



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 15, 2022 + 10:30 AM

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

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

“Nobody Knows the Trouble I’ve Seen”

Donna Maini

arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

Shari Freeman

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Inspired by 1 Kings 19, this call invites us to remember that God calls us in both mountaintop experiences & through the still, small voice of the Holy Spirit.

ONE: Why are you here?

ALL: **We are passionate for God.**

ONE: Why are you here?

ALL: **We cannot bear the sorrow and violence of the world.**

ONE: Why are you here?

ALL: **We are hungry; we are tired; we are scared.**

ONE: God says: I am glad you are here. Watch and listen.

ALL: **We hear the howling wind. We sense the earth shake. We feel the heat from the blazing fire.**

ONE: Watch and listen for the Holy One.

ALL: **We hear a sound. Thin. Silent.**

ONE: Watch and listen for the Holy One.

ALL: **This is why we are here.**

† MORNING SONG

“God Is Here”

ABBOT’S LEIGH

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,

May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.

Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us of our life-long need of grace;

Here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.

Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech, here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd’s flock and fold;

Here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.

Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt keep us faithful to the gospel;

Help us work your purpose out.

Here, in this day’s dedication, all we have to give, receive: we,
who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Almighty God, we confess that we do not always understand your ways. We push everything to its limits instead of waiting for your timing. We are easily discouraged when life takes unexpected turns and our carefully laid plans and dreams come to nothing. We are quick to give up when things get difficult and quick to forget your presence and power. Forgive us. Grant us patience to wait for your good timing. Open our eyes to recognize you leading in our lives— to listen for your gentle whisper when we least expect it. Give us the courage to step out in faith and obedience, trusting in you leading even when we cannot yet see the outcome. We praise you for your faithful love and pray that you would make us worthy to bear your name ... (silent confession) Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Abernethy

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

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Rev. Isaac 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.)

Shari Freeman is the first Columbia Seminary intern we have had in over a decade at MVPC. Today culminates her first year with us. Please send her off with the peace of Christ as she serves a chaplain residency at the Atlanta VA Hospital this summer. Shari will return to begin her second year with us this September.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Shari Freeman

SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 19:8-16

HOMILY

Hearing God

RESPONSE

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(from the confession of 1967)*

Shari Freeman

God has created humanity in a personal relationship with God's self so that they may respond to the love of the Creator. God has created humanity and given them a life that proceeds from birth to death in a succession of generations and in a wide complex of social relations. God has endowed people with the capacities to make the world serve God's needs and to enjoy its good things. Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage. People are free to seek their life within the purpose of God: to develop and protect the resources of nature for the common welfare, to work for justice and peace in society, and in other ways to use their creative powers for the fulfillment of human life.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Abernethy

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.

The call & response of "Lord in Your Mercy - Hear our Prayer" during the petitions of the prayers of the people is said to have been a staple of the worship service John Calvin would lead when he began the Reformed/ Presbyterian movement in Geneva, Switzerland in the 16th Century.

OFFERTORY

"Praise God! Sing All Ye Heavens"

W.A. Mozart (1756-1791) arr. Hal H. Hopson

Praise God! Sing ye heavens; sun and moon now praise the Lord.
Shining stars be joyful together. All the host on high praise the Lord.
Earth now join the joyful song; all that breathes give praise to the Lord.
Sing your praise forever. Alleluia.

† DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Beppie Lever

SENDING

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL **“Shine, Jesus, Shine”**
Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)

Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us; set us free by the truth you now bring us.

Shine on me; shine on me;
Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze Spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

Lord, I come to your awesome presence, from the shadows into your radiance;

By the blood I may enter your brightness.
Search me; try me; consume all my darkness.
Shine on me; shine on me
Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze Spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness;
Ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here may our lives tell your story.

Shine on me; shine on me
Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze Spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

† BENEDICTION

Shari Freeman

POSTLUDE

"Come, Thou Almighty King"
arr. Anna Laura Page

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
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



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

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. _____

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:



- May 22 “Looking for a Hazy Day”, Acts 1:1-11, Ascension of the Lord, Communion Rev. Barrett Abernethy
- May 29 Hymn Sing Celebrating the History of the Church

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 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? MVPPC 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 15, 2022



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

Giving



Youth: Our final Youth group is TODAY! We are going to an Escape Room.

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** met on May 10 and the **Sunday Circle** will meet TODAY 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** met on May 13 and reviewed the book, *The Killer Angels*, by Michael Shaara. **Circle of Grace** will meet TODAY at 6:00pm at the home of Christy Hill.

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

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

Attendance: 5/8	10:30 Outdoor Worship	91
	Online	23

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

Financial Update

May 1-11	Actual	Actual YTD	2022 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 9,804	\$ 212,985	\$449,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 1,615	\$ 18,767	\$ 60,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 155	\$ 4,861	\$ 10,000
Total	\$11,574	\$ 236,613	\$ 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