



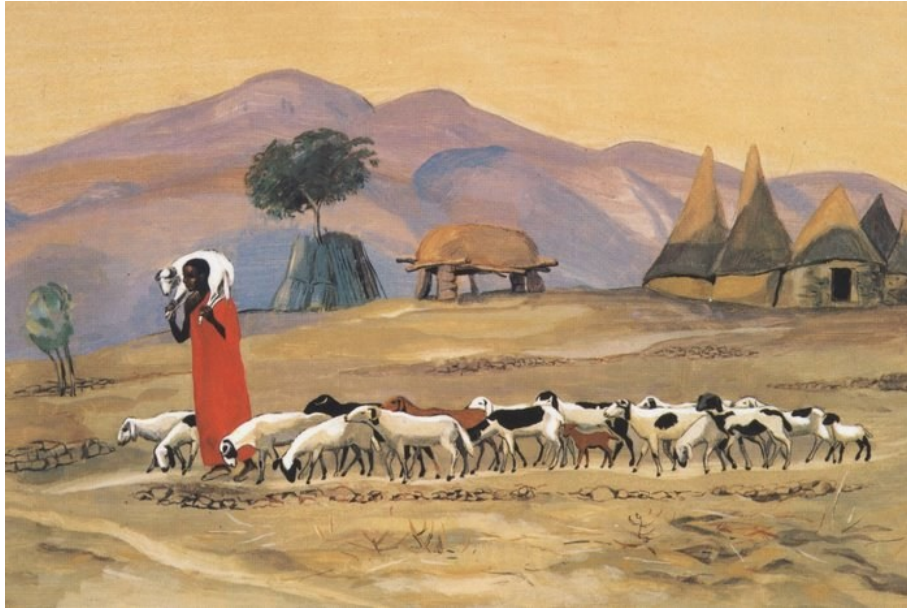
MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 19, 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

“Arise My Soul, Arise”

Rev. Jonathan Freeman
Words & Music: Indelible Grace

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes

OPENING PRAYER

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** (*a variation on John 10:1-10*)

Rev. Shari Freeman

ONE: Christ calls each sheep by name as they enter the sheepfold.

ALL: Christ checks on them, cares for them, and prepares them to go out again.

ONE: When Christ goes out ahead of his sheep and invites them forward,

ALL: They come, because they know his voice and trust his invitation.

ONE: May the invitation ring in our ears,

ALL: And may we take the first steps. Let us worship God!

† **OPENING HYMN** (#515)

“I Come with Joy”

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Shari Freeman

God of Grace and Forgiveness, life lived together is hard. The earliest followers of Christ combined their resources to meet their community's needs. They spent time together, ate meals together, worshipped together and worked alongside each other for the good of the community. We admit that we are not so 'together' as those early followers. We keep resources to ourselves, we avoid spending too much time with one another, and we focus on our good instead of the good of the community. Forgive us, and call us into the holiness of life lived together ... *(silent confession)* ... Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: ...in the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

† RESPONSE (#243)

"Be Not Afraid"

Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Colussy-Estes

*(All children of God 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

Mike Havey

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 2:19-25

Acts 2:42:47

Rev. Colussy-Estes

SERMON

"Koinonia"

RESPONSE

† HYMN (#803) "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Psalms 23*)

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
leads me beside still waters; restores my soul;
leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff— they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

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

"Sing a New Song Unto the Lord"

by: Daniel L. Schutte

(If you would like to contribute financially to Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church or its mission, ushers will be stationed at the doors of the narthex to accept your gifts.)

†

DOXOLOGY (#399) (2x)

"God Welcomes All"

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Mike Havey

SENDING

† **CLOSING HYMN (#187)** **“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”**

† **BENEDICTION**

Rev. Colussy-Estes

POSTLUDE

“The Prince of Denmark’s March”

by Henry Purcell, arr. by Jonathan Scott

(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!)

