

MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 26, 2026, 10:30 am

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

† *You are invited to stand when you see this symbol.*



Leah and Rachel by Miriam Mehadipur

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

"His Eye is on the Sparrow"

arr. Mark Hayes

Amy Kiley, soprano

This is hymn #661 in your new hymnal.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

OPENING PRAYER

† CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Here, in this place, God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:

ALL: Here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.

ONE: Here, in this time, we remember all the ways God has graced us:

ALL: Here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us, always!

ONE: Here we are gathered, daring to step out of our comfort into the unknown:

ALL: Here, in this space, we cry out to God in joy and in sorrow. Let us worship God!

† OPENING HYMN (#693)

"Though I May Speak"

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes

Loving God, who searches and knows our hearts, what can we say about our lives? We know how often we have duped others with our deceit. We remember how often we promise one thing, only to do another. We struggle to trust you, while we so easily listen to those who would pull us away from you. Forgive us, remind us that your heart overflows with mercy. Your grace is more powerful than any of our sins, your hope is more durable than our silly choices, your love will traverse anything, and everything, which could separate us from you ... *(silent confession)* ... Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

† RESPONSE (#399, 2x)

"God Welcomes All"

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;

God's love is strong and it never ends.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*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

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Ann Dillon

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 128
Genesis 29:15-28

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

SERMON

"That is not our way"

RESPONSE

† HYMN (#324)

"For All the Faithful Women"

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*from the Confession of 1967 Inclusive Language edition*) Rev. Colussy-Estes

Reconciled to God, people have joy in and respect for their own humanity and that of other persons; a man and woman are enabled to marry, to commit themselves to a mutually shared life, and to respond to each other in sensitive and lifelong concern; parents receive the grace to care for children in love and to nurture their individuality. The church comes under the judgment of God and invites rejection by society when it fails to lead men and women into the full meaning of life together, or withholds the compassion of Christ from those caught in the moral confusion of our time.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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

"Deep River"

arr. Moses Hogan

Amy Kiley, soprano

(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 (#80) (2x)

"You Shall Go Out with Joy"

You shall go out with joy and be led forth in peace;
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
There'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap) (3x)
While you go out with joy!

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Ann Dillon

SENDING

† CLOSING HYMN (#547)

"Go, My Children, With My Blessing"

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Postlude on 'All People That on Earth Do Dwell'"

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 *Lectionary Liturgies* by Rev. Thom Shuman

Leading Today's Worship Service

Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes, Interim Senior Pastor

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor

Jill Hudson, Music Director & Organist

Liam Jacobs, Contemporary Musician



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

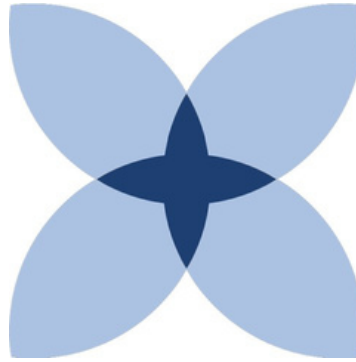
Our mailing address is: P.O. Box 76051, Sandy Springs, GA 30358

mvpchurch.org

CCLI License #2404763

MVPC ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JULY 26, 2026

Sunday School
9:30-10:15am



Connections
10-10:25am

Worship
10:30-11:30am

Upcoming Services/Events:

- July 28** Taize, 7pm in the Sanctuary
- August 2** Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Genesis 32:22-31, Rev. Shari Freeman
- August 7** Movie Night in the Courtyard at 8pm
- August 9** Blessing of the Backpacks during Worship
- August 23** Emory Brain Health Event: Called to Care, 1-3pm



CAT Scan Survey is live and ready for your feedback. The PNC will provide technical help today after worship in the Session Room.

Construction: Parking on the back side of the church/the Spruill Lane side of campus is prohibited during construction. Also, during the summer, please use the Johnson Ferry entrance.

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 re-integration by promoting autonomy and self-sufficiency through assessments, treatment, education, referrals and linkages that improve veterans' quality of life.

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 **9:30am** in the Chapel and is using the curriculum *"The Present Word"*. **Crossroads** meets at **9:30am** in the Session Room, and is using a DVD series titled *The History of Christian Theology* by Prof. Phillip Cary of Eastern University. Contact Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt for more information.





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

Giving



Presbyterian Women: Save the date! The Presbyterian Women's Kickoff Salad Luncheon will be on August 9 after the morning service in the Kirk Center. Bring a salad along with a serving utensil and enjoy fellowship as we prepare for another year of Bible study. You will also be able to purchase a study guide. **Circle of Grace:** We are taking the summer off but please check back for our Fall schedule. Please email Lisa Cumming at lisa.j.cumming@gmail.com if you have questions.



Stephen Ministry: Helping people of all ages with grief has been a "staple" in our current Stephen Ministry. But we also have helped those with job loss, early dementia, the disorientation of a move, and dying. Our original training, along with further continuing education, keeps our skills honed. We now have begun serving with Vitas Hospice on a rotating basis and are sharing our skills with the community beyond our church walls. If we can help journey with you as you face a difficult time, please contact Pat Bartee, leader, or ask one of our pastors to connect us.



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, Betsy Cozine, Nancy Vaughn Fletcher, Gerald Fundge, Sherri Galloway, George Hammett, Nancy Kennedy, Kathryn Mackie, our homebound & isolated members, ACE, CAC, Los Niños Primero, Clifton Sanctuary Ministries, Israel/Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, Venezuela, and Zambia.

Attendance 7/19: Sanctuary: 84 Online: 17



Financial Update

As of July 23, 2026	Actual YTD	2026 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 296,221	\$ 460,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 32,539	\$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 4,321	\$ 7,500
Total	\$ 333,081	\$ 527,500

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