

† PRAYER FOR HOPE

Shari Freeman

God of Wisdom, we come before you each and every Sunday to heed your Word. From that Word you inspire us to use our voices. Through our collective voice we have discerned that you are leading us to Reach Out To... Welcome. Worship. Share. Serve.

May we welcome expansively. May all those who come to this church or who meet us on the street know that the Spirit of the Living God dwells within and through us.

May we worship passionately. May all who come to this courtyard, sanctuary, garden, or wherever else you may find two or more gathered know that the redemptive work of Jesus Christ is present.

May we share abundantly. We have been given so much. May all who come, find what they seek or know that they can ask, for we share not out of a sense of ownership but rather a call to build community.

May we serve joyfully. Let us serve not out of a sense of duty. Let us serve out of a sense of hope. Let us serve not the one that we see as other, but let us serve the one we see as brother, sister, and friend. For our calling as Christians is to love.

Let these be our Words, and let these Words express our hope. Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† RESPONSE #432

“Song of Hope”

ARGENTINA

May the God of hope go with us every day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.

May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Refrain:

Praying, let us work for peace,
Singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new,
Faithful when we hear Christ's call.

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.)

† 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

Luke 10:1-12

HOMILY

“Reaching out to ... Welcome. Worship. Share. Serve.”

As you hear this message, may you consider how you reach out to welcome, worship, share, and serve in a way glorifies God and makes God's name known.

RESPONSE

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*from the Confession of 1967: 9.35-9.38*)

Rev. Abernethy

Wherever the church exists, its members are both gathered in corporate life and dispersed in society for the sake of mission in the world.

The church gathers to praise God, to hear God's word for humankind, to baptize and to join in the Lord's Supper, to pray for and present the world to God in worship, to enjoy fellowship, to receive instruction, strength, and comfort, to order and organize its own corporate life, to be tested, renewed, and reformed, and to speak and act in the world's affairs as may be appropriate to the needs of the time.

The church disperses to serve God wherever its members are, at work or play, in private or in the life of society. Their prayer and Bible study are part of the church's worship and theological reflection. Their witness is the church's evangelism. Their daily action in the world is the church in mission to the world. The quality of their relation with other persons is the measure of the church's fidelity.

Each member is the church in the world, endowed by the Spirit with some gift of ministry and is responsible for the integrity of their witness in their own particular situation. They are entitled to the guidance and support of the Christian community and are subject to its advice and correction. They in turn, in their own competence, help to guide the church.

OFFERTORY

"Good, Good Father"

Emi Lutz

Lifeway 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

Wendy Hagenau

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Abernethy

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Shari Freeman

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

SENDING

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL

“They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love”
ST. BRENDAN’S

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

Refrain

And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
And together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land: *(refrain)*

We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
And we’ll guard human dignity and save human pride: *(refrain)*

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: *(refrain)*

†BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

POSTLUDE

“ **“On Eagle’s Wings ”**
Michael Joncas

Donna Maini

Leading Today’s Worship Service

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Senior Pastor

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor

Donna Maini, Accompanist

Shari Freeman, Seminary Intern

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....



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:

Fall Sermon Series: Seats of Discipleship



September 17 John 2:13-22, "*Simon the Zealot*", Rev. Barrett Abernethy

September 24 Matthew 9:9-13, "Matthew", Shari Freeman, Seminary Intern



Congregational Meeting: Sunday, September 24 after worship to elect new elders.



Small Groups: Signups for our 6-week small groups will be in the Narthex TODAY. The small groups will begin September 17.



Presbyterian Women: The Circle of Grace will meet today, September 10, at the home of Lisa Cumming. The Day Circle will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 12, at 10:00am in the Chapel. Pat Davis will teach Lesson 1, *Elizabeth's Sacred Encounter*, in the Horizons Bible Study: *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts by Olive Mahabir*. Study guides will be available for purchase.



Senior Adults - Mystery Matinee "The Way", Saturday, September 16th, 1pm Session Room

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

September 10, 2023

