

# MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 2, 2024 • 10:30 AM

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

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

Did you go by the Connections table? Each week we will enjoy a different "Summer Fruit" courtesy of recipes from our church cookbook. Today's treat: Banana Bread made by Mary Kilgore.

## GATHERING

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**"How He Loves"**

John Mark McMillan

Rev. Jonathan Freeman & Emi Lutz, Guitar

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

**OPENING PRAYER**

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: All who wander, all who return, all who judge, and all who welcome will find a home here.

**ALL: We are motivated by love for one another and forgiveness that knows no bounds.**

ONE: Like a father waiting for his son's return or a brother diligently tending the family land, we love alongside each other.

**ALL: Like a son realizing his need to be home or a father's welcoming embrace, we love alongside each other.**

ONE: We hope to know and share the fruits of the spirit that abide within us,

**ALL: So that we may be a community who live into the rhythms of the Kingdom of God. Let us worship God!**

† **MORNING SONG #384**

**"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"**

ST. MARGARET

O love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee;  
I give Thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;  
My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in Thy sunshine's blaze its day  
May brighter, fairer be.

O joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to Thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain  
That morn shall tearless be.

O cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from Thee;  
I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red  
Life that shall endless be.

† PRAYER FOR CONFESSION

Shari Freeman

God of Grace and Forgiveness, hear the honesty in our attempt to confront and change our failures. We are a people who seek to recognize your love within us and share that love with the world! But, we find that it is not always so easy. The amount of decisions before us continue to weigh us down. Should we save our earnings or spend them all at once? Should we sit and wait for an arrival or diligently do our daily tasks? Should we open our hearts again to someone who has abandoned us or continue to close them off? We admit that we don't always know which is the loving choice. But we confess this to you hoping and trusting that you will guide our decisions, forgive our missteps, and offer us the same love we try to offer others. Wrap us all in your unconditional forgiveness ... *(silent confession)* ... Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† RESPONSE

**"The Fruit of the Spirit"**

ASH GROVE

Caroline Winfrey Gillette

The fruit of the Spirit is love for our sharing,  
It's joy in the gospel that we have from you.  
It's peace that we live out with courage and daring;  
It's patience, for we know that we have sinned, too.  
It's kindness in all things and generous giving;  
It's faithfulness seeking to follow your way.  
It's gentleness, Lord, and it's self-controlled living;  
Now make us more fruitful in these things, we pray.

We will sing this Response each week during our Summer Fruit sermon series. It is to the tune of Ash Grove which we know best as the hymn "Let All Things Now Living."

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

Galatians 5:22-23

Luke 15:11-32

HOMILY

*"Summer Fruit: Love"*

RESPONSE

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*1 Corinthians 13:1-13*)

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.

**OFFERTORY**

**“Let All You Do Be Done in Love”**

Jill Hudson

Nichol Jacobs, Soprano; Laurie Swann, Alto; Erica Pirtle, Flute

“Let all you do be done in love  
Let all your work be done with charity  
Let all you do be done in love  
For God, and for humanity”

The Offertory music is based on 1 Corinthians 12:18 & 16:14.

† **DOXOLOGY**

**“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”**

GLORY TO GOD

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,  
Whose grace has pardon me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

This will also be our Doxology through the summer season. We hope you enjoy this piece described as a “gospel toe-tapper!”

† **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Carol Beckman

**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 usher will bring communion to you.)*

**COMMUNION MUSIC**

**"Sicilienne"**  
Erica Pirtle, FLute

Gabriel Faure

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**SENDING**

**† SONG FOR DISMISSAL** (*see insert*)

**"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"**      SOFTLY AND TENDERLY

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me;  
see, on the portals he's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me.

*Refrain*

Come home, come home; you who are weary come home;  
earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, O sinner, come home!

