



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

APRIL 3, 2022 • 10:30 AM

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

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”
arr. Melody Bober

Donna Maini

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

† CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Our scriptures proclaim that anyone in Christ is a new creation:

ALL: Everything old has passed away and everything has become new.

ONE: This is a promise from our God who reconciled us to Godself in Christ, and tasked us with a ministry of reconciliation

ALL: God calls us together as one community, forgives us, and asks us to welcome others.

ONE: We are ambassadors for Christ, a community seeking to share Christ's love

ALL: Our doors are wide open, calling all in to worship God.

ONE: Let us do just that, and worship God!

† OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Abernethy

† MORNING SONG

“The Church's One Foundation”
AURELIA

The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the Word.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

The Church shall never perish. Her dear Lord to defend,
to guide, sustain, and cherish, is with her to the end.
Tho' there be those that hate her and strive to see her fail,
against both foe and traitor she ever shall prevail.

'Mid toil and tribulation and tumult of her war
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.

This Call is
inspired by
2 Corinthians
5: 18-20,
scripture
about living in
healthy
community.

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Shari Freeman

Christian community means community through Jesus Christ and in Jesus Christ. There is no Christian community that is more than this, and none that is less than this. Whether it be a brief, single encounter or the daily community of many years, Christian community is solely this. We belong to one another only through and in Jesus Christ.

Merciful God, we want to live faithfully in a community that supports our faith. We admit that we cannot know what that looks like, how it sounds, or how it may feel if we leave you out. Forgive us for shaping our life together on anything except you. Make room in our hearts for new bonds of Christian love Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Shari Freeman

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† RESPONSE

“Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive”

MORNING SONG

“Forgive our sins as we forgive,” You taught us, Lord, to pray,
But You alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

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

Matthew 15:1-9

HOMILY

Mark Seven: Ecclesial Health

These opening lines were written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer in 1939, *Life Together*, Published in 1939, *Life Together* maps out a community-focused Christian life in opposition to Pro-Nazi churches of the time. Bonhoeffer would be killed in 1945 for his role in resisting the Nazis.

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.

SONG IN RESPONSE

“Quando Corpus Morietur”

Rebecca Shipley, Soprano

from *Stabat Mater*

Magdalena Wór, Mezzo-Soprano

By Giovanni Battista Pergolesi (1710-1736)

While my body here decays,
May my soul thy goodness praise,
Safe in Paradise with Thee
Amen

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Abernethy

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Shari Freeman

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

(The congregation is invited to come forward to receive communion. If you prefer a Covid Communion kit, let the pastor know. If you prefer to remain seated, an usher will bring it to you.)

“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.

When you come forward to receive communion, we invite you to do so with your hands cupped. This is to remind us that we come to Christ's table as a guest and that he, our redeemer, is the host.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pat Bartee

SENDING

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL “The Heart of Worship”

Matt Redman

Leader

When the music fades all is stripped away and I simply come
Longing just to bring something that's of worth that will bless Your heart

I'll bring You more than a song for a song in itself is not what You have required
You search much deeper within through the way things appear
You're looking into my heart

Refrain (Congregation)

I'm coming back to the heart of worship and it's all about You all about You Jesus
I'm sorry Lord for the thing I've made it when it's all about You all about You Jesus

Leader

King of endless worth no one could express how much You deserve
Though I'm weak and poor all I have is Yours ev'ry single breath

I'll bring You more than a song for a song in itself is not what You have required
You search much deeper within through the way things appear
You're looking into my heart

Refrain (Congregation)

I'm coming back to the heart of worship and it's all about You all about You Jesus
I'm sorry Lord for the thing I've made it when it's all about You all about You Jesus

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

POSTLUDE

“Spring”

Donna Maini

from *The Four Seasons* by Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

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 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:



- April 10 Palm Sunday, "The Eternal Shout", John 12:12-19, Rev. Barrett Abernethy
April 17 Easter Sunrise Service 6:45am on patio, Worship at 10:30am, John 20:1-18

April Events:

- April 10 Palm Sunday, 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 on website)
April 17 Sunrise Service on the Patio 6:45am, Sanctuary Worship at 10:30am



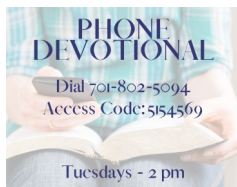
EACH ONE REACH ONE The Witness Ministry Team invites you to share the MVPC message of Easter by sharing the invitations found in the Narthex. These invitations share a photo of our annual glorious floral cross with all of the information needed to attend our multiple services and events on the back. 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.

April 3, 2022



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

Giving

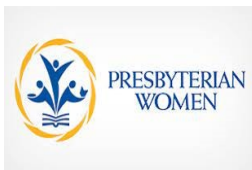


Stephen Ministry: Old Irish prayer: May you see God's light on the path ahead, when the road you walk is dark. May you always hear, even in your hour of sorrow, the gentle singing of the lark. When times are hard, may hardness never turn your heart to stone. May you always remember when shadows fall—you do not walk alone. For companionship and hope, please contact our Stephen Ministry by calling the church office, a pastor, or Stephen Leader, Pat Bartee.

April Communion Offering is for Community Assistance Center (CAC) helping restock the Food Pantry with toiletries and non-perishable foods. The blue shopping bags with a list of most needed items attached are in the Narthex.



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 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** Spring/Summer issue will be available in May.

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

Attendance: 3/27 108(Sanctuary), 31(online)

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

Financial Update

March 24-30	Actual	Actual YTD	2022 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 9,247	\$ 156,159	\$449,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 1,286	\$ 7,593	\$ 60,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 55	\$ 2,213	\$ 10,000
Total	\$10,588	\$165,965	\$ 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