



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 30, 2022 ✠ 10:30 AM

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

✠ GATHERING ✠

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Abernethy

ONE: We thank God for each stitch in the cloth of our community

ALL: **Christ guides us to unity in his name, setting aside all that separates us**

ONE: We thank God for each link in the chains that bind us together

ALL: **God calls us to listen for and discern God's will in the decisions we make**

ONE: We thank God for each knot in the cord that weaves us into one

ALL: **The Holy Spirit fills us with a fire to spread Good News and welcome for all**

ONE: As one body, let us worship God!

† MORNING SONG

"How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord"

REPTON

How clear is our vocation, Lord,
When once we heed Your call:
To live according to Your word,
And daily learn, refreshed, restored,
That You are Lord of all
And will not let us fall.

But if, forgetful, we should find
Your yoke is hard to bear,
If worldly pressures fray the mind
And love itself cannot unwind
Its tangled skein of care:
Our inward life repair.

In what You give us, Lord, to do,
Together or alone,
In old routines or ventures new,
May we not cease to look to You—
The cross You hung upon—
All You endeavored done.

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Abernethy

Merciful God, we trust you. But our trust alone cannot stop us from losing sight of you. Our pride, our opinions, our selfishness, all creep into our relationship with you. You know this, you see us. How could it be any other way? Gracious God, light up our passion for you once more. Like a shepherd who hears his sheep and knows their need, or a weaver who knows the role each thread plays in the whole, lead us to your wholeness. Forgive us, oh God, and make us part of your body... Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† RESPONSE

“Lord, Prepare Me”

SANCTUARY

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Shari Freeman

(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. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 1:3-11

HOMILY

Good Work To Do

✠ RESPONSE ✠

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

Pat Bartee, Dee Bradford-Smith, Kyle Cumming,

Gloria Gillespie, Malinda Holmes, Beppie Lever, Mary McClurg

† 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.

† SONG IN RESPONSE

“Here I Am, Lord”

HERE I AM, LORD

Soloist

*I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?*

Refrain (Choir & Congregation)

Here I am, Lord.

Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

**I will go, Lord,
if you lead me.**

I will hold your people in my heart.

Soloist

*I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? (to refrain)*

Soloist

*I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? (to refrain)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Charlie Gray

**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 ✠

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL

"The Summons"

KELVINGROVE

"Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"

"Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?"

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

POSTLUDE

"Prelude in D Major"
J. K. F. Fischer (ca. 1685-1738)

Dr. Kenneth Sass



Leading Today's Worship Service

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Senior Pastor
Matthias Young, Director of Worship

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor
Dr. Kenneth Sass, Principal Organist

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....

3 Ways to Watch!

mvpchurch.org/watch/
Facebook Page
YouTube Channel



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, 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.

Save the Date: We will have an “Inquirers Lunch” for all new members and visitors on **February 27**.



Upcoming Services:

February 6 Youth Sunday

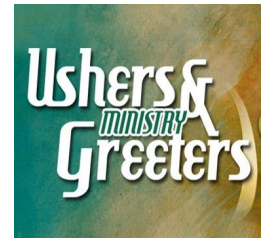
February 13 “Lifelong Discipleship Formation”, Acts 2:42-47,

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt



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.



February Events:

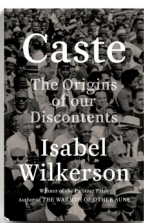
Committees & Coffee: Sunday, February 13, 9:30am

Winter Dinner & Variety Show: Sunday, February 20, 6-8pm

Annual Meeting: Sunday, February 27, 9:30am (Bylaws are available to be picked up in the Narthex.)

Burn the Palms: Sunday, February 27, 11:30am

Inquirers Lunch: Sunday, February 27, noon



We are partnering with local Jewish and Christian congregations, as well as the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library Foundation, to take part in a 6-week study of Isabel Wilkerson's book *Caste*, an award-winning work about current issues of race and class in America. This program will be similar to the “Reclaiming the Center” from a few years ago, and will bring diverse congregations together for conversation and community building. This group will meet on Thursdays 6-8:30pm, February 17- March 24, at rotating locations among the congregations involved. Sign ups are in the Narthex, or reach out to Rev. Toney-Schmitt.

January 30, 2022



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

Giving



Youth:

January 30: Sanctuary – 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.

Stephen Ministry: "Carry each other's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ" Gal. 6:2 Are you feeling alone, grieving long, hurting from a job loss, a friend's move or death, confused about God's place in your life after a painful or unsettling event or prolonged Covid conditions? Ask for a Stephen Minister who will walk with you through it in a non-judgmental, caring, clarifying relationship. We want to walk with you through the swamp to dry land and a more hopeful way of living. Contact a minister or Pat Bartee, Stephen Leader.

Conversation (Adult Sunday School): Are back and meeting in the Fellowship Hall..

Save the date! Nancy Dimmock will speak with us after the service on **February 16**. 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, Rob Southard, Dave Whitacre, and vulnerable families, Zambia, Los Niños Primero, CAC, Family Promise

Attendance: 1/23 82(Sanctuary), 62 (online)

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

Financial Update

January 21-26, 2022	Actual	Actual YTD	2022 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 2,930	\$ 59,772	\$449,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 910	\$ 1,155	\$ 60,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10,000
Total	\$ 3,850	\$ 60,937	\$ 519,000

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