



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 9, 2023 + 10:30 AM

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

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

“You Are My King”
Billie James Foote

Donna Maini

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

OPENING PRAYER

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** (*adapted from Psalm 24*)

ONE: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, even the people!

ALL: God is the foundation of the lands and the bedrock of the sea!

ONE: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord to stand in this holy place?

ALL: Those who bring forgiveness, humility, and do not boast of their achievements.

ONE: They will receive blessings from God in this holy place.

ALL: They will receive a community who cares for them in this holy place. Let us worship God!

† **MORNING SONG**

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

DIX

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies.

Refrain:

Lord of all, to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light. (*refrain*)

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight. (*refrain*)

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild. (*refrain*)

For Thy Church, that evermore lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love. (*refrain*)

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Confession in worship allows us to acknowledge that we are all broken and that forgiveness must be sought corporately and individually.

God of Forgiveness and Mercy, you witness our spiritual practices and discern our motives. We admit that our motives are not always pure. We make a show of our giving so that we are seen as generous people. We pray loudly and publicly in a way that focuses on our skill as a speaker rather than our relationship with you. We plan to have quiet time with you throughout our day, then forget, then challenge ourselves to double the quiet time with you tomorrow. All the while, we drift from a simple, intimate relationship with you. See us, discern our motives, and forgive us. Call us once more into your presence where we are confident that your care overcomes all ... *(silent confession)* ... Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† RESPONSE

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”
SOJOURNER

I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
All along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Rev. 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.)

† 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

Rev. Abernethy

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:1-18
(see insert)

HOMILY

“A Spiritual Life”

RESPONSE

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*from the Second Helvetic Confession, Inclusive Language*)

Rev. Abernethy

For we teach that truly good works grow out of a living faith by the Holy Spirit and are done by the faithful according to the will or rule of God's Word...(5.115).

Prayer is to be made voluntarily, without constraint for any reward. Nor is it proper for prayer to be superstitiously restricted to one place, as if it were not permitted to pray anywhere except in a sanctuary. Neither is it necessary for public prayers to be the same in all churches with respect to form and time. Each Church is to exercise its own freedom...(5.219).

All fasts ought to proceed from a free and willing spirit, and from genuine humility, and not feigned to gain the applause or favor of [people], much less a [person] should wish to merit righteousness by them. But let every one fast to this end, that [they] may deprive the flesh of its fuel in order that [they] may the more zealously serve God... (5.229).

OFFERTORY

"A Living Prayer"

Mike & Kathy Havey

† 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

Ed Taylor

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Abernethy, Rev. Toney-Schmitt

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ONE: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

ONE: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYER OVER THE ELEMENTS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*(The congregation is invited to come forward to receive communion.
If you prefer to remain seated, an elder will bring communion to you.)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Notice the theme of that justice that runs through the Lord's Prayer. 1) The call for the earthly life to mirror heaven. 2) The call for sufficient nourishment. 3) The call to forgive debtors. Truly a radical vision of justice!

SENDING

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL

“Shout to the Lord”

Hillsong Worship

We chose the hymn because shouting is a fundamental part of the “gym experience!” We shout to root on teams and the players we like. Let us now shout to the Lord in a way that celebrates Christ who is in all, above all and through all.

My Jesus, my Saviour Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort, my shelter tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am never cease to worship You

Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

My Jesus, my Saviour Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort

My shelter

Tower of refuge and strength let every breath, all that I am
Never cease to worship You

Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing power and majesty, praise to the King
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Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have oh nothing compares to the promise I have
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

POSTLUDE

“My Savior’s Love”

Donna Maini

Arr. Cindy Berry

Leading Today’s Worship Service

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Senior Pastor

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor

Donna Maini, Accompanist

We are located at:
471 Mount Vernon Hwy., NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30328



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:



July Worship Welcome to the school gym where we'll be for this month!

Please save the "Reserved" seats for the ones who need them.

July 16 "A Worldly Life", Matthew 6:19-34, Rev. Barrett Abernethy

July 23 "Do Unto Others", Matthew 7:1-12, Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt



Senior Adults: Join us for a trip to the High Museum's **FREE** "Second Sunday" today 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.



Family Promise starts today and runs through July 23! We have a few slots in SignUp Genius still needing volunteers: Laundry duties "sheets/towels" on 7/16, Organizing/Cleaning on 7/23, and Nightly Dinners still needed.

Please call Penny Kiel @ 615-477-0414 with questions or go to the church website to sign up and volunteer.

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

July 9, 2023

