



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 28, 2022 • 10:30 AM

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

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arm"
arr. Wilbur Held

Justin Bowen

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: Death is hard.

ALL: **It is. The completion of life marks an end and a separation.**

ONE: But it is more than that.

ALL: **That is why we call the "funeral" a "service in witness to the resurrection."**

ONE: So let us talk about death.

ALL: **Let us talk about resurrection. Let us worship God.**

† **MORNING SONG**

"In the Garden"
GARDEN

Pharmacist C. Austin Miles wrote this hymn in 1912. He stated he wrote the lyrics after a vision where he found himself in the garden with Mary, Peter, and John during the resurrection account found in the Book of John 20:1-18. Today this hymn, while not in our Presbyterian Hymnal, is a favorite found in many funeral services.

I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses,
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.

Refrain

And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there none other has ever known.

He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that He gave to me within my heart is ringing. (*refrain*)

I'd stay in the garden with Him though the night around me be falling;
But He bids me go; through the voice of woe, His voice to me is calling. (*refrain*)

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Almighty and Gracious God, we praise you for your victory over sin and death. You raised Jesus from the grave and crowned him Lord of all. We confess we have not consistently bowed before him. We have not daily acknowledged his rule in our lives. Instead, we have gone along with the world's way and failed to give him glory. Forgive us and raise us from our sin through your Word and spirit. Transform us into faithful followers of Jesus Christ, the one who rules the world and is head of the church. In his name we pray...*(silent confession)* ... Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† RESPONSE

"I'll Fly Away"

I'll fly away, Oh Glory I'll fly away; in the morning
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away, I'll fly away.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

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

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Abernethy

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 15:50-58

HOMILY

For All the Saints

RESPONSE

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Question 1 of the Heidelberg Catechism*)

Rev. Abernethy

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my God in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him....

Amen.

This catechism, written in 1563, was divided into 52 sections, so the church could go through it in a year. This first question was designed as a summation of the entire catechism.

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.

OFFERTORY

**“How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings”
Samuel Liddle (1867-1951)**

Nichol Jacobs, Soprano

How lovely are Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts!
My soul longeth, yea, fainteth, for the courts of the Lord:
My heart and flesh cry out for the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house,
and the swallow a nest, where she may lay her young,
even Thine altars, O Lord of Hosts, my King and my God.

O Lord God of Hosts, hear my prayer.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God,
than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.
For a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand.

† 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

Christy Hill

SENDING

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL #526

"For All the Saints" SINE NOMINE

Anglican
Bishop William
Walsham How
wrote this
hymn for the
occasion of All
Saints' Day. The
theology of this
hymn invites us
here on earth
to remember
our connection
with the
communion of
saints who have
joined the
church
triumphant, for
as our faith
reminds us, "In
life and death,
we belong to
God."

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

POSTLUDE

"Toccata Brevis"
Dan Gawthrop

Justin Bowen

Leading Today's Worship Service
Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Senior Pastor
Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor
Justin Bowen, Guest Accompanist

*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

Hymn idea? Sermon idea?
Let us know what you want to hear!

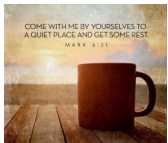
1. _____
2. _____

Welcome! We are glad to worship with you 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:



September 4

Mark 6:30-32, "Come Away and Rest", Rev. Barrett Abernethy

September 11

John 15:1-17, "Perfect Little Branches", Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Called Congregational Meeting: Sunday, September 25 after worship to elect new church officers; and to discuss the business matters concerning the new HVAC system in the Sanctuary.



Presbyterian Women: The Presbyterian Women's **Fall Kickoff Luncheon** is **today** in the Kirk Center right after the service. Join us for the luncheon and installation of officers. Drinks will be provided.

Fall Kick-Off! Plan on joining us on Sunday, **September 11** after worship for our annual Fall Kick-off. Come learn how to get involved in the various ministries in the life of the church. We'll be serving BBQ Pork and have a corn hole tournament! We look forward to seeing you there!



Connection Snacks: We have just three slots open. SignUp Genius is on our website or you sign up in the Narthex. Thank you to the ones who have signed up and brought snacks!

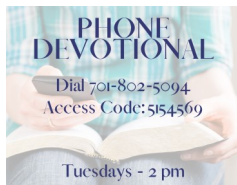
Conversation (Adult Sunday School): Discovery meets in the Chapel and are using the book "The Present Word". Crossroads will begin September 11 and will study "Mere Christianity" by C. S. Lewis.

Church Directory: It's that time again when the directory needs to be updated. If your address, email, or phone number has changed, please contact debbie@mvpchurch.org or call the church office with your updates. **Deadline: August 31**



Staff Addition: We are glad to announce that Donna Maini will be joining our staff in a permanent position as our Accompanist beginning next Sunday, September 4.

August 28, 2022



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

Giving



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

Ministry Team Cards: these cards include events for August–October and are available to be picked up in the Narthex.



Stephen Ministry: The job of turning things around can seldom be done alone. That is why our church has a trained group of laypeople called Stephen Ministers who will walk the path with you, offering encouragement, new strategies, and lots of listening. If you are going through a divorce, loss of job, grief, a big move, empty nest, new health diagnosis, or whatever rocks your world, we are here for you. Contact a minister or Pat Barte, Stephen leader, to get started.

August Communion Offering is for the International Women's House, a shelter for abused refugee and immigrant women and their children. Shopping list is on the blue bags in the Narthex. For more information about the shelter, please go to www.internationalwomenshouse.com.



The MVPC Members' Gift of Wisdom: Fall 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.



Happy Birthday to Hazel Cofield who turns 100 on September 4! Send cards to: 8592 Roswell Rd., Sandy Springs, GA 30350-1870



Do you feel a need for prayer? Have our Prayer Vine pray for you! Email your requests to pbartee@yahoo.com or call the church office at 404.255.2211.

Prayer Concerns: Mrs. JB, James Ballew, Dee Bradford-Smith, Nicole Brown, John Robert Christian, Allison Eustis, Neill Ferrill, Alistair Morine, Irene Nelson, Karla Schultz, Beth S., Laura Snipes, Rob Southard, Wilma Turner, Dave Whitacre, people of Ukraine, Zambia

Attendance: 8/21 Worship 76
 Online 23

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

Financial Update

August 18-25	Actual	Actual YTD	2022 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 5,652	\$ 333,972	\$449,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 10	\$ 24,522	\$ 60,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 110	\$ 6,319	\$ 10,000
Total	\$ 5,772	\$364,813	\$ 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