



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 27, 2025 • 10:30 AM

Reaching Out to ... Welcome. Worship. Share. Serve.

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

*"The sunrises and sunsets in the stained glass reflect the Alpha and Omega. I see a sailboat, an acorn, a nautilus, water, glowing embers, and green pastures."
-Anonymous*

GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELLS

GATHERING MUSIC

"Your Love Never Fails"

Rev. Jonathan Freeman

Words & Music: Chris McClarney & Anthony Skinner

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

OPENING PRAYER

† CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Before the sun rises in the morning, before the heat and humidity take hold,

ALL: **Our God watches, smiles, and waits over us.**

ONE: After the sun sets in the evening, after the sky shifts hue and a cool wind picks up,

ALL: **Our God watches, smiles, and waits over us.**

ONE: Our God of connection, community, and presence is with us every moment of our lives,

ALL: **May we worship in the joy of a loving presence! Let us worship God!**

† OPENING HYMN (#423)

"Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run,
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

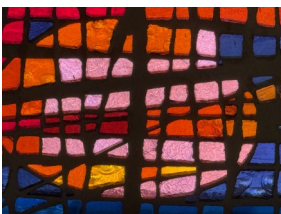
To Him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown His head;
His name, like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on His love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns; the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud Amen!

Words: Isaac Watts. Music: John Hatton. ©1959 H.W. Gray Co., Inc..



† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Abernethy

God of Grace, our Rock in the wildest storms and our Foundation in the most turbulent times, we lean on you. The world you created radiates your glory. From the rising to the setting of the sun, you are our God. As your children, we are called to live a life transformed by your constant presence: to love others as you love them, to act with justice in defending the marginalized, and to forgive those who harm us, even our enemies. We confess that we do not always live this way. We offer ourselves before you as those who love you and recognize our need for your help and forgiveness. Hear our confession, forgive us, and nurture us in the transformed life you call us to live ... *(silent confession)* ... Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† RESPONSE

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see you; I want to see you; (2x)

To see you high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of your glory.
Pour out your power and love as we sing "Holy, holy, holy."
Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy.
Holy, holy, holy, I want to see you.

Text and Music: Paul Baloche. ©1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Rev. Shari Freeman

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

† 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.

† 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. Shari Freeman

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 113, 2 Samuel 23:1-7

HOMILY

"The Colors of Christ: Pink"

SPECIAL MUSIC *(see insert)*

"From the Rising of the Sun"

Text and Music: Anonymous

This paraphrase of Psalm 113:3 concisely represents the Psalm as it was chanted by ancient Israelites in the temple during the Passover.

RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. 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

"Lord of the Dance"

Katie Jennison, Soprano

Traditional Shaker Melody. Words: Sydney Carter. arr: Mark Hayes. ©2000 Stainer & Bell, Ltd.

Katie Jennison is the Mount Vernon Lower School Executive Assistant.

† DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Text: Thomas Ken. Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Genevan Psalter.

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gill Hutt

SENDING

† CLOSING HYMN (*see insert*)

"Shine, Jesus Shine"

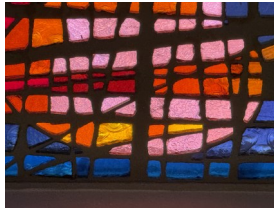
† BENEDICTION

Rev. Shari Freeman

POSTLUDE

"Allegro Moderato"

Music: G.F. Handel Ed: Diane Bish.



*"I know that John Robert Christian was always entertained
by looking at the stained-glass windows."*

-Beppie

Leading Today's Worship Service

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Senior Pastor

Rev. Shari Freeman, Associate Pastor of Spiritual Care

Jill Hudson, Music Director

Rev. Jonathan Freeman, Contemporary Musician

*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

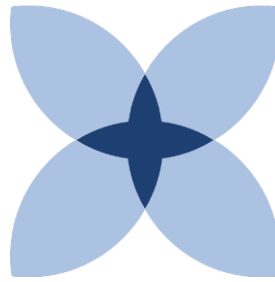


Our mailing address is:
P.O. Box 76051
Sandy Springs, GA 30358

MVPC Announcements....

Sunday School
9:30 - 10:15am

Connection
10-10:25am



Worship
10:30-11:30am

Colors of Christ
Wear these colors each Sunday:

Colors of Christ
Wear these colors each Sunday:

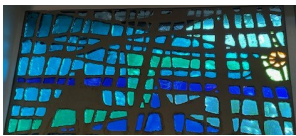
June 1 Multi Colored (Rainbow)
June 8 Red
June 15 Red
June 29 Yellow

July 6 Orange
July 13 Blue
July 20 Purple
July 27 Pink
August 3 Green

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 3 "The Colors of Christ: Green", Deuteronomy 34:1-6, Rev. Barrett Abernethy
Congregational Meeting immediately after worship

August 10 "Navigating Roads: The Road to Damascus", Acts 9:1-9,
Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Today's Events:

Lunch Bunch: Join Shari for lunch **TODAY** after worship at City BBQ!

Book Sorting: anyone can join in the fun **TODAY** July 27 at 4pm in Gailey Hall!



