



Mt Vernon UMC

August 3, 2025

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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.

Jesus Christ, who “is all and in all”, is with us!

Praise the Lord!

ANNOUNCEMENTS & BIRTHDAYS

OPENING PRAYER

CANDLES 64. Holy, Holy, Holy! (v1)

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!

God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Children of God, we gather as people who have received
new life in Jesus Christ.

**We come to set our minds on Christ, who surrounds us
in love.**

The world tries to distract us with anxious rumors,
worrisome lies, and misleading half-truths.

**We come to set our minds on Christ,
who surrounds us in love.**

In this place, we gather to remind, remember, and renew
our commitment to dwell in the love of Christ.

**We come to set our minds on Christ,
who surrounds us in love.**

¹ Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, February 2025.

**Come, let us worship as we set our minds on Christ,
who surrounds us in love.**

Be rich toward God, your treasure

12:14 But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?"

12:16 Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly.

12:18 Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.

12:20 But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'

12:21 So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

HYMN

Bigger Barns²

Tune: 479. Jesus, Lover of My Soul

"Bigger barns are what I need!" So a rich man said one day.

"From my worries I'll be free when my wealth is stored away."

"Fool!" God said, "Today you'll die! Will your wealth mean anything?"

All life's blessings really lie in my life that wealth can't bring."

"Bigger barns are what we need for our money, gadgets, more!"

Lord, we're tempted to believe having wealth, we'll be secure!

Somewhere children cry for food or to have a doctor's care.

Can our bigger barns be good when poor neighbors know despair?

God of love, we long to know what will make us truly blest.

Jesus taught us long ago wealth won't give us peace or rest.

You are our security! Safe in you, we serve, O Lord.

May we find we're rich indeed when we're sharing with the poor.

NOISY OFFERING

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

² Copyright © 2001 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

Included in *Songs of Grace: New Hymns for God and Neighbor* (Upper Room Books, 2009).

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

PROVERBS

Proverbs 21, various

- 2 A person may think their own ways are right,
but the Lord weighs the heart.
- 3 To do what is right and just
is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.
- 30 There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan
that can succeed against the Lord.
- 31 The horse is made ready for the day of battle,
but victory rests with the Lord.

SCRIPTURE

Colossians 3:1-11

Clothed in Christ

- 3:1 So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
- 3:2 Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth,
- 3:3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- 3:4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.
- 3:5 Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry).
- 3:6 On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient.
- 3:7 These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life.
- 3:8 But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth.

- 3:9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have
stripped off the old self with its practices
3:10 and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which
is being renewed in knowledge according to the image
of its creator.
3:11 In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew,
circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian,
enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

SERMON

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

RESPONSE

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Incline Thine ear to us,

and grant us Thy peace. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

PASSING THE 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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING - #17

LORD'S PRAYER - #895

HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - #11

SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION

CANDLES

64. Holy, Holy, Holy! (v4)

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name,

in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

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.

Aug 03	Prov. 21	Sep 14	Prov. 25	Oct 19	Prov. 29
Aug 10	Prov. 22	Sep 14	Prov. 26	Oct 26	Prov. 30
Aug 31	Prov. 23	Oct 05	Prov. 27		
Sep 07	Prov. 24	Oct 12	Prov. 28		

Church Vitality

~~Average Sunday Attendance in June: 33.8~~

~~Average Sunday Attendance, year-to-date: 33.0~~

~~Average Sunday Offering, year-to-date: \$1,941.69~~

~~Average Offering, compared to budget: +\$528.84~~

~~Recent Ministries:~~

~~Children's Fundraiser, UWF Fundraiser, Humane Society Visit, Mother's Day, Memorial Picnic / Shriner's Hospital Talk, Worship Concert w/ Sam Waltemyer, St Jude offering, July 4th Float decoration and parade, ice cream and games.~~

Ministry & Discipleship Opportunities

Helping Hands: Soup, Crackers, TP, \$\$	Today!
Noisy Offering for Spero Family Services	7/6-9/28
UWF	9am 8/10
Blessing of the Backpacks	10:30am 8/10
Team Spirit	10:30am 8/10
VBS (more info to come)	3-7pm 8/10
Bicycles to MMDC	See Katie S.
Helping Hands Volunteering	8/16
GROP Walk (more info to come)	10/5

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.

You can view this week's bulletin at <https://tinyurl.com/4h8tzuyy>. If you use the electronic version, please let Pastor Rob know.



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

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, pastor@mtvernon-umc.org).