



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 27, 2023 + 10:30 AM

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

The apostle Andrew, brother of Simon Peter, is represented by a great boat hook. This recalls his original occupation as a fisherman and his call by Jesus to become a “fisher of people.” The boat hook is superimposed over a cross saltire, or X shaped cross, because tradition tells us he was crucified on such a cross, feeling unworthy to meet death on a cross shaped as the one upon which Jesus hung. This cross is a symbol of humility and suffering.

Needlepoint By:
Doris Bobbit, Nancy Morris,
Polly Sandidge

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

“How Great is Our God”
Chris Tomlin

Emi Lutz

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

OPENING PRAYER

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: Welcome to a gathering place, a place to exclaim, *Here is the Lamb of God!*

ALL: **Welcome to a space we invite others to, a place to walk alongside one another.**

ONE: Today we meet Andrew, a disciple who followed Jesus and invited others to follow too.

ALL: **Andrew spent a day with Jesus then declared that, *We have found the Messiah!***

ONE: May Andrew’s courage guide us today.

ALL: **Let us worship God!**

† **MORNING SONG #377** **“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”**
PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

You have come up to the lakeshore, looking neither for wise nor for wealthy.
You only wanted that I should follow.

Refrain

O Lord, with Your eyes You have searched me, and, while smiling, have called out my name.

Now my boat’s left on the shoreline behind me, now with You I will seek other seas.

You know that I own so little, in my boat there’s no money nor weapons,
You’ll only find there my nets and labor. (*refrain*)

You need the caring of my hands. Through my tiredness, may others find resting.
You need a love that just goes on loving. (*refrain*)

You, who have fished other oceans, ever longed for by souls that are waiting,
My dear and good friend, as thus You call me. (*refrain*)

In Matthew 4:18-20, Jesus calls Simon Peter & Andrew by the Sea of Galilee because they were both fishermen. This song speaks to this version of Andrew’s call to discipleship.

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

God of the Invitation, Andrew heard you, followed you, sat with you, then declared you to be the Messiah. Was this the first time he was invited to sit with you? Or the tenth time? Or the hundredth? O God, we confess that we have failed to hear many of your invitations to sit with you. We are too often distracted, busy, and worried about our own affairs to listen. Whether Andrew responded the first time or the hundredth time he heard you, we are encouraged that you welcomed him nonetheless. Share your invitation with us to sit with you once more, and support us to take the courageous step toward you ... *(silent confession)* ... Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† RESPONSE

“O God, You Are My God”

STEP BY STEP

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways.

And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

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

John 1:35-42

HOMILY

"Seats of Discipleship: Andrew"

Read the different call stories (Matt. 4:18-22, Mark 1:16-20, and Luke 5:1-11) and see: 1- Is Andrew present in the story, and 2-How is the story different from John's gospel we read today?

RESPONSE

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*from the Heidelberg Catechism, 4.004*)

Rev. Abernethy

What does God's law require of us?

Christ teaches us this in summary in Matthew 22:37-40:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and prophets."

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

"What a Beautiful Name"

Emi Lutz

Hillsong Worship

† 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

Carrie Southard/Children of the Church

SENDING

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL #372

“Lord, I Want to be a Christian”
I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.

In-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart,

In-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in-a my heart.

In-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in-a my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart.

In-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

POSTLUDE

"Glad Tidings"
Thomas Chesterton

Donna Maini

Leading Today's Worship Service

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Senior Pastor

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor

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:
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Sandy Springs, GA 30328



mvpchurch.org

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