



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 29, 2022 • 10:30 AM

† For those who are able, please stand.

Prior to 1954, there were no Presbyterian churches in Sandy Springs. Presbyterians living in the area were obliged to either join local churches, primarily Methodist and Baptist, or else commute long distances to Presbyterian churches in Roswell or Atlanta. As the community of Sandy Springs grew, Atlanta Presbytery foresaw the need of a Presbyterian church in the area. That foresight led to the purchase in 1953 of the Burdett property on which the Mount Vernon Church is now located. The old Southern-style, white-columned mansion and 7 1/2 acres of land was purchased for \$30,000.

Carroll Bigham, Church Historian, 1988

GATHERING MUSIC

"Herzlich tut mich verlangen," BWV 727
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Donna Maini

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "Hymn for a Church Anniversary"

Festal Song
written by Martha Chambliss

Sing praises to our God, who through these fifty years
Has blessed us in so many ways and helped us face our fears.

Give thanks for those who dreamed and then began to build,
And those who over time have worked to see the dreams fulfilled.

Be guided by God's word in all that's said and done.
We have the pattern for our lives as given by God's Son.

Sing praises to our God, whose promises are sure.
When we express our faith through love, our future is secure.

Martha Chambliss and her late husband, Gene, joined MVPC in 1981. She composed the lyrics for this hymn for the church's 50th Anniversary in 2004. As they did that Sunday, we process into worship singing Martha's words.

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

CALL TO WORSHIP

Matthias Young

(based on words written by Dr. Charlie Bryson, Director of Music from 1978-1987)

ONE: The Music Ministry within Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church is organized

ALL: **To develop a comprehensive church music education program,**

ONE: Which will offer participation for all,

ALL: **Will magnify worship,**

ONE: Will promote religious education,

ALL: **Will promote evangelism,**

ONE: Will benefit all ages,

ALL: **And other organizations of the church. Let us worship God by ringing a joyful noise!**

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 25

Gail Williams

HYMN

"Amazing Grace"
AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Abernethy

When we worship in this wonderful place, and are lifted up by your presence, we know ourselves. We know how far we are from you in spirit, in truth. We know that the false nature of our pride accepts unhappiness rather than admit wrong. We know the gluttony of our selfishness which destroys others to get our way. We know the emptiness of our greed which is rich in things and poor in soul. Forgive, O God! Forgive, we pray. Give us the courage to change, to receive your new life now.
(silent confession) AMEN.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Abernethy

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

OFFERTORY

"Build Thee More Stately Mansions"

Text by Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894)
Music by Gordon Young (1919-1998)

This anthem
was sung by
the choir on
Dedication
Sunday,
December 7,
1969.

Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul!
As the swift seasons roll! Leave thy low-vaulted past!
Let each new temple, nobler than the last, shut thee from heav'n with a dome more vast,
Till thou at length art free, leaving thine outgrown shell by life's unresting sea!

† 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

Helen Bigham

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Abernethy

(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.)

† HYMN

“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”

NATIONAL HYMN

God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past; in this free land by thee our lot is cast;
Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay; thy word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

Refresh thy people on their toil-some way. lead us from night to never-ending day.
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(from A Declaration of Faith)*

Rev. Abernethy

The church's story with God did not end with the latest events recorded in Scripture.
Across the centuries the company of believers has continued its pilgrimage with the Lord of history.
It is a record of faith and faithlessness, glory and shame.
The church has been persecuted by hostile societies, but it has also known times of privilege and power when it joined forces with dominant cultures.
It has sought holiness through separation from society, as well as through involvement in the world's affairs.
It has experienced life-giving reformations.
It has known missionary expansion throughout the world, but also periods of dwindling resources and influence.
It has divided into rival orders, sects and denominations, but it has also labored for cooperation and union.
We confess we are heirs of this whole story.
We are charged to remember our past, to be warned and encouraged by it, but not to live it again.
Now is the time of our testing as God's story with the church moves forward through us.
We are called to live now as God's servants in the service of people everywhere.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43:18-19

Steve Whisenant

HYMN

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

HYFRYDOL

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee: changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

HYMN

"Be Thou My Vision"

SLANE

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower; raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

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 21 candles lit are for the children and teachers who were killed at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas this past week. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

† HYMN

"You Are My All In All"

Dennis Jernigan (b. 1959)

You are my strength when I am weak; you are the treasure that I seek; you are my all in all.
Seeking You as a precious jewel; Lord to give up I'd be a fool; you are my all in all.

