



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 6, 2026, 10:30 AM

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

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



Musical instruments. Orchestra. (2021)
Painting by Kateart

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

arr. by Kevin Olson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes

OPENING PRAYER

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Colussy-Estes

ONE: You put a new song in my mouth; a song of praise,

ALL: I will sing, sing a new song!

ONE: I waited patiently for you, O Lord; You bent down and heard my cry,

ALL: I will sing, sing a new song!

ONE: You set my feet upon a rock; made my footsteps firm,

ALL: I will sing, sing a new song!

ONE: Let all who seek you celebrate and rejoice in you,

ALL: I will sing, sing a new song!

† OPENING HYMN (#475)

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION (#834)

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Precious Lord, take my hand; Lead me on, help me stand;

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light;

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near;

When my life is almost gone, hear my cry, hear my call,

hold my hand lest I fall;

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas Dorsey. Music: George Allen. © 1938, Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

† RESPONSE (#399, 2x)

"God Welcomes All"

by John L. Bell

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.

Afterward, the children are invited to Children's Church in the Chapel.)

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Barbara Brooks

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 4:18-22

Keenan Kade

HYMN (#157)

"I Danced in the Morning" (verses 1, 3, 5)

SCRIPTURE

Mark 12:28-31

Anthony Menardi

HYMN (#519)

"You Are My Strength When I Am Weak" (You are My All in All)

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 17:1-9

Nichol Jacobs

HYMN (#630)

"Fairest Lord Jesus" (verses 1, 3)

SCRIPTURE

2 Samuel 22: 1-3

Cody Otero

HYMN (#438)

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" (verses 1, 2)

SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:44-47

Kiley Carpenter

HYMN (#839)

"Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!"

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 46:1-5

Asa Pedit

HYMN (#840)

"When Peace Like a River" (It Is Well with My Soul) (verses 1, 4)

RESPONSE

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from the Confession of 1967, Inclusive Language Edition) Rev. Shari Freeman

The church responds to the message of reconciliation in praise and prayer. In that response it commits itself afresh to its mission, experiences a deepening of faith and obedience, and bears open testimony to the gospel. Adoration of God is acknowledgment of the Creator by the creation. Confession of sin is admission of every person's guilt before God and of their need for God's forgiveness. Thanksgiving is rejoicing in God's goodness to all people and in giving for the needs of others. Petitions and intercessions are addressed to God for the continuation of divine goodness, the healing of human ills, and deliverance from every form of oppression. The arts, especially music and architecture, contribute to the praise and prayer of a Christian congregation when they help people to look beyond themselves to God and to the world which is the object of God's love.

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

"Jesus Loves Me"

arr. John Ferguson

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

Barbara Brooks

SENDING

† CLOSING HYMN (#192)

"Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining" (Shine, Jesus, Shine)

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Colussy-Estes

POSTLUDE

Toccata on "Amazing Grace"

arr. J. Christopher Pardini

The primary role of a postlude is to provide a musical transition that connects 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. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor

Rev. Shari Freeman, Associate Pastor

Jill Hudson, Music Director & Organist

Liam Jacobs, Contemporary musician

The Chancel Choir of Mount Vernon



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 SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

Sunday School
9:30-10:15am



Connections
10-10:25am

Worship
10:30-11:30am

Upcoming Services/Events:

- September 13** Matthew 18:21-35, Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes
Kickoff Lunch in Fellowship Hall, PNC Focus Groups
- September 20** Mathew 20:1-16, Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt



Church Office will be closed Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day.

Join us as we kick off the new program year on Sunday, September 13, and stay for Fox Brother's Barbeque for lunch - compliments of the MVPC Foundation! We'll have a presentation by the Foundation about their work and a chance to share more thoughts with the PNC as they continue their work towards calling the next pastor of MVPC.

Lunch Bunch: All are invited to join the pastors TODAY - Sunday, September 6 at City BBQ after worship.

Fall Small Groups: Small Groups will meet for five weeks starting on September 20! A signup table is currently in the narthex with information about meeting locations and the books each small group will read. There is even an option for a joint small group with Holy Innocent's Episcopal and Sandy Springs United Methodist!

Reading the Bible for All Its Worth: This is a 6-week course with a goal to help you better appreciate what the Bible is, but also to read it with greater confidence and insight. It begins Wednesday, September 16 from 7-8:15pm at Holy Innocent's. Please scan this QR Code to register for the course. If you're interested or have questions, contact Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt.

Our **September Communion Offering** is for the Community Assistance Center food pantry. Originally called the Community Action Center, CAC was started in 1987 in our Gailey Hall by five congregations including MVPC. Now the organization has four locations. Pick up a blue bag in the Narthex.

BE AWARE: Please do not respond to any text or email that appears to be from any of our pastors or staff members requesting money or gift cards. If you have any questions about emails from staff, please contact the church office.



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 as well as 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 DVD series titled *The History of Christian Theology* by Prof. Phillip Cary of Eastern University. Contact Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt for more information.



Presbyterian Women: We are looking forward to another year of Presbyterian Women! Our first **Bible Study** will be this Tuesday, September 8 at 10:30 in the Session Room. Jeanne Gilliland will teach Lesson One: Unity in Christ, Wisdom from God in the Horizons Bible Study *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other*. The study guide will be available for purchase (\$10). The new scrapbook will also be there. The **Book Circle** will meet on Friday, September 11 at 10:00 in the Session Room. Sarah Chalpan will lead a review of *The Blue Castle* (fiction, 1926) by L. M. Montgomery. **Circle of Grace** will meet September 13 at 5pm.



Stephen Ministry: Sometimes, you just need another ear and another voice to regain perspective. Your Stephen Ministers are ready to "be there" for you when you have difficulty in your life. Please contact Pat Bartee, 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: Rick Davis (*friend of Charlie Gray*), Gerald Fudge, Sherri Galloway, George Hammett, Mary Lynch (*Felicia Hutt's mother*), Kathryn Mackie, Ali Mearns, Kathy Whitacre-Stewart, our homebound & isolated members, PNC, ACE, CAC, Los Niños Primero, Clifton Sanctuary Ministries, Israel/Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, Venezuela, and Zambia.

Attendance 8/30: Sanctuary: 82 Online: 15

Financial Update

As of September 3, 2026	Actual YTD	2026 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 354,218	\$ 460,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 44,045	\$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 5,067	\$ 7,500
Total	\$ 403,330	\$ 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