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me?  
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me? (*refrain*)

O for the wonderful love he has promised, promised for you and for me!  
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me. (*refrain*)

**† BENEDICTION**

Rev. Abernethy

**POSTLUDE**

**"Rondeau"**

Joseph Mouret

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

**Emi Lutz**, Guitar

**Jonathan Freeman**, 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.*

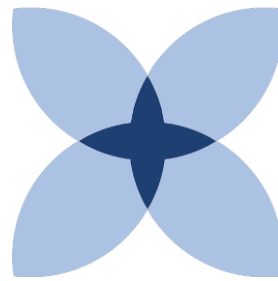
We are located at:  
471 Mount Vernon Hwy., NE  
Sandy Springs, GA 30328



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

# MVPC Announcements....

Sunday School  
9:30 - 10:15am



Connection  
10-10:25am

Worship  
10:30-11:30am

**Welcome! We are glad to worship with you today!**

**Visitors & Membership:** Please go to our website: [mvpchurch.org](http://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.

## Upcoming Services/Events:

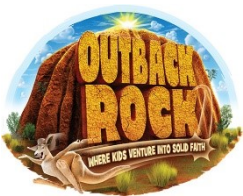


**June 9**      *"Summer Fruit: Joy"*, John 2:1-11, Rev. Barrett Abernethy

**June 16**     *"Summer Fruit: Peace"*, 1 Samuel 3:1-10, Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt



**Jersey Boys** the musical is coming to the City Springs Theater on July 16. This is a special performance with 20% of ticket sales going to CAC. For more information visit the Senior Adult table in the Narthex.



**VBS 2024!** Saturday, August 10 from 9:30-2:30. All children in preschool through rising 5th grade are invited to join! Registration link: [www.myvbs.org/mvpc2024/](http://www.myvbs.org/mvpc2024/)



Our **May Communion Offering** is for the summer camp program of Stirred-Up Ministries, an enrichment program for at-risk youth in the East Lake area of Atlanta. In addition to the summer camp program, Stirred-Up Ministries offers year-round support to these youth and their families including after school tutoring and mentoring, family counseling and intervention, and a food pantry for emergency needs. For more information, use the camera on your phone to hover over this QR Code.



**Healthy Aging Event:** Sunday, August 25, 1:30-4pm. For mor information, please check the Senior Adult Table in the Narthex. To register for the event, go to the following link: <https://mtvernonhealthyaging.eventbrite.com/>

**June 2, 2024**



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

Giving



**Presbyterian Women:** Have a great summer! We will see you in August. 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 congregation seldom hears the good stories of transformed lives, clarified goals, and hard journeys made lighter that come as a result of Stephen Ministry relationships. The confidentiality, which is foundational to the program and its success, is responsible for the quiet way in which Stephen Ministry operates. We want all to know we are alive and well at MVPC and will soon be ready to commission four new Stephen Ministers! Contact Pat Bartee, Stephen Leader, or one of our ministers to get connected to our Stephen Ministry.



**Do you feel a need for prayer?** Have our Prayer Vine pray for you! Email your requests to [pbartee@yahoo.com](mailto:pbartee@yahoo.com) or call the church office at 404.255.2211.

**Prayer Concerns:** Bob Addison, Bill Barron, Jeannie Chettleburgh, Lorry Clark, Hazel Cofield, Will Deal, Bill Duncan, Bruce Hagenau, Mark Hughes, Megan Kendall, Erven Kimble, Chuck McCrory, Karen Morine, Meredith Nash, Andy Nelson, Maria Nyunt, Maeve Ross, Will Rownd, Greg Slingerland, Larry Stewart, and the people of Israel/Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, and Zambia

**Attendance:** 5/26 Worship 81, Online 18

**Dates for your calendar:**

June/July	Summer Sermon Series: Fruits of the Spirit
June 30	Los Niños Primero Sunday and Luncheon, 10:30am
August 10	Vacation Bible School @ MVPC, 9am-2pm
August 25	Healthy Aging Conference @ MVPC, 1:30-4pm

**Financial Update**

As of May 29	Actual YTD	2024 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$260,756	\$509,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 20,809	\$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 19,507	\$ 9,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$301,072</b>	<b>\$578,000</b>

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