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 [Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans Program - VA Homeless Programs](#)

VBS 2025: YeeHaw! This is the last week to sign up your children, grandchildren, neighbors, and friends. They will roundup on Saturday, August 9 from 9:30am-1:00pm. For easy registration, scan this QR code!



Dementia in the Community: This event is being put on by Emory University here at MVPC on Saturday, August 3 from 1:30-4:00pm, doors open at 1pm. For more information and to register, please scan the QR code on the insert or go to our website mvpchurch.org.



Senior Game Day & Lunch: Wednesday, July 30 at 10:30am in Gailey Hall.

Seniors Planning Meeting: Thursday, August 7 at 10:30am in the Session Room.

July 27, 2025



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

Giving



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance: to support flood victims in Texas you can use this link or go to the PCUSA website: pcusa.org/donate/dr000191-disaster-reliefe-us-flooding



Presbyterian Women: We enjoyed our Bible study and book reviews this year, and we look forward to next year. Meanwhile, have a wonderful summer!

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 studying *"Understanding the Old Testament"*, Prof. Robert D. Miller, The Catholic University of America. Both classes meet at 9:30 a.m. Contact Rev. Shari Freeman for more information.



Stephen Ministry: Do you know someone who is far from family and has few friends but is facing grief, a new health diagnosis, a divorce, job loss, a recent move, or other concerns? Do you know someone who cannot communicate well to family and friends their fears and would benefit from a non-judgmental companion to bounce ideas and feelings off of? Some in our congregation do not realize that our church's Stephen Ministry is open to community members. We offer both spiritual and secular care. Please utilize us and suggest us to your friends. Leave a message for Pat Bartee, Stephen Leader, or a pastor to get connected.



Do you feel a need for prayer? Have our Prayer Vine pray for you! Email your requests to barbara@babrooks.com or call her at 404.422.5175.

Prayer Concerns: Diane Bumgarner, Dan Chettleburgh, Gerald Fudge, Lorry Clark, Sherri Galloway, Malinda Holmes, Megan Kendall, Melody Minton, Karen Morine, and the people of Texas Flood Victims, Clifton Sanctuary, Israel/Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, and Zambia.

Christian Sympathy for the family of Gene Elder who died on June 22. His service will be Saturday, August 23 in the Sanctuary, time TBD.

Attendance 7/20: Sanctuary: 86 Online: 25

Dates for your calendar:

August 3	Healthy Aging Conference "Dementia in the Community Health/Faith and Inviting Places," 1:30-3:30pm
August 9	Vacation Bible School, "Yee Haw! Celebrating God's Greatest Gift", 9am-1pm

Financial Update

As of July 24	Actual YTD	2025 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 338,818	\$500,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 38,497	\$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 4,345	\$ 26,000
Total	\$381,660	\$ 586,000

From the Rising of the Sun 670

(Psalm 113)

From the ris - ing of the sun to the go - ing down

of the same, the name of the Lord shall be

praised. From the ris - ing of the sun to the

go - ing down of the same, the name of the Lord shall be

praised. So praise ye the Lord.

Praise ye the Lord. From the

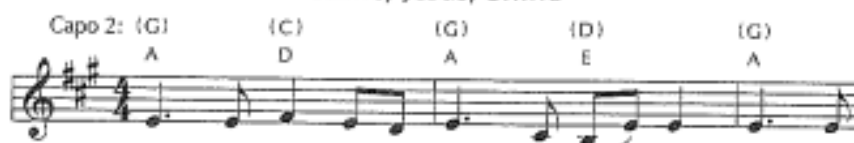
ris - ing of the sun to the go - ing down of the same,

the name of the Lord shall be praised.

This paraphrase of Psalm 113:3 concisely represents the psalm beginning the group called the Egyptian Hallel (113–118) used at all major Jewish festivals. One of these may have been what Jesus and his disciples sang at the conclusion of the Last Supper (Matthew 26:30/Mark 14:26).

192 Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining

Shine, Jesus, Shine



1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the
2 Lord, I come to your awe - some pres - ence, from the
3 As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, so our



midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, Light of the
shad - ows in - to your ra - diance; by the blood I may
fac - es dis - play your like - ness; ev - er chang - ing from



World, shine up - on us; set us free by the truth you now
en - ter your bright - ness. Search me; try me; con - sume all my
glo - ry to glo - ry, mir - rored here may our lives tell your



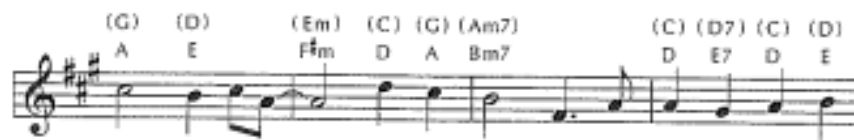
bring us. Shine on me; shine on me.
dark - ness. Shine on me; shine on me.
sto - ry. Shine on me; shine on me.



Shine, Je - sus, shine; fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry.



Blaze, Spir - it, blaze; set our hearts on fire.



Flow, riv - er, flow; flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy.



Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

While the reference to Jesus as the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) can be understood generally, this hymn is perhaps best understood as a response to the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-8/Mark 9:2-8/Luke 9:28-36). This is the most popular of the author/composer's many songs.