



**MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**MAY 8, 2022 • 10:30 AM**

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

**GATHERING**

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**“My Jesus, I Love Thee”**  
arr. Carol Tornquist

Donna Maini

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

**OPENING PRAYER**

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: Let us continue to bask in the Easter hope!

**ALL: Let us celebrate amid God’s creation.**

ONE: A celebration of motherly gifts that come in a myriad of forms!

**ALL: A celebration of graduating students who once played on this courtyard!**

ONE: A celebration of a child entering the household of faith.

**ALL: Christ is alive! Let us worship God!**

† **MORNING SONG**

**“When Morning Gilds the Skies”**  
**LAUDES DOMINI**

When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries:  
May Jesus Christ be praised! Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find:  
May Jesus Christ be praised! Or fades my earthly bliss?  
My comfort still is this:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!

Let earth’s wild circle round in joyful notes resound:  
May Jesus Christ be praised! Let air and sea and sky from depth to height reply:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine:  
May Jesus Christ be praised! Be this the eternal song through all the ages long:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!

## † PRAYER OF HOPE

Shari Freeman

Gracious God, we come to you this day amid a litany of milestones. These are moments that acknowledge the time that has passed, the time that is before us, and the time that has yet to come.

We celebrate the baptismal promise. As we surround this child with the assurance that we as a community will raise him to know the faith, let us do so in a spirit that demonstrates the grace and love we find through your Son, Jesus Christ.

We celebrate graduation finality. As we look back fondly with these young people and celebrate both accomplishments and what is to come, let them know that wherever they are headed the baptismal promise does not stop and our commitment to serve one another in faith does not waver.

We celebrate another year of motherhood. The promise to be a mom, a teacher, a provider, a protector, or a comforter reveals itself at home, school, or perhaps as a spiritual encounter in an unexpected place. We give thanks to the moms in our lives, and the way in which they live out their promise to care and nurture us along the journey.

Whether it be a beginning, an end, or somewhere in between, remind us this day of the covenant you first made to us and the covenant we are continually called to carry out- to love. May that be what binds us this day. May it be what binds us even when we are apart. Amen.

## † ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Shari Freeman

ONE: ...In the name of Jesus, we celebrate the new life we find in Christ.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

## † RESPONSE

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

ALLELUIA No. 1

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His Name.

## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Stephen Alan Hagenau

PRESENTATION

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

THE BAPTISM

LAYING ON OF HANDS

## † HYMN OF WELCOME “O, Loving Father, To Thy Care”

O WALY WALY

O loving Father, to thy care we give again this child of thine,  
Baptized and blessed with faithful prayer and sealed with Love’s victorious sign.

As Christ, thy Son, did not refuse the homage of the children’s cry,  
So teach him childhood’s gifts to use thy name to praise and magnify.

Through youth and age, through shine and shade, grant him to run his earthly race,  
Forgetting not that man was made to show thy glory and thy grace:

A loving child, a faithful friend, a light in doubt and darkness given  
to point the path that knows no end save in the fuller light of heaven.

As Presbyterians, we adhere to the words of Paul, that we are called to “one Lord, one faith, one baptism.” We believe that once someone is baptized in the Triune God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) that they are baptized for life and are called to live out the vows they or others made on their behalf.

Sung to the tune of “O Waly Waly” which many know as the hymn “Though I May Speak,” speaks of the baptismal vow churches commit when they declare that they will raise the next generation to know Christ.

## † PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

### THE WORD

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Abernethy

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 66:10-14

HOMILY

*Motherly Love*

### RESPONSE

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SENIOR RECOGNITION

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Kate Christian: The Mount Vernon School, Miami University in Oxford, OH

Connor Plumly: North Springs High School, Vanderbilt University

Kendall Slayden: The Mount Vernon School, Miami University in Oxford, OH

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(from the Brief Statement of Faith)*

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,

Everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,

Sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,

and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

This hymn, written by songwriter Jean Janzen, is inspired by the 14th Century Christian mystic, Julian of Norwich. Though Julian lived through the violence and pessimism of the Black Death & Hundred Years War, these words evoke the hope she found in faith.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”

Magdalena Wór,  
Soloist

Mothering God, you gave me birth in the bright morning of this world.  
Creator, source of every breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form, offering me your food of light,  
grain of life, and grape of love, your very body for my peace.

Mothering Spirit, nurturing one, in arms of patience hold me close,  
so that in faith I root and grow until I flower, until I know.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Bruce Hagenau

## SENDING

### † SONG FOR DISMISSAL      “Here I Am, Lord”

#### HERE I AM, LORD

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest 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*

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.

