



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 6, 2022 • 10:30 AM

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

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

† CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We look to Jesus Christ as the ultimate servant leader.

ALL: He listened to children, affirmed the faith he saw, and washed his disciples' feet

ONE: Jesus Christ meets us on our level, in all of our struggles and triumphs

ALL: His compassion for each of us bridges time and space

ONE: Jesus Christ calls us to follow him, empowering our gifts and enabling a new way of life

ALL: His leadership compels us forward, into his kingdom.

ONE: May we continue to respond, let us worship God!

† OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

† MORNING SONG

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

CHEREPO NI

Refrain

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with Your love,
Show us how to serve the neighbors we have from You.

Kneels at the feet of His friends,
Silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them. *(to Refrain)*

These are the ones we should serve,
These are the ones we should love.
All are neighbors to us and You. *(to Refrain)*

Kneel at the feet of our friends,
Silently washing their feet,
This is the way we should live with You. *(to Refrain)*

Most Presbyterian worship services evolve in four parts. The Gathering, or Preparation, is the first part and is meant to prepare our hearts and minds to hear the Word of God.

This Ghanaian folk melody evokes the servant leadership mark we find in today's text when Jesus washes the disciples feet.

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Shari Freeman

Gracious God, by the work of your hands, you created all that is good. You formed us in Christ's image, and you fashioned us with spiritual gifts according to your will. We have been made to serve and glorify you, yet we too often look for ways to elevate our status or have it our way. Help us to strengthen our gifts and live empowered by your Spirit. Help us to find strength in serving one another, for we can accomplish greater things in your name. And may we be your disciples, who help nurture and encourage the gifts of others, without envy or strife...*(silent confession)* Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Shari Freeman

ONE: ..In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

† RESPONSE

“Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

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. Toney-Schmitt

SCRIPTURE

John 13:3-17

HOMILY

Mark Four: Empowered Servant Leadership

The second part of worship, the Word, is the central part of all Reformed/ Presbyterian worship, hence why it happens in the middle of our service.

RESPONSE

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*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.

The third part of our service, the Response, is an invitation to respond to God's word in various ways. We say what we believe, we celebrate the sacraments where Christ is the host and prior to Covid, this is where we offered our tithes & offerings back to God.

SONG IN RESPONSE

"O Lamb of God"

Richard Shephard (1949-2021)

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

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

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*(The congregation is invited to come forward to receive a communion kit. After returning to your seat,
we will partake in the sacrament together.
If you prefer to remain seated, an usher will assist you with a kit.)*

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

LET US BREAK BREAD

Let us break bread together on our knees; Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, With my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees; Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, With my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees; Let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, With my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Mary McClurg

SENDING

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL “We Gather Here to Bid Farewell” WINCHESTER NEW

We gather here to bid farewell to friends who leave for other parts;
Our prayers we pledge, our love we tell,
And lift to God our grateful hearts.

We bless the hand that brought you here and richly blest us all in you:
As now you leave for wider sphere God's
Covenant mercies we review.

In friendship's bonds our souls unite in prayer and praise and holy vow:
To God's great heart of love and light
Your kin in Christ commit you now.

God guide you, keep you, lead you on from hope to hope, from strength,
Until in God's all glorious dawn,
We meet before the throne at length.

The final part of worship, the Sending, invites the church to take the Word out into the world. Be an example of servant leadership this week. Be a vital mark.

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

POSTLUDE

“Festal Flourish”
Gordon Jacob (1895-1984)

Dr. Kenneth Sass

Leading Today's Worship Service

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor

Matthias Young, Director of Worship

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 places as you exit.*

*If you are interested in joining MVP Church,
go to the Visitor's Table to pick up a visitor bag and 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....



WWW.MVPCCHURCH.ORG

Welcome! We are glad to worship with you in the Sanctuary today. 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.



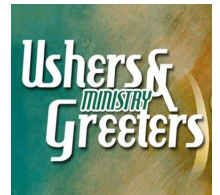
Upcoming Services:



March 13 "Spirit-Inspired Worship", Hebrews 4:12-16, Shari Freeman

March 20 "Caring Relationships", Galatians 6:1-10, Rev. Barrett Abernethy

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.

March Event:

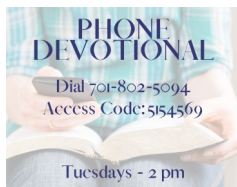


March 27 - Joint MVPC/Mount Vernon School worship service celebrating their 50th year on our campus. It will take place on the courtyard with brunch to follow in the Mount Vernon Upper Campus Building.

Lent Small Groups begin TODAY! It's not too late to sign up in the Narthex.

Youth: Spring Break!

March 6, 2022



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

Giving

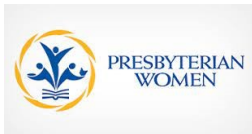


Stephen Ministry: Mount Vernon's small Stephen Ministry has affected the lives of 17 people since its start in July of 2019. Through quiet, one-on-one, transformative, confidential relationships, grief has been lightened, goals have been reclarified, life challenges and new health diagnoses have been given new perspective, anger and angst have been heard, tempered, and responded to, and joy has been rekindled. Call a pastor or Pat Bartee, Stephen leader to get started.

March Communion Offering is for the International Women's House, a shelter for abused refugee and immigrant women and their children. Please pick up one of the "Shopping for Outreach" blue bags in the Narthex on Sunday. A shopping list is attached to make it easier while you are at the store. Return items in the shopping bag and pickup a new empty bag for next month. You can now order online and have it delivered to the church.



Conversation (Adult Sunday School): Crossroads meets in the Session Room, and Discovery meets in the Chapel and are using the book "The Present Word".



Presbyterian Women: In March, the **Day Circle** will meet on the 8th and the **Sunday Circle** will meet on the 13th. They will study lesson 6, *Bathsheba*, in our Bible study guide, *What My Grandmothers Taught Me*.

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: Amy Kiley, Alistair Morine, Rob Southard, Dave Whitacre, and vulnerable families, Zambia, Los Niños Primero, CAC, Family Promise

Attendance: 2/27 85(Sanctuary), 28(online)

We bid a fond farewell to Dr. Ken Sass as he concludes his term of service with us today. Thank you Ken for your musical stewardship during this season of transition at MVPC!

Financial Update

February 23-28	Actual	Actual YTD	2022 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 9,471	\$ 116,164	\$449,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 1,205	\$ 5,090	\$ 60,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 50	\$ 1,873	\$ 10,000
Total	\$10,726	\$123,127	\$ 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