



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

JUNE 23, 2024 • 10:30 AM

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

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

Don't forget to stop by the Connections table to enjoy the Date Nut Cake courtesy of Debbie Barclift. You can find this recipe in the most recent church cookbook; *Serving Our Best.*

GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELLS

GATHERING MUSIC

"Everlasting God"

Chris Tomlin

Emi Lutz, Guitar

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

OPENING PRAYER

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: God is our refuge and our strength,

ALL: Our help in time of trial.

ONE: Even when the earth shakes and the mountains fall,

ALL: We trust in God.

ONE: Come and behold the works of the Lord.

ALL: Let us worship God!

† **MORNING SONG** (*see insert*)

"Be Still My Soul"

FINLANDIA

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide, who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake to guide the future surely as the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on when we shall be forever with the Lord;
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

An example of God's redemptive patience can be found in Matthew 18, when Jesus tells Peter to forgive "not 7 times, but 77 times." This ever present call to forgive is why we both confess and bear witness to God's assurance every Sunday.

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Shari Freeman

God of our Refuge and Strength, we confess that there are plenty of things that we allow to erode our faith in you. When life gets difficult, we let fear cloud our trust in you. We think we know better and start relying on ourselves instead of patiently waiting on you. Forgive our impatience, our disbelief, and our lack of hope. Teach us how to hold on to you, our source of strength, and show us how to build our lives on your foundation of love. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Rock and our Redeemer ... *(silent prayer)* ... Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† RESPONSE *(see insert)*

"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.

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

SCRIPTURES

Galatians 5:22-23

Psalms 46

HOMILY

"Summer Fruit: Patience"

Other translations of "patience" in the Galatians passage include: "long-suffering," "forbearance," "endurance," and "steadfastness."

RESPONSE

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from the Heidelberg Catechism 4.028 Inclusive Language*)

Q: How does the knowledge of God's creation and providence help us?

A: We can be patient when things go against us, thankful when things go well, and for the future we can have good confidence in our faithful God and Father that nothing in creation will separate us from God's love. For all creatures are so completely in God's hand that without God's will they can neither move nor be moved.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Isaac 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

"Have Thine Own Way Lord"

Pollard/Stebbins

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Dorsey/Allen

Sujay Galen, Soloist

† **DOXOLOGY** (*see insert*) **"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 pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

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.

† **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Barbara Brooks

SENDING

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL (*see insert*)

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”

SWING LOW

Refrain

Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.

Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.

I looked over Jordan, and what did I see coming for to carry me home?
A band of angels coming after me, coming for to carry me home. (*refrain*)

If you get there before I do, coming for to carry me home,
Tell all my friends I’m coming too, coming for to carry me home. (*refrain*)

The brightest day that ever I saw, coming for to carry me home,
When Jesus washed my sins away, coming for to carry me home. (*refrain*)

I’m sometimes up and sometimes down, coming for to carry me home,
But still my soul feels heavenly bound, coming for to carry me home. (*refrain*)

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

POSTLUDE

“Allegro Moderato”

G.F. Handel

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

*If you are interested in joining MVP Church,
go to the Visitor’s Table to pick up a visitor bag and a little gift.*

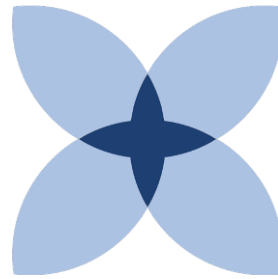
We are located at:
471 Mount Vernon Hwy., NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30328



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, 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 30 Los Niños Sunday, Lunch after worship in Fellowship Hall

July 7: *"Summer Fruit: Kindness"*, Galatians 5:22-23, Ephesians 4:25-5:2
Rev. Barrett Abernethy



Lunch Bunch: Join Isaac & Shari today after worship at City BBQ !



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/



Braves Game: We're going to the last Braves game of the season on Sunday, September 29! Tickets are \$60 each which includes carpool/parking and ticket. Make a check out to MVPC (include in the Memo line "Braves") and leave in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office.



Columbarium: Did you know that MVPC has a columbarium? Recently, several church members have secured a niche. If you are interested in purchasing a niche for you or a loved one, the cost is \$2,000 for one or \$2,400 for two people. We encourage you to consider this because starting August 1 the cost per niche will increase to \$2,500 for one and \$3,000 for two people. If you prefer a burial plot, MVPC currently owns 2 plots at Arlington Cemetery. If you would like to inquire about these plots, the columbarium, or any funeral wishes you may have, please contact the church office.

June 23, 2024



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

Giving



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



The June Communion Offering is for the International Women's House, a shelter for victims of human trafficking and abused refugee and immigrant women and their children. For more information about the shelter, please go to www.internationalwomenshouse.com.



Family Promise will be here before you know it! This summer they will be here from Sunday, July 7 - July 21. There are many places you can help! Go to our website or the link in the Happenings email for the SignUp Genius.



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: Summer brings spare time for reflections. If you need someone to travel with you as you clear out the personal cobwebs and prepare for a renewed fall, Stephen Ministers are here to listen, engage you with questions, and walk with you through personal and spiritual concerns in your life. We are trained laypeople helping extend pastors care within our congregation and our community. Contact Pat Barte, Stephen Leader, or a pastor to get involved.



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, Bill Barron, Keith Bumgarner, Jeannie Chettleburgh, Chitip, Lorry Clark, Hazel Cofield, Linda Dewaay, Duncan family, Bruce Hagenau, Megan Kendall, Erven Kimble, Chuck McCrory, Karen Morine, Andy Nelson, Maria Nyunt, Maeve Ross, Katherine Slayback (Anna Morine's caregiver), Larry Stewart, Wade family, and the people of Israel/Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, and Zambia

Attendance: 6/16 Worship 81, Online 19

Financial Update

As of June 20	Actual YTD	2024 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$279,743	\$509,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 22,751	\$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 19,843	\$ 9,000
Total	\$322,337	\$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