

MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 14, 2024 + 10:30 AM Reaching out to ... Welcome. Worship. Share. Serve.

† For those who are able, please stand.

GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELLS

GATHERING MUSIC

"10,000 Reasons (Bless theLord)" Jonathan Freeman, Guitar Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

† CALL TO WORSHIP

- ONE: Friends in Christ, what hopes do you bring to worship?
- ALL: We bring hope for health and wholeness.
- ONE: Friends in Christ, what dreams do you bring to worship?
- ALL: We bring dreams of new life together and the wonder of resurrection.
- ONE: Friends in Christ, what expectation do you bring to worship?
- ALL: We bring an expectation that God is alive and active in this place.
- ONE: Friends in Christ, share your hopes, dreams, and expectations with our God.
- ALL: Let us worship God!

+ MORNING SONG #356 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

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.

Samantha Fifield

NETTLETON

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Resurrected God, you continue to show up in our lives! Death does not control you, and death cannot stop your love for us. You appeared to the disciples many times after your resurrection to share your love for them, but they struggled to recognize you. We wonder if we miss moments to recognize you as well, just like the disciples. Guide us, Resurrected God, and let us join with others who seek to recognize you no matter how many times we mess up. Guide us in a way of life which spreads your love that is greater than death ... (*silent confession*) ... Amen.

+ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: ...In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. ALL: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE #304

"Jesus Loves Me"

Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so; Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.

> *Refrain;* Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! This I know, As He loved so long ago, Taking children on His knee, Saying, "Let them come to Me." (*refrain*)

CHILDREN'S HANDBELLS "Amazing Grace" "How Firm a Foundation"

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

(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

Christina Toney-Schmitt

SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:36b-48

HOMILY

"Reflections on the Young Adult Small Group"

Joey Noszek Samantha Block

"Here I Am, Lord"

HERE I AM, LORD

+ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Apostles' Creed Interpreted*)

+ HYMN #525 (see insert)

What do you believe when you confess your faith in "God the Father Almighty"? That God is a God of love, and that God's love is powerful beyond measure.

What do you affirm when you confess your faith in Jesus Christ as "our Lord"? That having been raised from the dead he reigns with compassion and justice over all things in heaven and on earth, especially over those who confess him by faith; and that by loving and serving him above all else, we give glory and honor to God.

What do you believe when you confess your faith in the Holy Spirit? That apart from the Holy Spirit, our Lord can neither be loved, nor known, nor served. The Holy Spirit is the personal bond by which Jesus Christ unites us to himself, the teacher who opens our hearts to Christ, and the comforter who leads us to repentance, empowering us to live in Christ's service.

What do you affirm when you speak of "the life everlasting"?

That communion with Jesus Christ is eternal life itself. In him we were chosen before the foundation of the world. By him the eternal covenant with Israel was taken up, embodied, and fulfilled. To him we are joined by the Holy Spirit through faith, and adopted as children, the sons and daughters of God. Through him we are raised from death to new life. For him we shall live to all eternity.

Study Catechism, Q 7, 31, 54, 87

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

| OFFERTORY | "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry" Anthony Menardi, Soloist | John C. Ylviasaker |
|------------|---|--------------------|
| † 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

Braegan Abernethy

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

SENDING

| + SONG FOR DISMISSA | AL #540 | |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------|
| | "God Be with You Till We Meet Again" | RANDOLPH |
| | God be with you till we meet again; Loving counsels guide, uphold you, With a Shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again. | |
| | God be with you till we meet again; Unseen wings protecting hide you, Daily manna still provide you: God be with you till we meet again. | |
| | God be with you till we meet again; When life's perils thick confound you; Put unfailing arms around you: God be with you till we meet again. | |
| | God be with you till we meet again; Keep love's banner floating o'er you, Smite death's threatening wave before you: God be with you till we meet again. | |
| † BENEDICTION | | Rev. Toney-Schmitt |
| POSTLUDE | "Crown Him with Many Crowns" | George Elvey |

Leading Today's Worship Service Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Senior Pastor Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor Shari Freeman, Director of Spiritual Care Jill Hudson, Music Director Roger Scanlan, Choral Conductor Chancel Choir of MVPC

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



Our mailing address is: P.O. Box 76051 Sandy Springs, GA 30358

mvpchurch.org

MVPC Announcements....



