



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 7, 2024 • 10:30 AM

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

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

Our Summer Fruit dish this morning is Cherry Cheesecakes courtesy of Joan Round. This recipe is from the "older" MVPC cookbook *Cherished Recipes* and can be found on page 144. It was originally submitted by Marsha Gillerlain.

GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELLS

GATHERING MUSIC

"One Thing Remains (Your Love Never Fails)"

Rev. Jonathan Freeman

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

OPENING PRAYER

† CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We live in God's light.

ALL: Clothed with righteousness and holiness.

ONE: We live in God's light.

ALL: Being kind and tenderhearted to one another.

ONE: We live in God's light.

ALL: Following the example of Christ. Let us worship God!

† MORNING SONG #564(v. 1,3,4) **"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"**

MATERNA

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness and every gain divine.

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

† PRAYER FOR CONFESSION

Shari Freeman

Lord Jesus Christ, as your followers we are called to be people shaped by your loving, righteous, and self-less life. However, we confess how easy it is to instead be shaped by the values of this world. Forgive us when our words have been less than truthful. Forgive us for using anger to manipulate and to control. Forgive us when our actions have lacked total integrity. Forgive us when our words have been thoughtless or hurtful.

Renew us with your Spirit, so that our words and actions bring pleasure and not pain. Fall afresh on us, O Holy Spirit, and make our lives true reflections of Jesus' life, so that we live, love, and forgive as graciously and compassionately as he did ... *(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 FOR SERVICE TO ZAMBIA

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Shari Freeman

(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

Ephesians 4:25 - 5:2

HOMILY

"Summer Fruit: Kindness"

From July 10-25, these church members will gather information from our mission partners at Alliance for Children Everywhere (ACE), Garden Presbyterian Church, and meet with students and faculty who receive benevolences from MVPC.

RESPONSE

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Apostles' Creed*)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY

"His Eye Is On The Sparrow"
Nathan Abernethy, Soloist

Civilla Martin/Charles Gabriel

† **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.
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 Hughes

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

"Come, Share the Lord"

BRYAN JEFFREY LEACH

Kathy Havey & Jill Hudson, Soloists

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Rev. Abernethy

SENDING

† SONG FOR DISMISSAL #289

"O God of Every Nation"

LLANGLOFFAN

O God of every nation, of every race and land,
redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand.
Where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled,
In love and mercy guide us and heal our strife-torn world.
From search for wealth and power and scorn of truth and right,
From trust in bombs that shower destruction through the night,
From pride of race and station and blindness to Your way,
Deliver every nation, eternal God, we pray.
Lord, strengthen those who labor that all may find release
From fear of rattling saber, from dread of war's increase;
When hope and courage falter, your still small voice be heard;
With faith that none can alter, your servants undergird.
Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease,
When hatred and division give way to love and peace,
Till dawns the morning glorious when peace on earth shall reign
And Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.

Written by WWII
vet and
Methodist
Minister, William
W. Reid, this
hymn's themes
still reverberate
even though it
was written in
1958. As we
celebrate our
independence,
these lyrics
remind us of the
interdependence
we need in this
world in order to
live peacefully.

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

POSTLUDE

"Festive Trumpet Tune"

David German

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

Rev. Jonathan Freeman, Guitar

Zambia Team

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

David Barcliff

Deborah Galloway

Hannah Hagenau

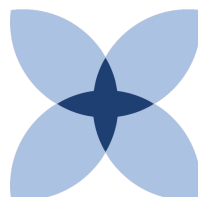
Barbara Hughes

Connor Hughes

Jake Hughes

Gill Hutt

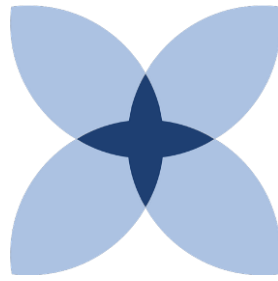
We are located at:
471 Mount Vernon Hwy., NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30328



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:



July 14 "Summer Fruit: Generosity", Galatians 5:22-23, Luke 9:10-17,
Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

July 21 "Summer Fruit: Faithfulness", Galatians 5:22-23, Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16,
Shari Freeman

CAC IMMEDIATE NEEDS: As you plan your Fourth of July Celebrations, pick up some of the most needed items for an Emergency Food Drive for Community Assistance Center – now through July 7. Most needed items include canned corn, canned sweet peas, tomato sauce, canned fruit, rice, canned meats. Drop off at church or order through our Wish Lists at www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/mvpc-outreach or www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/18P69Q052JT0N Also, celebrate the Red, White and *Blue* by returning Blue Shopping for Outreach Bags you may have at home or in your car. Almost all the Blue Bags have been distributed and not yet returned, so we need them back for our next Communion Offering.

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.

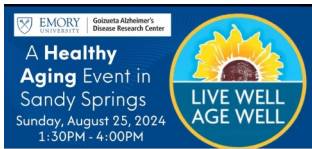


July 7, 2024



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/>



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: How much easier the journey when the load is shared! That is what our Stephen Ministers are trained to do, help lighten the hurt, anger, grief, loneliness, bewilderment you are attempting to handle alone. Please let us help. Contact Pat Bartee, 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, Keith Bumgarner, Jeannie Chettleburgh, Christian family, Chitip Likitcharoen, Lorry Clark, Linda Dewaay, Bruce Hagenau, Megan Kendall, Erven Kimble, Chuck McCrory, Karen Morine, Andy Nelson, Maria Nyunt, Maeve Ross, Katherine Slayback (Anna Morine's caregiver), Larry Stewart, and the people of Israel/Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, and Zambia

Attendance: 6/30 Worship 477, Online 20

Financial Update

As of June 30	Actual YTD	2024 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$303,689	\$509,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 33,091	\$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 20,498	\$ 9,000
Total	\$357,278	\$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