Cover Artwork
“The good shepherd”
JESUS MAFA (Cameroon)

Leading Today’s Worship Service

Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes, Interim Senior Pastor

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor

Rev. Shari Freeman, 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
9:15/9:30 - 10:15am

Connection
10-10:25am

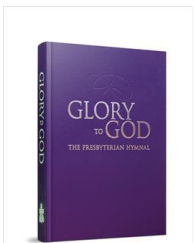


Worship
10:30-11:30am

Upcoming Services/Events:



- April 26** Outdoor Worship, "The Road to Austell", 1 Peter 1:17-23, Luke 24:13-35
Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt
- April 28** Taizé, 7pm in the Sanctuary
- May 3** 1 Peter 2:2-10, Acts 7:55-60, Rev. Shari Freeman



Adopt a Hymnal begins TODAY! If you wish to dedicate a hymnal, please fill out the enclosed form and put it in the offering plate or turn it in to the office.



Book Sorting: all are welcome to help us sort books for SSEF TODAY at 4pm in Gailey Hall



Our April Communion Offering is for the Community Assistance Center Food Pantry. This month, we are focusing on items for summer lunches and diapers. Many CAC clients rely on school lunches and breakfasts, so those families get extra food during the summer months. 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. Anna Morine has a special request for diapers in sizes: Newborn, 2, 5, and 7. They can be dropped off in the Outreach Bin outside the church office



Love Your Neighbor - a multifaith concert benefitting CAC on Thursday, April 30 at 7pm at The Weber School Performing Arts Center. Our choir will be performing!



Presbyterian Women: The **Day Circle** enjoyed the Bible study last Tuesday led by Pat Bartee. On May 12, Sarah Chalpan will teach lesson 9: *When You Are Walking With Jesus: The Road to Emmaus*. The **Book Circle** will meet on May 8. Gigi Gunther will lead a review of *James* (historical fiction and humor). **Circle of Grace's spring schedule:** April 19, at Debbie Barcliff's home, May 3 at Dale Morine's home. Please email Lisa Cumming at lisa.j.cumming@gmail.com if you have questions.

April 19, 2026



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

Giving



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 & holding babies, and toys for toddlers.



Adult Sunday School: Discovery meets at **9:15am** in the Chapel and is using the curriculum “*The Present Word*”. **Crossroads** meets at **9:30am** in the Session Room and is using a video curriculum about “*The Historical Jesus*”, led by Prof. Bart Ehrman, North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Contact Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt for more information.



Stephen Ministry: Stephen Ministry is trained in emotional support for early stages of memory loss and dementia, chronic disease, rehab, and dying. All are vital services for our aging members of the congregation. For others, Stephen Ministers are ready to help with grief, loss of a job, moving issues, mid-life changes, death of a spouse or child or friend, empty nest, retirement, divorce, caregiver encouragement, or a series of events that have made you upset. We are extremely good listeners and can help you with perspective and clarification of your goals, so you can optimize reaching a workable solution. We are especially skilled in short-term disruptions of normal living. We work with congregation members, relatives and friends of our members, and people from the community around our church. Please utilize us as the need arises. Please 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 barbara@babrooks.com or call her at 404.422.5175.

Prayer Concerns: Carol Beckman, Dee Bradford-Smith, friends of the Bumgarner, Ann Dillon, Allison Eustis, Bruce Hagenau, George Hammett, Megan Kendall, Kathryn Mackie, Barbara Pirkle, our homebound & isolated members, ACE, CAC, Los Niños Primero, Clifton Sanctuary, Israel/Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, and Zambia.

Christian sympathy for the friends and family of Sam Brasher who died March 16. A service will be Saturday, May 9 at 2pm in the Sanctuary.

Attendance 4/12: Sanctuary: 67 Online: 23

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 April 16	Actual YTD	2026 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 186,336	\$460,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 19,592	\$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 2,150	\$ 7,500
Total	\$ 208,078	\$ 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