Refrain

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name!

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name!

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame; rising again I bless your name; you are my all in all.
When I fall down, you pick me up; when I am dry, you fill my cup; you are my all in all. (*refrain*)

† HYMN

"We Are Marching"

(Siyahamba/Caminando)

We are marching in the light of God,

We are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of, the light of God.

We are marching, marching, we are marching, marching,

We are marching in the light of God.

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Allegro"

from 12 Violin Sonatas, Op. 5, No. 3

Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713)

Rev. Abernethy

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

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



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, 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:



June 5 "Open Eyes, Open Heart", Ephesians 1:11-23, Rev. Barrett Abernethy

June 12 "God in Three Persons", Revelation 4:1-11, Rev. Barrett Abernethy

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.



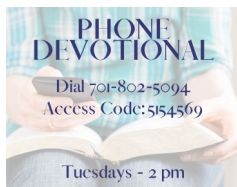
Stephen Ministry: There are all kinds of loss in life, loss of job or wealth, loss of a friend or a long-time home, loss of a child in death or leaving for college, loss of health or a healthy perspective, or the loss of a spouse. It takes a strong person to journey through grief alone. Our church provides a temporary companion for that hard, swampy journey who will listen, hear, and encourage you through to dry land. Please call on a Stephen Minister for those difficult times by contacting a minister or Pat Bartee, Stephen Leader.

Connection Snacks: Please sign up on the SignUp Genius on the website or let Debbie know what day you would like to bring snack through the end of July.



Family Promise July 3-17: Be on the lookout for a notice that the Family Promise Sign Up Genius will be ready the first week in June. Our Families will be staying with us for two weeks in July so there will be a variety of ways to help out.

May 29, 2022



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

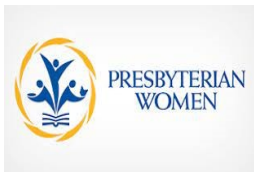
Giving



Youth: Congratulations to the Class of 2022! Have a great summer! We'll be back in August.

The Pentecost Offering, one of four annual offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA), will be received on **Sunday, June 5**. Proceeds from this offering are divided with 40% retained by the local congregation to support a program for at-risk youth (MVPC has designated Stirred Up Ministries as our recipient). The remaining 60% goes to the General Assembly to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adult programs of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. For more information about the offering, please go online to: specialofferings.pcusa.org.

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: Have a great summer! PW will resume on **Sunday, August 28** with our Salad Luncheon and Officer Installation.

The MVPC Members' Gift of Wisdom Spring/Summer issue is available in the Narthex and Information Centers.

MVP Foundation: Join us in our "\$22K for 2022" matching campaign! We have a wonderful donor willing to match dollar for dollar up to \$22K. To date we have received \$12K. The MVP Foundation has provided over \$500,000 to various mission partners such as our Youth Group, Los Niños, CAC, as well as the Intern Program here at MVPC.

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, Mrs. JB, 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

Congratulations to church member Chris Gray who married Kayla Holcomb this weekend!

Christian Sympathy: We heard that former member, Amy Zang, passed away recently. Please pray for her family. If you would like to send the family a note of sympathy, contact the church office and we can get you their home address.

Attendance:	5/22	10:30 Worship	62
		Online	12

Financial Update

May 20-26	Actual	Actual YTD	2022 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 6,580	\$ 228,437	\$449,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 60	\$ 18,837	\$ 60,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 0	\$ 4,921	\$ 10,000
Total	\$ 6,640	\$252,195	\$ 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