

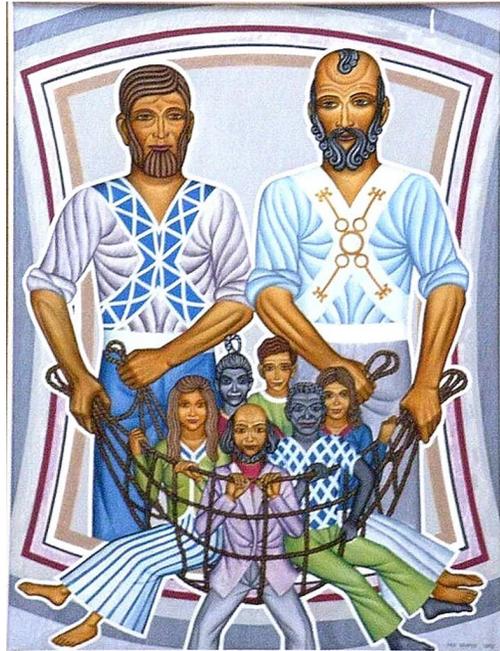
MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 1, 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

“10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)”

Rev. Jonathan Freeman

Words & Music: Matt Redmon

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes

OPENING PRAYER

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Shari Freeman

ONE: Because each of us is called by God each of us has something to do.

ALL: Each of us has somewhere to go, something to say, someone to see.

ONE: Because we are called by God we have a responsibility,

ALL: to welcome all, to listen for God's guidance, to steward our gifts.

ONE: Because all of us are called by God we are all made whole,

ALL: in the support, encouragement, and love that connects us.

ONE: Our God calls us, and we respond:

ALL: Let us worship God!

† OPENING HYMN (#419)

“How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Shari Freeman

God of Grace and Forgiveness, your voice is one of many that calls us. Our work claims our attention until we don't have attention to give. Our screens pull us into digital worlds, and we forget the world where we live and breathe. Our politics and opinions fill our perception with one story that drowns out all other stories. These voices layer on top of one another, and we miss your voice inviting us to lay down our nets and follow you. Quiet all of the voices except for yours. Walk alongside us and call us into a new, transformed way of being ... *(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

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

*(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 Hill

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-23

Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes, Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Rev. Shari Freeman

SERMON

“Our Calling”

RESPONSE

† HYMN (#525)

"Here I Am Lord"

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Theological Declaration of Barmen, 8.13-8.15*)

Rev. Colussy-Estes

"Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom, our righteousness and sanctification and redemption."

As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures.

We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords — areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him.

This is the second of the six declarations of Barmen, which acknowledges God's claim on all aspects of our life.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

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.

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

Donna Martin, Sharon Murphy, Donna Neumann, Joey Noszek, Kathryn Wade

ONE: There are varieties of gifts but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

ALL: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

ONE: God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

ALL: To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

ONE: Do you believe in God the Father?

ALL: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

ONE: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

ALL: 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.

ONE: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

ALL: 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.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

PRAYER OF ORDINATION & LAYING ON OF HANDS

OFFERTORY

“Offertory”

John Ness Beck

(If you would like to contribute financially to Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church or its mission, offering plates are in the narthex.)

† 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 a musical score for two systems. Each system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes.

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

David Hill

SENDING

† CLOSING HYMN (see insert)

“Jesus Calls Us”

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Colussy-Estes

POSTLUDE

“Joy (Beethoven a la Brubeck)”

arr. William Allen Pesch

(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!)

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

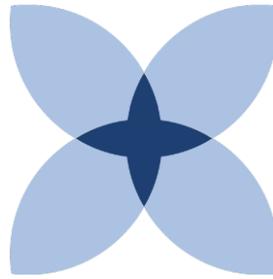


We are located at:
471 Mount Vernon Hwy., NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30328

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:



February 8

"Blessed Are ...", 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Matthew 5:1-2
Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes

February 15

Transfiguration Sunday, Exodus 24:12-18, Matthew 17:1-9,
Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Worship Note: For the next few weeks we will be using sections from the *Theological Declaration of Barmen*. Written by a group of church leaders in Germany to help Christians withstand the challenges of the Nazi party. While some churches took the union of Christianity, nationalism and militarism for granted, others resisted. Among those determined leaders were Hans Amussen, Karl Koch, Karl Iraruer, Martin Niemoller (author of the *First They Came* poem) and theologian Karl Barth. The declaration contains six propositions, each quoting from Scripture, stating the implications of the day and rejecting false doctrine. The declaration proclaims the church's freedom in Jesus Christ who is Lord of every area of life. The church obeys him as God's one and only Word who determines its order, ministry and relation to the state.

Inquirers Lunch: If you're interested at learning more about MVPC, join us for lunch TODAY Sunday, February 1 after worship in the Session Room.

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 February Communion Offering is for the Clifton Night Shelter. Clifton Sanctuary Ministry provides a transformational experience for homeless men through comprehensive life skills training, purposeful and assertive case management, collaborative community partnerships, and dedicated volunteers. For more information, please go to www.cliftonsanctuary.com.

Men's Breakfast: All men are invited for our quarterly men's breakfast in the Kirk Center on February 8 at 8:30am.

Lunch & Games: All senior adults are invited for lunch and games on Wednesday, February 11 from 11:30-2:30 in Gailey Hall. Contact Mary Lea Woods if your're interested.



February 1, 2026



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

Giving



Presbyterian Women: The **Day Circle** will meet on Tuesday, February 10, at 10:30 in the session room. Pat Bartee will conduct the meeting and Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt will teach Lesson 6: *Finding Our Joy in Christ: "I will Say it Again, Rejoice"*. 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.



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: Your church's Stephen Ministry has laypeople trained with listening skills to help members and community friends when circumstances in life become intolerable. A Stephen Minister can fully hear your story, help you clarify options, and stand with you as you move forward to change things in your life. Contact Pat Bartee, Stephen Leader, or a pastor, to get connected. Contact 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, Jeane Gilliland, Gloria Gillespie, Bruce Hagenau, Shelly Hines, Lois Johnson, Megan Kendall, Charlotte Mills, Moira Speirs, and ACE, CAC, Los Niños Primero, Clifton Sanctuary, Israel/Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, and Zambia.

Christian Sympathy to the friends and family of Barbara Bruce who died Saturday, January 10. A memorial service will be Saturday, March 21 at 1pm in the Sanctuary.

Attendance 1/25: Zoom 64

***** All 2025 Giving Statements will be emailed by January 31, 2026.**

***** For 2025 W2's and 1099's, you can view and print by logging into your OnPay profile.**

If you would like to contribute financially to Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church or its mission, offering plates are in the Narthex.

Financial Update

As of January 28	Actual YTD	2026 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 85,272	\$460,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 16,012	\$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 267	\$ 7,500
Total	\$101,551	\$ 527,500

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