”  
Eugene Gigout (1844-1925)

Dr. Kenneth Sass



Leading Today's Worship Service

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

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....

## 3 Ways to Watch!

[mvpchurch.org/watch/](http://mvpchurch.org/watch/)  
Facebook Page  
YouTube Channel



[WWW.MVPCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.MVPCHURCH.ORG)

**Welcome!** We are glad to be back in the Sanctuary with you today. Please feel free to spread out by sitting in the cushioned pews, and we request that you wear your mask at all times. 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](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 stop at the **Welcome Table in the Narthex** and pick up a visitor bag where someone will be there to greet you.



## Upcoming Services:

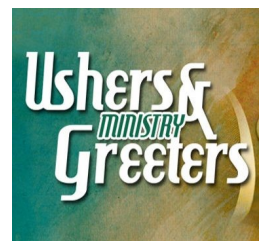


January 30 "For All of You Share in God's Grace", Philippians 2:1-11, Elder Installation & Ordination, Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

February 6 Youth Sunday

**Ushers:** Are you interested in becoming an usher but want to know more? Contact one of the ministers for more information.

**Greeters:** The Witness Committee wants to develop a greeter program. Please contact Angie Hawthorne or the church office if interested.



**Stephen Ministry:** "Be kind, compassionate, and forgiving to each other, in the same way God forgave you in Christ" Eph. 4:32

This is the whole mission of the MVPC Stephen Ministry to funnel Christ's love to someone who needs it. We are ready to help members and friends of members and non-churched community members in one on one, personal relationships that can bring comfort, relief, clarity, and re-creation of life after loss and illness and stress. Contact a minister or Pat Bartee, Stephen Leader, to begin that experience.

**January 23, 2022**



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

## Youth:

**January 23:** Gailey Hall – Prepare for Youth Sunday

**January 30:** Gailey Hall – Prepare for Youth Sunday

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

**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.

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



The **Circle of Grace** will meet over Zoom this month. The topic will be Encouragement and the lesson will be led by Sylvia McAdam. Questions? Contact Beppie Lever [beppielever@earthlink.net](mailto:beppielever@earthlink.net) or Carrie Southard [carriensouth@gmail.com](mailto:carriensouth@gmail.com)

**Save the date!** Nancy Dimmock will speak with us after the service on February 6. Nancy Miller Dimmock is a second-generation missionary. She was born and raised in the Belgian Congo (now DRC) and served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Lesotho. She and her husband Frank served for 30 years with the Presbyterian Church in Lesotho, Malawi and Zambia. Nancy is now retired and living in Decatur, but she is actively working with the Ministry of Hope Lesotho. The presentation will be online or by videoconferencing – we will provide more information soon.

**The MVPC Members' Gift of Wisdom** Winter issue is now available. You can pick up a copy in the Narthex or you can find it on the website in the 2022 Archives.

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

**Attendance:** 1/16 65(online)

*Please sign the attendance pad and pass it down the pew as you greet your neighbor.*

Giving



## Financial Update

January 13-20, 2022	Actual	Actual YTD	2022 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 6,480	\$ 56,842	\$449,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 0	\$ 245	\$ 60,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,480</b>	<b>\$ 57,087</b>	<b>\$ 519,000</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)