

MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

JULY 28, 2024 • 10:30 AM

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

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

The treats for this morning's Summer Fruit are Lizzies made by Carol Beckman. You can find this recipe on page 154 of the "Sharing our Best" cookbook.

GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELLS

GATHERING MUSIC

"In the Secret"

Chris Tomlin

Rev. Jonathan Freeman

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

OPENING PRAYER

† CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: All who are weary and carrying heavy burdens,

ALL: Let us come to Christ!

ONE: All who need to learn that Jesus is gentle and humble of heart,

ALL: Let us come to Christ!

ONE: All who are in need of sabbath rest,

ALL: Let us come to Christ and worship God!

† MORNING SONG (*see insert*) "O Lord, May Church and Home Combine"

LAND OF REST

United Methodist Hymnal

O Lord, may church and home combine to teach thy perfect way,
With gentleness and love like thine, that none shall ever stray.

Let all unworthy aims depart, imbue us with thy grace;
Within the home let every heart become thy dwelling place.

Shine, Light divine; reveal thy face where darkness else might be.
Grant, Love divine, in every place glad fellowship with thee.

May steadfast faith and earnest prayer keep sacred vows secure;
Build thou a hallowed dwelling where true joy and peace endure.

The church received a collection of United Methodist Hymnals from the recently closed North Springs United Methodist Church. The Methodists write great hymns! We will incorporate their hymns where possible.

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(inspired by the Stephen Ministry commissioning)* Rev. Barrett Abernethy

God of Both the Broken and the Whole, we come before you this day because we know we are called to serve others. We celebrate the moments when we are able to serve. When we can follow in the footsteps of Stephen and other saints and can care for those who are in need of a listening ear, a helping hand, or a healing touch. Let us, with your help, lessen our neighbor's burdens ...

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.*

Sometimes, we are the ones who are broken and are in need of another's gentle support. We know that all too often we make busyness our idol. We know we overwhelm ourselves because we get caught up believing life is a race to win and not a journey to explore. We believe we can control our lives. Too often we are reminded that so much is beyond our control. That is why we seek out those who follow the path of Stephen. Those who pray and devote themselves to the Word. Those who impart the Spirit that dwells within and are surrounded by your wisdom...

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.*

Continue to move like the gentle waves. Continue to fill our cup, so we can continue to experience wholeness and share that hope to this broken world. In your Wholly Name, we pray ... *(silent confession)* ... 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.

COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN MINISTERS

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

(Afterwards the children are invited to Children's Church in the Chapel.)

† HYMN OF COMMISSIONING (#319)

"Spirit"
(v. 1,2,4)

James K. Manley

† 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

SCRIPTURES

Galatians 5:22-23
Matthew 11:28-30

HOMILY

"Summer Fruit: Gentleness"

RESPONSE

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(from the Confession of 1967 9.20 and 9.22 Inclusive Language)*

God the Holy Spirit fulfills the work of reconciliation in human life. The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church as the community in which people are reconciled to God and to one another. The Spirit enables people to receive forgiveness as they forgive one another and to enjoy the peace of God as they make peace among themselves. In spite of their sin, the Spirit gives people power to become representatives of Jesus Christ and his gospel of reconciliation to all. The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

We often use the "Inclusive Language Version" of the Confession of 1967. This version was developed by the Office of Theology and Worship in 2002 for use in worship services.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

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

"He Shall Feed His Flock"

John Ness Beck

Margaret Wilson, Soloist

(Margaret Wilson grew up in Dunwoody studying piano and voice with Jill Hudson. She is a current student at UGA.)

† 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

Christy Hill

SENDING

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL #364

"I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"

GRAND ISLE

I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true,
Who toiled and fought and lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew.
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen, and one was a shepherdess on the green:
They were all of them saints of God, and I mean, God helping, to be one too.

They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and God's love made them strong;
And they followed the right, for Jesus' sake, the whole of their good lives long.
And one was a soldier, and one was a priest, and one was slain by a fierce wild beast:
And there's not any reason, no not the least, why I shouldn't be one too.

They lived not only in ages past, there are hundreds of thousands still;
The world is bright with the joyous saints who love to do Jesus' will.
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea;
For the saints of God are just folk like me, and I mean to be one too.

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

POSTLUDE

"Olympic Fanfare"

John Williams

Leading Today's Worship Service

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Senior Pastor

Jill Hudson, Music Director

Rev. Jonathan Freeman, Guitar

New Stephen Ministers

Diane Bumgarner

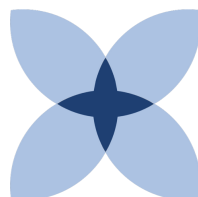
Allison Eustis

Ed Spain

Mary Lea Woods

*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

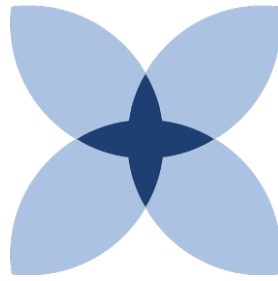


mvpchurch.org

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

MVPC Announcements....

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:



August 4 *"Summer Fruit: Self Control"*, Galatians 5:22-23, Nehemiah 4:1-23
Rev. Barrett Abernethy

August 11 *"The First Tree"*, Genesis 3:1-24, Rev. Barrett Abernethy



TODAY! All are welcome to join Isaac for lunch 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/

***Volunteers should arrive at 9am for a Child Protection Policy training.**



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/>



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: LAST CHANCE! 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.

July 28, 2024



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

Giving



Presbyterian Women: All women are invited to our kickoff luncheon on **August 11** after the Sunday Service. Bring a salad with utensils and enjoy the beginning of a new year of Bible lessons, fun, and fellowship.

Our July Communion Offering is for the Atlanta VA Domiciliary. The Domiciliary provides residential rehabilitative programming for Veterans facing homelessness, mental health and/or substance use disorders. They facilitate community reintegration by promoting autonomy and self-sufficiency through assessments, treatment, education, referrals and linkages that improve veterans' quality of life. For more information about the VA Domiciliary program, please visit va.gov/homeless/dchv.asp

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: Today we commission the new Stephen Ministers. We are part of an international group of laypeople across all faiths, more than 80,000 strong, all working within churches to help extend long-term pastoral care to congregations and their communities. Stephen Ministry at MVPC has been rekindled three times after its original start in the 1980's. The current group started in 2019. We offer a layperson who will walk with you through life's challenging moments in a confidential, one-on-one relationship for as long as needed. Our Stephen ministers train for 50+ hours to be the best listeners, the most compassionate and non-judgmental encouragers, and to offer you community resources to help you on your journey.

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, Chitip Likitcharoen, Lorry Clark, Bruce Hagenau, Megan Kendall, Erven Kimble, Chuck McCrory, Karen Morine, Andy Nelson, Minnie Robinson, Maeve Ross, Katherine Slayback (Anna Morine's caregiver), Dave Whitacre, and the people of Israel/Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, and Zambia

Attendance: 7/21 Worship 76, Online 23

Giving Statements for January-June 2024 have been emailed or mailed.

Thanks for all you do for MVPC! Yvonne

Financial Update

As of July 25	Actual YTD	2024 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$332,567	\$509,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 34,186	\$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 20,812	\$ 9,000
Total	\$387,565	\$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

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

SUNDAY SCHOOL