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? *Refrain*

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? *Refrain*

### † BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

### POSTLUDE

#### "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

arr. Bruce Greer

Donna Maini

#### Leading Today's Worship Service

**Rev. Barrett Abernethy**, Senior Pastor

**Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt**, Associate Pastor

**Matthias Young**, Director of Worship

**Donna Maini**, Accompanist

**Magdalena Wór**, Mezzo-Soprano

**Shari Freeman**, Seminary Intern

*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](http://mvpchurch.org)



Our mailing address is:  
P.O. Box 76051  
Sandy Springs, GA 30358

# MVPC Announcements....



Help us out with our "Summer Song Series"! What is a hymn or song you want sung and for Barrett & Isaac to preach on?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

**WWW.MVPCHURCH.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](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:



May 15 "Hearing God", 1 Kings 19:9-16, Shari Freeman

May 22 "Looking for a Hazy Day", Acts 1:1-11, Ascension of the Lord, Communion  
Rev. Barrett Abernethy

**UPDATE!! May Day Garden Party** has been rescheduled for Sunday, May 22 from 4-7pm. at David & Debbie Barclift's home. Reservations are required on the SignUp Genius on our website. You can pay the \$10 each in the church office, offering plate, or by Paypal.

**Ushers:** We resumed the practice of passing the offering plates during worship but we need more ushers. Please contact Kirk Chalpan or the church office if you would like to serve.



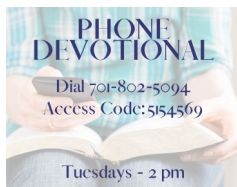
**Congregational Care** could use a few more volunteers willing to contribute a dish or casserole about 4-6 times a year. If you are willing to join one of our hospitality teams, please contact Pat Bartee at [pbartee@yahoo.com](mailto:pbartee@yahoo.com) or leave a text message.



**Stephen Ministry:** Need a caring, loving person to walk with you through a temporary troubling time? Need someone non-judgmental and helpful? MVPC Stephen Ministry provides trained, skilled laypeople who will listen, hear, and help you wind your way back to wholeness, whether you are a member or visitor. They will ask questions to help you clarify your own issues and offer perspectives and resources that may be new to you. Mostly, they will help channel God's love and assurance directly to you. Please contact a minister or Pat Bartee, Stephen Leader to get involved.

**May 8, 2022**





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

Giving



**Youth:** We are NOT meeting today. Our final Youth group will be May 15 and will enjoy an Escape Room!

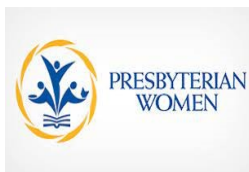


**Mother's Day Offering:** All donations to the Caring Hands Fund provide financial assistance to the most vulnerable residents of Presbyterian Homes and ensure that no one is ever asked to leave because they have outlived their financial resources.

**May Communion Offering** is for the Day Center and Administrative Office of Family Promise which has recently relocated to the Roswell area. Please feel free to pick up a bag with a shopping list attached.



**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:** The **Day Circle** will meet on May 10 and the **Sunday Circle** will meet on May 15 after the service. They will study lesson 8, "Mary in the Faith and Tradition of the Church", in the Horizons Bible Study, *What My Grandmothers Taught Me*. The **Book Circle** will meet on May 13 and review the book, *The Killer Angels*, by Michael Shaara.

**The MVPC Members' Gift of Wisdom** Spring/Summer issue will be available in May.

**Ways to Connect:** Are you on our mailing list for the weekly *Happenings* email? How about the monthly newsletter *The Good News*? If not and you would like to receive them, send an email to [debbie@mvpchurch.org](mailto:debbie@mvpchurch.org)

**Prayer Concerns:** Geoff Freeman, Jeannie Lee, Rev. Asa Meadows, Alistair Morine, Irene Nelson, Beverly Northrop, Rob Southard, Dave Whitacre, people of Ukraine, and vulnerable families, Zambia, Los Niños Primero, CAC, Family Promise

<b>Attendance:</b> 5/1	10:30 Outdoor Worship	96
	Online	27

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

### Financial Update

April 28-30	Actual	Actual YTD	2022 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 6,801	\$ 203,181	\$449,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 0	\$ 17,152	\$ 60,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 1,000	\$ 4,706	\$ 10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,801</b>	<b>\$ 225,039</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)