



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 4, 2024 • 10:30 AM

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

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

This morning's Summer Fruit dish is Momma's Apple Cake, from church member, Elizabeth Small. Beppie Lever has graciously cooked this treat, our final summer fruit treat, today. You can find this recipe on page 123 of the "Sharing our Best" cookbook.

GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELLS

GATHERING MUSIC

"Build My Life"

Emi Lutz & Rev. Jonathan Freeman

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

OPENING PRAYER

† CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Nehemiah, the cupbearer to a foreign king, heard that the wall around Jerusalem was destroyed and God's people were in danger.

ALL: He sat down to weep and mourn for days, fasting and praying before God.

ONE: Nehemiah called on God to remember God's people, to show them and their city mercy.

ALL: He traveled to Jerusalem, inspected the walls, and called God's people to begin rebuilding.

ONE: And they did, with enemies mocking their slow progress and a constant threat of attack.

ALL: Each worker built with their left hand and stood ready to defend with their right hand.

ONE: This morning we will follow their commitment to this project, attentive to the Holy Spirit among us.

ALL: Let us worship God!

† MORNING SONG #260

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

EIN' FESTE BURG

(see Blue Hymnal)

† PRAYER FOR CONFESSION

Shari Freeman

God Who Remembers Us, we are tempted to forget your call on our lives. There are dreams, hopes, and missions that come from you, but we ignore them. Remind us, now, of these dreams, hopes, and missions. Call us to the tasks you've set in front of us. Give us the self-control to stay true to these projects, big and small, so that they may increase your Kingdom in this world. Protect us from the temptation to claim the Fruit of the Spirit we see in our lives as proof that we are more holy, or more spiritual, or better Christians. Instead, allow the Fruit to humble us into Your presence and encourage us to work with your ongoing love in the world ... *(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.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

Kathy Harbin

(All children 5th grade and younger are invited to come forward. Afterwards the children are invited to Children's Church in the Chapel.)

Membership at MVPC is available to anyone who professes a faith in Christ. If you would like to know more about becoming a member, please talk to one of the pastors.

† 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

This morning, Barrett made a deliberate choice to read the Nehemiah story from *The Message*. This version of the Bible, translated by Eugene Peterson, is written in a vernacular we are accustomed to hearing and makes it easier for the listener to understand the story.

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

"Create in Me"

Jill Hudson

The Women of the Choir Ensemble
(based on Psalm 51, Prayer of St. Francis Psalm 19)

† **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**

Betsy Cozine

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Abernethy

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Shari Freeman

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

“Feast Meant for Everyone”

Tom Booth

Rev. Jonathan Freeman, Jill Hudson, Emi Lutz

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Rev. Abernethy

SENDING

† **SONG FOR DISMISSAL #419**

“How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

REPTON

How clear is our vocation, Lord, when once we heed Your call:
To live according to Your word, and daily learn, refreshed, restored,
That You are Lord of all and will not let us fall.

But if, forgetful, we should find Your yoke is hard to bear,
If worldly pressures fray the mind and love itself cannot unwind
Its tangled skein of care: our inward life repair.

We mark Your saints, how they became in hindrances more sure,
Whose joyful virtues put to shame the casual way we wear Your name,
And by our faults obscure Your power to cleanse and cure.

In what You give us, Lord, to do, together or alone,
In old routines or ventures new, may we not cease to look to You -
The cross You hung upon - all You endeavored done.

† **BENEDICTION**

Rev. Abernethy

POSTLUDE

“Voluntary No. 4”

Arlen Clarke

Leading Today's Worship Service

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Senior Pastor

Shari Freeman, Director of Spiritual Care

Jill Hudson, Music Director

Rev. Jonathan Freeman, Guitar

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

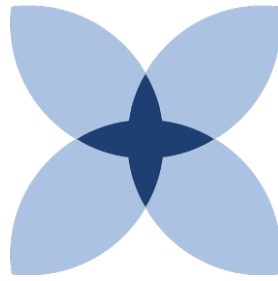


Our mailing address is:
P.O. Box 76051
Sandy Springs, GA 30358

mvpchurch.org

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

August 18 *"The Burning Bush"*, Exodus 3:1-10, Rev. Barrett Abernethy



Presbyterian Women: All women are invited to our kickoff luncheon on **August 11** after the Sunday Service. Bring a salad with serving utensils and enjoy the beginning of a new year of Bible lessons, fun, and fellowship. This year we will be doing the Horizons Bible Study, "What She Said!" It is a study of quotes from women in the Bible taken directly from scripture. Study books will be available at the kickoff luncheon for \$5.



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/> If you need help signing up, go the Chapel foyer before and after the service and they will help you sign up.



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.

August 4, 2024



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

Giving



Sandy Springs EDUCATION FORCE

Educate - Inspire - Prepare

stirred:up

Our August Communion Offering is new school supplies for Sandy Springs Education Force and Stirred Up Ministries. SSEF creates targeted programs that educate, inspire and prepare public school students in Sandy Springs for a competitive world. Stirred Up Ministries is an enrichment program for at-risk youth in the East Lake area of Atlanta.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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: When we do not have care receivers, what are Stephen Ministers doing? Each Stephen Minister is assigned someone who is grieving a loss, and they visit and share booklets on dealing with grief over four visits during the first year of loss. In addition, Stephen Ministers are matched with a homebound member to visit on a regular basis. These visits not only help extend long-term pastoral caring but keep all the Stephen Minister's new skills honed. We meet monthly as a group to discuss better ways to help our congregation and community and to get continuing education.



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: 7/28 Worship 100, Online 17

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

Thanks for all you do for MVPC! Yvonne

Financial Update

As of July 31	Actual YTD	2024 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$337,399	\$509,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 35,186	\$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 20,992	\$ 9,000
Total	\$393,577	\$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