



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 27, 2022 • 10:30 AM

† For those who are able, please stand.

Welcome members
and guests!
Please grab a
refreshment and
make your way
around the pillars to
learn about the
history between the
church and school.

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

"Be Thou My Vision"

Donna Maini
Accompanist

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Sr. Pastor

RECOGNITION OF DIGNITARIES

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Bless The Lord"

Amanda Lower &
Choral Ensemble

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Shelley Searcy
Head of Lower Campus

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor

ONE: We are Mount Vernon,

ALL: And for 50 years we have been better together!

ONE: Together we inspire inquiry within the children of God.

ALL: We long for minds to shape hearts and for hearts to move minds.

ONE: Let us give thanks this day for Christ our sure foundation, who connects us in
community.

ALL: Let us worship God!

† MORNING SONG

This is the Day That the Lord Has Made

Les Garrett

Matthias Young
Director of Worship

This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord hath made, that the Lord hath made
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
And be glad in it, and be glad in it
This is the day that the Lord hath made
We will rejoice and be glad in it
This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord hath made

Be Thou My Vision was sung by members of both Mount Vernon communities at the 1993 groundbreaking ceremony for the *Mutual Vision Capital Campaign* that built the Fellowship Hall and Activities Building.

† PRAYER OF HOPE

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

God of the cornerstone, for 50 years a community has thrived here in your name. We believe that faith seeks understanding, and that is why this place, molded by your Spirit, has been a space where doubts have been welcomed, questions have been encouraged, and discernment has been shared. From these questions have come knowledge, which in turn has inspired more doubts, raised more inquiries, and allowed for more time to discern. Great God, remind us this day that amid uncertainty, your foundation is always solid. For from that truth we know we can always wonder aloud, we can always seek your light, and we can always rest assured that resurrection is here yet again, even if we have no words to describe how it happened the first time. As we look back with fondness this day, help us to see the incarnation of your Son, Jesus Christ, who by coming into this world, continues to inspire us to see the newness of life is still before us...*(silent reflection)*...Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

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

When the seventh month came, and the Israelites were in the towns, the people gathered together in Jerusalem. When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments were stationed to praise the LORD with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, according to the directions of King David of Israel; and they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the LORD, "For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever toward Israel." And all the people responded with a great shout when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid. But many of the priests and Levites and heads of families, old people who had seen the first house on its foundations, wept with a loud voice when they saw this house, though many shouted aloud for joy, so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the sound of the people's weeping, for the people shouted so loudly that the sound was heard far away.

SCRIPTURE

Ezra 3:1, 10-13

RESPONSE

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Matthew 22:37-40*)

Rev. Abernethy

Jesus said to them, "*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*"

† SONG IN RESPONSE

Shout to the Lord

Matthias Young

Darlene Zschech

My Jesus my Savior Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love
My comfort my shelter tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath all that I am never cease to worship You

Shout to the Lord all the earth let us sing
Power and majesty praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise
I have in You

A Pentecostal pastor from Australia, Zschech wrote this song amid a time of financial worries while raising a young family. The language she invokes reminds us of the shout the Israelites express in verses 12-13 of our focus text. It speaks to the foundational hope our faith rests upon in times when joy and sorrow are intertwined.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION/THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Abernethy

PRAYER OVER THE ELEMENTS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

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.

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.

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.)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Bruce Morine
Former CFO, Mount Vernon School
MVPC Elder

SENDING

CLOSING SPECIAL MUSIC "Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

Amanda Lower &
Choral Ensemble

Refrain:

Ev'ry time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart, I will
pray. Yes, ev'ry time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart, I will pray.

Upon the mountain when my God spoke,
out of God's mouth came fire and smoke.

All around me, it looked so fine,
I asked my Lord if all was mine. [Refrain]

Jordan River, chilly and cold,
it chills the body, but not the soul.
There ain't but one train that's on this track,
it runs to heaven and runs right back. [Refrain]

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

Leading Today's Worship Service
Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Senior Pastor
Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor
Matthias Young, Director of Worship
Donna Maini, Accompanist
Shari Freeman, Seminary Intern

We would also like to thank the Performing Arts students from the Lower School Campus and members of the Vernon Vocals from the Upper School Campus for ringing a joyful noise this day. A special thank you to Amanda Lower, Lower School Performing Art Teacher as well for her leadership and direction.

*We thank you for worshipping with us today.
If you are so moved and would like to give a tithe or offering,
there are offering plates 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.MVPCHURCH.ORG

Welcome! We are glad to worship with you in the Courtyard today for our special joint service with the Mount Vernon School as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary.

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:

- April 3 Mark 7: "Ecclesial Health", Matthew 15:1-9, Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt
April 10 Palm Sunday, "The Eternal Shout", Luke 19:28-40, Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Lent Calendar: If you would like suggestions of what to do during lent, there is a calendar in the Narthex!

April Events:

- April 10 Palm Sunday, Committees & Coffee-9:30am, Lunch and Egg Hunt
April 11-15 Daily Devotional & Light Lunch (except Maundy Thursday) @ noon
April 14 Maundy Thursday in the Sanctuary at 6:30pm, Agape Meal in Gailey Hall (SignUp Genius)
April 17 Sunrise Service on the Patio 6:45am, Worship at 10:30am



The Witness Ministry Team invites you to share the MVPC message of Easter by sharing the invitations found in the Narthex. We ask that **"EACH ONE REACH ONE"**. These invitations share a photo of our annual glorious floral cross with all of the information needed to attend our multiple services and events on the back. Imagine doubling the size of our attendance!! We can do it!! Contact Dee for more invitations, as needed.

Ushers: We will resume the practice of passing the offering plates during worship on April 10, but we need more ushers. Please contact Kirk Chalpan or the church office if you would like to serve.



Youth: We meet TODAY at 5pm at Gailey Hall.

March 27, 2022



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

Giving



Stephen Ministry: The Covid days have left us wearied and befuzzled. Health issues that are complicated or chronic have entered our lives. Our values and goals are changing. It is a time of less surety. But, there is also a loving God out there awaiting with loving arms. If you could use a caring, encouraging, cheering Christian person in your life who would listen and hear your thoughts and anguish, while keeping them confidential, please contact a pastor or Stephen Leader, Pat Bartee.

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. We will continue to collect the blue bags until **March 30**.



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

Presbyterian Women: In April, the **Day Circle** will meet on April 12 and the **Sunday Circle** will meet on April 10. They will study lesson 7, "Mary", in the Horizons Bible Study, *What My Grandmothers Taught Me*. The **Book Circle** will meet on April 8 and review the book, *Clementine, the Life of Mrs. Winston Churchill*, by Sonia Purnell.

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: Family of Shari Freeman, Rev. Asa Meadows, Alistair Morine, Beverly Northrop, Rob Southard, Jody Travis, Dave Whitacre, people of Ukraine, and vulnerable families, Zambia, Los Niños Primero, CAC, Family Promise

Congratulations on the birth of Grayson Matthew Lozano, 2/26/22, to Matt & Halle Lozano, proud grandparents are Bruce & Wendy Hagenau

Attendance: 3/20 79(Sanctuary), 20(online)

Please sign the Attendance Pad and pass it down the pew as you greet your neighbor!

Financial Update

March 17-24	Actual	Actual YTD	2022 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 9,250	\$ 146,912	\$449,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 10	\$ 6,307	\$ 60,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 50	\$ 2,158	\$ 10,000
Total	\$ 9,310	\$155,377	\$ 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