



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 11, 2026 • 10:30 AM

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

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



GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELLS

GATHERING MUSIC

"Come Be Baptized" Nichol Jacobs & Keenan Kade, Soloists

Words & Music: Gary Alan Smith

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes

MINUTE FOR MISSION

George Northrop

Director of Advancement, CAC

OPENING PRAYER

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: The voice of the Lord is over the waters,

ALL: And in the temple God's people say "Glory!"

ONE: The heavens opened, the Spirit descended,

ALL: And a voice sounded: "This is my Beloved Son."

ONE: Do not fear, for the Lord has spoken:

ALL: I have called you by name; you are mine. Let us worship God!

† OPENING HYMN (#492)

“Baptized in Water”

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome each other. We allow the past and our selfish nature to hold us captive.

In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from our sin. Fulfill the promises of our baptism so that we may join with others in your new life, and live together in grace ... *(silent confession)* ... Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

† RESPONSE (#343, v.1)

“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

Called as partners in Christ’s service, called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God’s chosen end.

Text: Jane Parker Huber. Music: John Zundel. ©1981 Jane Parker Huber

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

*(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

David Barclift

SCRIPTURE

Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes

SERMON

“Your Baptism is Sufficient for Your Calling”

RESPONSE

† HYMN (#439)

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*The Confession of 1967, Section 9.51, Inclusive Language Text*)

Rev. Shari Freeman

By humble submission to John’s baptism, Christ joined himself to men and women in their need and entered upon his ministry of reconciliation in the power of the Spirit. Christian baptism marks the receiving of the same Spirit by all his people. Baptism with water represents not only cleansing from sin, but a dying with Christ and a joyful rising with him to new life. It commits all Christians to die each day to sin and to live for righteousness. In baptism, the church celebrates the renewal of the covenant with which God has bound us to God’s very self. By baptism, individuals are publicly received into the church to share in its life and ministry, and the church becomes responsible for their training and support in Christian discipleship. When those baptized are infants, the congregation, as well as the parents, has a special obligation to nurture them in the Christian life, leading them to make, by a public profession, a personal response to the love of God shown forth in their baptism.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

OFFERTORY

“Down to the River to Pray”

arr. Sheldon Curry

REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

† DOXOLOGY (2x)

“God Welcomes All”

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;
God’s love is strong and it nev - er ends.

The image shows two systems of musical notation for a doxology. Each system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The first system contains the lyrics 'God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;' and the second system contains 'God’s love is strong and it nev - er ends.' The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving bass lines.

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

David Barclift

SENDING

† CLOSING HYMN (#398)

“There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Colussy-Estes

POSTLUDE

“Festive Postlude”

arr. Paul Fey

(The primary role of a postlude is to provide a musical transition, connecting the sacred worship experience to the secular world as people leave the church. Feel free to depart during the postlude, or hang around and hear the grand Mount Vernon organ!)

Liturgy from the Book of Common Worship

Leading Today’s Worship Service

Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes, Interim Senior Pastor

Rev. Shari Freeman, Associate Pastor

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor

Jill Hudson, Music Director & Organist

Rev. Jonathan Freeman, Contemporary Musician

Chancel Choir

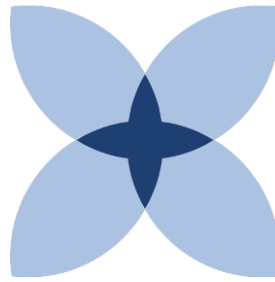
We are located at:
471 Mount Vernon Hwy., NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30328



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

Upcoming Services/Events:



January 18 John 1:29-42, Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

January 25 "Our Calling", Ordination & Installation of new Session Members, Isaiah 9:1-4, Matthew 4:1-23

**LUNCH
BUNCH**



Lunch Bunch: Join us **TODAY** Sunday, January 11 at City BBQ after worship.

Book Sorting: Join us next Sunday, January 18 at 4:00pm in Gailey Hall.

MVPC is the CAC "Congregation of the Month". The Canopy Thrift Shop needs your donations. Most needed items are blankets, sheets, comforters (especially King size), curtains, towels, men's pants, children's winter clothing, heavy coats, costume jewelry (jewelry bin in the church office).

The January Communion Offering is for the Food Pantries at the Community Assistance Center. CAC provides basic needs assistance for Dunwoody and Sandy Springs neighbors to prevent homelessness and hunger while promoting self-sufficiency and empowering them to thrive. For more information, please go to www.ourcac.org.



Presbyterian Women: The **Day Circle** will meet this Tuesday, January 13, at 10:30 in the Session Room. Ann Williams will conduct the meeting, and Jeanne Gilliland will teach lesson 5: *The Gift of the Woman Who Was Poor*. The **Book Circle** will meet on Friday, February 13, at 10:00 in the Session Room. Sarah Chalpan will lead a review of *My Sister's Grave* (mystery thriller fiction) by Robert Dugoni. **Circle of Grace:** please email Lisa Cumming at lisa.j.cumming@gmail.com if you would like to join our group of women who get together multiple times a year for fellowship and a devotional.



NEW! Little Blessings Room: The Little Blessings Room (located in the Session Room) is available for parents to go with their 0-3 year olds during the worship service. The worship service is live-streamed into the room, and there are chairs for nursing and holding babies and toys for toddlers.

January 11, 2026



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

Giving



Adult Sunday School: **Discovery** meets in the Chapel and is using the curriculum "The Present Word". **Crossroads** meets in the Session Room and is using a video curriculum about "The Historical Jesus", led by Prof. Bart Ehrman, North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Both classes meet at 9:30 a.m. Contact Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt for more information.



Stephen Ministry: During December and January, your Stephen Ministry team will get vetted for and receive more training in assisting the dying. We appreciate member, Beppie Lever, for suggesting us to Vitas Hospice, who were looking for volunteers from the community. Our training makes us unusually prepared for hospice work. After training, our six person team will have three at a time volunteering at Vitas so that three others are available to serve church and community. We are so happy to be serving more of our community. Call Pat Bartee 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: Bob Addison, Carol Beckman, Lorry Clark, Jeanne Gilliland, Gloria Gillespie, Bruce Hagenau, Shelly Hines, Philip & Nichol Jacobs, Lois Johnson, Megan Kendall, Charlotte Mills, and ACE, CAC, Los Niños Primero, Clifton Sanctuary, Israel/Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, and Zambia.

Attendance 1/4: Sanctuary: 76 Online: 18

Dates for your calendar:

January 19	Church office closed
January 25	Ordination & Installation of new Elders
February 18	Ash Wednesday

Financial Update

As of December 30	Actual YTD	2025 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 517,323	\$500,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 65,218	\$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 6,928	\$ 26,000
Total	\$589,469	\$ 586,000

If you have any announcements that you would like to appear in the weekly *Happenings* email or monthly *Good News* newsletter, please email them to debbie@mvpchurch.org