MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
October 4, 2026, 10:30 am

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

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



Loaves and Fishes
John August Swanson, 2003

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC **"Crowded Table"** *by Natalie Hemby, Lori McKenna, Brandi Carlile*
Nichol Jacobs, Soloist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY Stan Williams and Gill Hutt
Zambia Partnerships

OPENING PRAYER

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(from Psalm 145)* Rev. Colussy-Estes

ONE: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

ALL: The Lord is good to all, and God's compassion extends to all of creation.

ONE: All eyes look to God, in hope for our daily bread

ALL: The Lord is always faithful and supplies our deepest need.

ONE: God is never too far to hear us and our cries

ALL: Those who love and trust, rest secure in God's hand. Let us worship God!

† **OPENING HYMN** *(#318)* **"In Christ There Is No East or West"**

† **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Rev. Shari Freeman

God of Abundance, you have promised to provide us with more than mere survival. In seeking to satisfy our deepest hunger, we find a more profound sustenance than we could imagine. God of Grace, we are hungry. God of Mercy, quench our thirst. Forgive us, we pray, for our fearfulness, as we rely on illusions of human control and satisfaction, even though we know that these illusions separate us from you. Forgive us for not trusting in your grace, in your abundance, or in the covenant promises that you have renewed with every generation … *(silent confession) …* **Amen.**

† **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

† **RESPONSE** *(#471)* **"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"**

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.
The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.
The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise: God the wellspring of life.

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**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Keith Bumgarner

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 55:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21 Rev. Colussy-Estes

SERMON "Come and Eat"

RESPONSE

† **HYMN** *(#515)* **"I Come With Joy"**

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(from the Confession of Belhar)* Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another;
that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways; in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope; together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ; together are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity; together know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ; that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity;

OFFERTORY **"Together We Rise!"** *Words and music: Victor C. Johnson*

(Tuko Pamoja, Swahili)
Tuko Pamoja = We are together
Tuna Imani = We have faith

† **DOXOLOGY** (*#608)* **"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

† **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** Keith Bumgarner

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER Rev. Colussy-Estes
INVITATION TO THE TABLE Rev. Freeman
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Rev. Toney-Schmitt

ONE: The Lord be with you. **ALL: And also with you.**
ONE: Lift up your hearts. **ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.**
ONE: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

ONE: Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with the faithful of every time and place:

ALL: (#552) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

ONE: …great is the mystery of faith.

ALL: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

…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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(The congregation is invited to come forward to receive communion. If you prefer to remain seated, an elder will bring communion to you.)

COMMUNION MUSIC **"Look at the World"** *Words and music by John Rutter*

William Chettleburgh, violin; Michelle Moebes, flute; Kiley Carpenter, soloist

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

† **CLOSING HYMN** *(#853)* **"We Are Marching in the Light of God" (Siyahamba)**

(We are marching…Siyahamba…We are singing…)

† **BENEDICTION**

† **SUNG BENEDICTION** *(#399)* **"God Welcomes All"**

POSTLUDE **"Toccata in Seven"** *by John Rutter*

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 OCTOBER 4, 2026

Sunday School
9:30-10:15am

Connections
10-10:25am

Worship
10:30-11:30am



Upcoming Services/Events:

October 11 Philippians 4:1-9, Matthew 22:1-14, Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes

October 18 Matthew 22:14-22, Stewardship Kickoff Sunday, Rev. Christina Toney-Schmitt



LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch: You're invited to join us for lunch TODAY after worship at City BBQ.



Our Offertory is an exuberant celebration of unity in faith which features a Swahili chorus exclaiming, "we walk in faith, we stand together, one world, one hope, one song." Tuko pamoja = We are together. Tuna imani = We have faith.

SMALL GROUPS

Fall Small Groups: Happening now! A signup table is in the narthex with information about meeting locations and the books each small group will read.



SOCKtober: For the month of October, we will be collecting new and gently used socks in all sizes for men, women, and children which will go to various outreach partners, including Community Assistance Center, Stirred-Up Ministries, International Women's House, VA Domiciliary, and Clifton Sanctuary Ministries. Take this opportunity to shop for new socks and clean out your sock drawer. Our October Communion Offering is also for treats to benefit area schools' fall festival activities. If you would like to help hand out these treats as well as books from the Sandy Springs Education Force Mini Libraries Program at Dunwoody Springs Elementary School in the evening on Thursday, October 22, or Lake Forest on Friday, October 23, email beppielever@earthlink.net or isaac@mvpchurch.org.

THE PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL

Adopt a Hymnal - Dedicating a hymnal to someone is a good way to honor people close to us, to remember people that are no longer here, or to give special thanks to someone. Please complete the form in the red box in the Narthex or return to the church office. The suggested donation per hymnal is $25.

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: Our **Bible Study** next meeting is on Tuesday, October 13, at 10:30am in the Session Room. Pat Bartee will teach lesson 2, Connected in Christ in the Horizons Bible Study, *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other.* The **Book Circle** will meet on Friday, October 9, at 10:00am in the Session Room. Ann Williams will lead a review of *The Stolen Life of Colette Marceau* (historical fiction) by Kristin Harmel. **Circle of Grace** will meet November 15 at 5pm.



Stephen Ministry: After a lively summer, fall creeps in slowly. Time slows for some; routines and schedules rule the day now for others. The yellowing leaves and cooler days often trigger memories, bring changes, and charge emotions. If you could use a larger perspective, new resources, or just a companion as you make life decisions and deal with change, your Stephen Ministry is here to help. Please call 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)*, Mark & JoAnn Fifield, Gerald Fudge, Sherri Galloway, Mary Lynch *(Felicia Hutt's mother)*, Kathryn Mackie, Karen Roberts, Kathy Whitacre-Stewart, our homebound & isolated members, PNC, ACE, CAC, Los Niños Primero, Clifton Sanctuary Ministries, Israel/Gaza, Nepal, Ukraine, Myanmar, Venezuela, and Zambia.

Christian sympathy to the friends and family of **George Hammett** who died on Saturday, September 26.

Attendance 9/27: Outdoor Worship: 66 Online: 9

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.*

Financial Update

As of September 29, 2026	Actual YTD	2026 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	$ 370,370	$ 460,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	$ 44,405	$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	$ 5,408	$ 7,500
Total	**$ 420,183**	**$ 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