



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JUNE 18, 2023 • 10:30 AM

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

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

“Good, Good Father”
Housefires

Emi Lutz

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shari Freeman

OPENING PRAYER

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: Wherever we gather,

ALL: The sanctuary, the courtyard, or the Fellowship Hall,

ONE: We find the presence of Jesus Christ, the true cornerstone of the church.

ALL: So let us gather in this space he created,

ONE: Let us dwell deeply in his Word.

ALL: For what we may have heard before, we need to hear anew. Let us worship God!

† **MORNING SONG**

“Come, Now Is the Time to Worship”
Brian Doerksen

Come, now is the time to worship.

Come, now is the time to give your heart.

Come, just as you are, to worship.

Come, just as you are, before your God. Come.

One day every tongue will confess you are God.

One day every knee will bow.

Still the greatest treasure remains for those
who gladly choose you now. *(repeat)*

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Christina Toney-Schmitt

God of hope, we come to you because we have failed to live up to the words your Son, Jesus Christ, offers us today.

He invites us to climb the mountain to overcome our anger, but too often our anger drives our motives and separates us from you.

He invites us to climb the mountain of infidelity, but too often we allow the lust of our mind to corrupt our heart.

He invites us to climb the mountain of divorce, and while we know that peace and resurrection can be found in starting anew, we also lament the breaking apart of families.

He invites us to climb the mountain and to maintain the oaths we make, for the covenants we make bind us in the faith we receive from you.

Let us live out these invitations. Not just as fathers on this day, but as a shared family of faith. Let us seek peace and forgiveness where anger resides. Let us maintain the vows we offered to our partner. Let us, where possible, find love where it once was lost. Let us keep our covenants with one another and with you. Let us climb the mountain as fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, humans - seeking the community that Jesus reveals at the place where earth pierces the hope of heaven. In your holy 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

“Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone”

Chris Tomlin

My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love
Amazing grace

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

(All children 5th grade and younger are invited to come forward for storytelling and prayer.)

Afterwards the children are invited to Children's Church in the Chapel.)

Chris Tomlin wrote this version of "Amazing Grace" in 2007 to accompany a movie about William Wilberforce called *Amazing Grace*. Wilberforce was a British politician and leader of the movement to abolish the slave trade in Great Britain.

† 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

Shari Freeman

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:21-37 (*see insert*)

HOMILY

“Jesus’ Father’s Day Sermon”

RESPONSE

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*from the Confession of 1967 Inclusive Language Text*)

The relationship between man and woman exemplifies in a basic way God’s ordering of the interpersonal life for which God created humankind... The church, as the household of God, is called to lead people out of this alienation into the responsible freedom of the new life in Christ. Reconciled to God, people have joy in and respect for their own humanity and that of other persons; a man and woman are enabled to marry, to commit themselves to a mutually shared life, and to respond to each other in sensitive and lifelong concern; parents receive the grace to care for children in love and to nurture their individuality. The church comes under the judgment of God and invites rejection by society when it fails to lead men and women into the full meaning of life together, or withholds the compassion of Christ from those caught in the moral confusion of our time. Amen.

The Confession of 1967 notes that God’s reconciling work in Jesus Christ and the church’s mission of reconciliation are the heart of the gospel in any age, but ‘our generation stands in peculiar need of reconciliation in Christ.’

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Christina 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

“Panis Angelicus”

César Franck

Rebecca Shipley &

Roger Scanlan

Thus Angels’ Bread is made the Bread of man today;
The living Bread from heaven which figures doth away;
O wondrous gift indeed!
The poor and lowly may upon their Lord and Master feed.
O triune Deity, to thee we meekly pray,
So mayst thou visit us, as we our homage pay;
And in thy pathways bright conduct us on our way
To where thou dwell’s in cloudless light. Amen.

† 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

Sujay Galen

SENDING

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" NETTLETON

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

Ebenezer is a Hebrew name that means "stone of help" and is meant to symbolize the Lord. In 1 Samuel 7:12, Samuel names a stone Ebenezer to signify God's help.

† BENEDICTION

Shari Freeman

POSTLUDE

"Adoration"
arr. Tom Fettke

Donna Maini

Leading Today's Worship Service
Shari Freeman, Seminary Intern
Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor
Christina Toney-Schmitt, Liturgist
Donna Maini, Accompanist
Emi Lutz, Guitarist

*If you are interested in joining MVP Church,
go to the Visitor's Table to pick up a visitor bag and a little gift.*

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....



**New Summer
Office Hours:**
**Mon - Fri
8am - 1pm**

WWW.MVPCHURCH.ORG

Welcome! We are glad to worship with you today!

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** and pick up a visitor bag.

Upcoming Services/Events:



June 25 "Love Your Enemies", Matthew 5:38-48, Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

July 2 Los Niños Primero Sunday, Matthew 13:31-32



Office Closed: Tomorrow, June 19



Family Promise: Please plan to join the Discovery Sunday School Class at 9:30am on June 25 in the Chapel as Andrea Brantley, Director of Family Promise North Fulton/DeKalb shares some interesting information about this vital program and how we as volunteers are and can continue to contribute. The SignUp Genius link is in the Happenings email and will be on the website this week.



Senior Adults: Join us for a trip to the High Museum's **FREE** "Second Sunday" on July 9, from 1-5pm, parking is \$20 at the Museum. There are other lots nearby. Carpool is also offered. Let us know if you intend to join us for dinner afterwards at Mary Mac's Tea Room.

Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it down the row as you greet your neighbor!

June 18, 2023

