



*Mt Vernon UMC*

*Second Sunday after Christmas*

## Verse for the Day

*The law indeed was given through Moses;  
grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. - John 1:17*

## ENTRANCE

### GATHERING

*Welcome to a time of reunion, respite, and renewal.*

### GREETINGS

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Christ, the light of the world, is with us!

**Praise the Lord!**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRAYER

### PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

3056. Jesus, the Light of the World

### CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

Children of God, we enter the new year as we ended the last: gathered together for worship!

**We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.**

In the Light is life for all people.

**We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.**

The Light is present, even here, even now.

**We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.**

So, let us heed John's call: that all who call on the Light, who call on the name of the Christ Jesus, have the power to be children of God.

**We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light  
today and every day. Amen.**

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<sup>1</sup> From "Call to Worship," written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2024. Adapted by Rob Adams.

## HYMN

240. Hark! He Herald Angels Sing

249. There's Song in the Air

## SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 1:3-4,13-14

*Blessed be God, who blessed us  
with every spiritual blessing.*

## RESPONSE

71. Gloria Patri

## NOISY OFFERING

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

## LORD'S PRAYER

## RESPONSE

**Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

**Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

**Incline Thine ear to us,**

**and grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

## PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

## SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-9

*"The light shines in the darkness"*

## MESSAGE

## PEACE & OFFERING

## DOXOLOGY - #95

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Praise God for all that love has done;**

**Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

## **THANKSGIVING & COMMUNION**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Eternal God, we give you thanks**

**for this holy mystery**

**in which you have given yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world**

**in the strength of your Spirit,**

**to give ourselves for others,**

**in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **SENDING FORTH**

**HYMN**

**251. Go, Tell It on the Mountain**

**CANDLES**

**BLESSING**

**Carry the light of Christ into a world filled with darkness.**

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ**

**and the love of God**

**and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit**

**be with you all. (2 Cor 13:14).**

**Go in peace.**

## ***Every Day With Jesus***

Congratulations! Today is the final day of “Every Day With Jesus,” our Bible reading plan for 2024.

Jan 5,365	,Malachi 1:1-4:6,	Psalms 150:1-6,	Proverbs 31:30-31,	Revelation 22:1-21
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## ***In Search of Wisdom***

In 2025, we will focus on the Book of Proverbs. Inspired by Joyce Meyer’s *In Search of Wisdom*, for 31 Sundays we will consider each book of Proverbs, in turn. Books are available in the narthex or you may purchase them on Amazon.

Jan 19	Prov. 1	Apr 27	Prov. 12	Aug 03	Prov. 21
Jan 26	Prov. 2	May 04	Prov. 13	Aug 10	Prov. 22
Feb 02	Prov. 3	May 11	Prov. 31	Aug 31	Prov. 23
Feb 16	Prov. 4	May 18	Prov. 14	Sep 07	Prov. 24
Feb 23	Prov. 5	Jun 08	Prov. 15	Sep 14	Prov. 25
Mar 02	Prov. 6	Jun 15	Prov. 16	Sep 14	Prov. 26
Mar 09	Prov. 7	Jun 22	Prov. 17	Oct 05	Prov. 27
Mar 23	Prov. 8	Jun 29	Prov. 18	Oct 12	Prov. 28
Mar 25	Prov. 9	Jul 20	Prov. 19	Oct 19	Prov. 29
Mar 30	Prov. 10	Jul 27	Prov. 20	Oct 26	Prov. 30
Apr 06	Prov. 11				

## Ministry & Discipleship Opportunities

Helping Hands: Soup, Crackers, TP, \$\$	Today!
Play practice during Sunday School and after church	Today!
Christmas Caroling	Today!
Children's Program	12/24
Christmas Eve Worship	5pm, 12/24

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## Recent and Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Travis Sherman, Mason Drollinger, Tracy Bailen  
Tom & Cheryl Blackburn

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**For more information** about these and other activities, check your email for *This Week at Mt. Vernon*. If you don't receive *This Week at Mt. Vernon*, please let us know.

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Do you prefer using an electronic version of the bulletin? You can view this week's bulletin at <https://tinyurl.com/4h8tzuyp>. If you use the electronic version, please let Pastor Rob know.

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God calls Mt Vernon UMC to:

Love God & neighbor as Jesus taught

Learn together of God's love and grace

Serve others by using our God-given gifts and talents

Be witnesses of our faith in God through Jesus Christ to all the world!.

To learn more, visit [facebook.com/MtVChamp](https://facebook.com/MtVChamp)

If you would like a prayer, a visit, a meal, to have Holy Communion brought to your home, or have any other need, please contact any church member or Pastor Rob ([217-751-4400](tel:217-751-4400), [pastor@mtvernon-umc.org](mailto:pastor@mtvernon-umc.org)).

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