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. Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it down the pew as you greet your neighbor. If you are a visitor, please stop at the **Welcome Table** and pick up a visitor bag.

Upcoming Services/Events:

| | April 21 | Rev. Dr. Victor Aloyo, President of Columbia Theological Seminary, <i>"Does My Life Matter?",</i> Psalm 80:1-7, John 10:11-18 Dr. Aloyo will also led a combined special Sunday School class beginning at 9:30am in the Chapel. |
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| | April 28 | <i>"How To Be Content",</i> Philippians 4:4-13, Rev. Barrett Abernethy Outdoor Service, Earth-Care Sunday |



Inquirers Lunch: Are you new to MVPC? You are invited to the lunch TODAY in the Kirk Center after worship to find out where you can get plugged in or have all your burning questions about what we do here.



Senior Adults: We have two trips coming up! On Thursday, April 18 we will be going to Columbia Seminary for Columbia Day, and then on Saturday, May 18 we are going to the Monastery. Details and signups for both trips are in the Narthex.



Volunteers Needed for our 70th Anniversary on May 19! We will need greeters, gophers, shepherds, set up/cleanup, name tags, parking lot, etc. If you're interested, contact the church office or send an email to debbie@mvpchurch.org.

April 14, 2024



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

Giving





The April Communion Offering is for the Food Pantry at the Community Assistance Center. CAC provides basic needs assistance for Dunwoody and Sandy Springs neighbors to prevent homelessness and hunger while promoting self-sufficiency and empowering them to thrive. For more information, please go to <u>www.ourcac.org</u>



ADULT

SUNDAY SCHOOL **Presbyterian Women:** The Day Circle met on Tuesday, April 9, and studied Lesson 5: A Person with Leprosy Encounters Jesus in the Horizons Bible Study. The Book Circle met on Friday, April 12, and reviewed Stars of Alabama by Sean Dietrich. All women are invited to come to our PW events!

Adult Sunday School: Discovery meets in the Chapel and is using the curriculum "The Present Word". Crossroads meets in the Session Room and is watching a DVD series titled "Great Figures of the New Testament" by Amy-Jill Levine. Both classes meet at 9:30am. Contact Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt for more information.

Stephen Ministry: The Stephen Ministry at MVPC has trained, skilled laypeople who are bound by confidentiality who are here to walk with you through temporary trials. It might be an empty nest, a recent move, a job loss, the death of someone near and dear to you, a new diagnosis, mid-life angst, or something just too unsettling to face alone. We are here and ready to give encouragement, presence, and lots of listening. Please contact Stephen Ministry today by calling Pat Bartee or a pastor.

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: Bob Addison, Jeannie Chettleburgh, Willard Deal, Eliana, Bruce Hagenau, Mark Hughes, Megan Kendall, Chuck McCrory, Karen Morine, Meredith Nash, Maria Nyunt, Maeve Ross, Greg Slingerland, Linda Thomas, Isabelle Vanucci, Allen Wade, and people of Israel, Ukraine, Myanmar, and Zambia

Attendance: 4/7 Worship 99 Online 23

Dates for your calendar:

- May 12 Mother's Day Outdoor Service, 10:30am
- May 19 70th Anniversary Service, 9am Fellowship, 10:30am Worship, 11:30am Lunch

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June 30 Los Niños Primero Sunday and Luncheon, 10:30am

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| April 1-11 | Actual | Actual YTD | 2024 Budget |
| Pledge Member Giving Member Giving Non-Pledge Non-Member Giving & | \$ 12,884 \$ 3,050 | \$195,213 \$17,124 | \$509,000 \$60,000 |
| Loose Offering Total | \$ 65 \$ 15,999 | \$ 16,975 \$229,312 | \$ 9,000 \$578,000 |

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



STEPHEN MINISTRY