



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 26, 2023 • 10:30 AM

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

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

Pope Pius XI decreed the first "Christ the King" celebration in 1925 on the Sunday prior to All Saints Day. Now it is celebrated on the last day of the Christian year and often renamed as "Reign of Christ".

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

GATHERING MUSIC **"Holy Spirit, You are Welcome Here"**
Emi Lutz, Guitar

Elevation

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

OPENING PRAYER

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: On Thursday, we celebrated the bountiful harvest God provides.

ALL: Today we celebrate Jesus, Christ the King!

ONE: Who is he?

ALL: He is the head of the Church!

ONE: How did he ascend to this authority?

ALL: God raised him from death to life and seats him at God's right hand.

ONE: How do we acknowledge this ascension to the throne of God?

ALL: By ringing a joyful noise! Let us worship God!

† **MORNING SONG #142** **"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"**

CORONATION

All hail the power of Jesus' Name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all!
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all!
To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng we at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all!

† CELEBRATION OF THE REIGN OF CHRIST

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

Psalm 93 is classified as an "enthronement" Psalm because it may have been used on feast days to celebrate God as king.

Jesus Christ is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

He reigns over us and all our world with justice, mercy, and peace.

As we celebrate this reign today, the psalmist reminds us of the majesty and grace of our sovereign Lord:

Psalm 93

As this liturgical year comes to an end and a new one begins, may we sing all joy and praise to Christ who reigns now and always. May we find our brokenness made whole in the coming Kingdom of God.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† HYMN #144

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! His the scepter, His the throne.

Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone!

Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood;

Jesus out of every nation hath redeemed us by His blood.

Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now.

Alleluia! He is near us; faith believes, nor questions how.

Though the cloud from sight received Him, when the forty days were o'er,

Shall our hearts forget His promise, "I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Bread of angels, thou on earth our food, our stay.

Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to Thee from day to day.

Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,

Where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal, thee the Lord of lords we own;

Alleluia! born of Mary, Earth Thy footstool, heaven Thy throne.

Thou within the veil hast entered, robed in flesh our great High Priest;

Thou on earth both priest and victim in the Eucharistic feast.

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. Toney-Schmitt

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 1:15-23

HOMILY

"If Christ is the King, Who is the Queen?"

RESPONSE

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Confession of 1967, 9.54-9.55*)

Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as heavenly city, a father's house, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast, and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents the triumph of God over all that resists God's will and disrupts God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in us and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

I often think "ferment" is a typo of "firmament." It is not, but it begs the questions: Is God's reign a firmament of the world or a hidden ferment in the world? Or both?

OFFERTORY

"For the Beauty of the Earth"
The Chancel Choir

John Rutter

† 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

Christina Toney-Schmitt

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Isaac 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.

HYMN #513

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

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 (*see insert*)

“Shout to the Lord”

Hillsong Worship

My Jesus, my Savior. 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

Chorus

Shout to the Lord all the earth let us sing
Power and majesty Praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the sea 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 Savior 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 (*chorus*)

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

POSTLUDE

“Better is One Day”

Matt Redman

Emi Lutz, Guitar

Leading Today's Worship Service

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor

Donna Maini, Accompanist

Roger Scanlan, Choral Conductor

Emi Lutz, Guitar

*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....



Celebrating Mission Partners at MVPC During Advent/Christmas

- Dec. 3: The Mount Vernon School
- Dec. 10: Community Assistance Center
- Dec. 17: Los Niños Primero
- Dec. 24: SS Education Force (10:30am)
Family Promise (5:30pm)

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:



December 3 *"Wonderful Counselor"*, Isaiah 9:2-7 & Matthew 5:1-11, Rev. Barrett Abernethy & Ms. Elisse Hayes, Head of Community & Culture, The Mount Vernon School
(Lunch after worship in Fellowship Hall)

December 10 *"Mighty God"*, John 1:1-18, Rev. Barrett Abernethy



Hanging the Green: Join us TODAY at 5pm in the Sanctuary followed by dinner in the Fellowship Hall.

Caroling: We're caroling again this year to our neighborhood Senior Centers! Join us next Sunday, Dec. 3 at 4pm in Gailey Hall. Dinner will follow at the Mellow Mushroom in Dunwoody Village.



Zooming thru the Carols: Every weekday at noon starting tomorrow thru Dec. 22.

Lunch Bunch: Join Isaac & Shari for lunch at City BBQ after worship TODAY! You are on your own for transportation and meal costs.



MVPC Take a Hike! Join us tomorrow, Monday, Nov. 27 at 8:15am and we will walk to the new Sandy Springs Veterans Memorial Park. From there we will cross over to City Springs to see their decorations and stop for coffee at Café Vendome before we walk back to the church.



Senior Adult Movie: "The Man Who Invented Christmas", Sat., Dec. 2 @ 1pm in the Session Room.

Atlanta Concert Band: Come for their annual Christmas Concert in our Sanctuary on Sunday, Dec. 10 at 4pm!



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

November 26, 2023



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

Giving



Our **December Communion Offering** is for the International Women's House, established to provide shelter and support services for refugee and immigrant women and their children who are the victims of domestic abuse; and now also serves young women who are the victims of sex trafficking. MVPC provides financial support, donations of household goods and cleaning supplies, and holiday gifts for the children and their moms.



Presbyterian Women: All women are welcome to join any of these PW activities! Presbyterian Women will have the annual Christmas luncheon in **January!** Please mark your calendar for Sunday, Jan. 14, right after the worship service. The **Day Circle** will meet on Dec. 12 and study Lesson 6, *A Person with a Physical Disability Encounters Jesus*, in the Horizons Bible Study: *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts* by Olive Mahabir. The **Book Circle** Christmas Luncheon will be at Ann Williams' house on Dec. 8. They will review *The Maid* by Nita Prose.



Adult Sunday School: Discovery meets in the Chapel and is using the curriculum "*The Present Word*". Crossroads meets in the Session Room and is studying "*The Language of God*" by Francis Collins. Contact Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt for more information.



Stephen Ministry: No one at MVPC should ever feel they must bear difficult times alone. We have a group of dedicated, skilled, temporary companions called Stephen Ministers who want to walk with you and listen, hear, encourage, help you clarify issues, give you helpful resources, and offer prayer and scripture to help you make good decisions. Please contact us by calling a pastor or Pat Bartee, Stephen Leader to get connected. Please contact Pat Bartee, Stephen Leader, or a minister to get connected.



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: Dede Callahan, Fay Hendricks, Megan Kendall, Mary Lynch, Chuck McCrory, Karen Morine, Meredith Nash, Andy Nelson, Carter Ramsey, Rob Russell, Elizabeth(Elo) Small, and people of Israel, Ukraine, Myanmar, Turkey, and Zambia.

Attendance: 11/19/23 Worship 91
 Online 5

Financial Update

November 16-21	Actual	Actual YTD	2023 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 5,577	\$ 417,705	\$471,275
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 71	\$ 73,783	\$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 85	\$ 7,657	\$ 9,000
Total	\$ 5,733	\$ 499,145	\$540,275

If you have any announcements that you would like to appear in the *Happenings* or *Good News*, please email them to debbie@mvpchurch.org