



*Mt Vernon UMC*

*July 20, 2025*

*Sixth 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, the image of the invisible God, 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 WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

Children of God, in Jesus, Love became flesh and moved  
into the neighborhood.

**We gather to worship Christ, the image of the invisible.**

In Jesus, we meet the fullness of God with no barriers to  
access.

**We gather to worship Christ, the image of the invisible.**

In Jesus, our separation from God, neighbor, self, and  
creation has been removed. We are free for divine and  
loving connection once again.

**We gather to worship Christ, the image of the invisible.**

---

<sup>1</sup> Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, January 2025.

Children of God, come! Come, let us worship God, whose power makes Love visible to us so that we might reflect Love to the world.

**Come, let us worship Christ, Love who came to dwell among us and within us!**

**HYMN 2271. Come! Come! Everybody Worship**

**HYMN 396. O Jesus, I Have Promised**

**GOSPEL Luke 10:38-42**

*Choosing the better part*

10:38 Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.

10:39 She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying.

10:40 But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me."

10:41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things,

10:42 but few things are needed--indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

**HYMN 349. Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus**

**NOISY OFFERING**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

***PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE***

**PROVERB**

**Proverbs 19:8,9,20**

The one who gets wisdom loves life;  
the one who cherishes understanding will soon prosper.

A false witness will not go unpunished,  
and whoever pours out lies will perish.  
Listen to advice and accept discipline,  
and at the end you will be counted among the wise.

## SCRIPTURE

## Colossians 1:15-28

### *A hymn to Christ*

- 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation,  
1:16 for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers--all things have been created through him and for him.  
1:17 He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.  
1:18 He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.  
1:19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,  
1:20 and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.  
1:21 And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,  
1:22 he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him,  
1:23 provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

- 1:24 I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake,  
and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in  
Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the  
church.
- 1:25 I became its minister according to God's commission  
that was given to me for you, to make the word of God  
fully known,
- 1:26 the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages  
and generations but has now been revealed to his saints.
- 1:27 To them God chose to make known how great among  
the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery,  
which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.
- 1:28 It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and  
teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present  
everyone mature in Christ

## SERMON

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

## LORD'S PRAYER - #895

## RESPONSE

**Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

**Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

**Incline Thine ear to us,**

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

## CONFESSION & PARDON<sup>2</sup>

Let us open our hearts and minds to the truth of our lives,  
and let us offer that truth to God.

*Offer silent prayers of confession..*

**Forgive us, O God, when we limit you –**

---

<sup>2</sup> Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, "Hold Fast to What Is Good."  
<https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession/>.

**When we remake you in our image,  
When we claim our causes as your own,  
When we box you in,  
And explain you away,  
And in our attempts at understanding,  
whittle away all mystery.  
Forgive us for our human impulses, and change us:  
Awaken us to your glory,  
Confound us by your love,  
Shower us with grace so that we will be made new,  
Recreated in your image,  
Grateful for all that we cannot know.  
In the name of Christ, who brought us closer to you,  
we pray. Amen.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness*

Friends, let us proclaim the Good News:  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**  
Let us go out into the world as people made new by God.  
**Alleluia! Amen.**

**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.**

**THANKSGIVING & COMMUNION**

**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.

Jul 20	Prov. 19	Aug 31	Prov. 23	Oct 05	Prov. 27
Jul 27	Prov. 20	Sep 07	Prov. 24	Oct 12	Prov. 28
Aug 03	Prov. 21	Sep 14	Prov. 25	Oct 19	Prov. 29
Aug 10	Prov. 22	Sep 14	Prov. 26	Oct 26	Prov. 30

### **Church Vitality**

Average Sunday Attendance in June: 33.8

Average Sunday Attendance, year-to-date: 33.0

Average Sunday Offering, year-to-date: \$1,964.61

Average Offering, compared to budget: +\$551.73

### **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
CROP 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/4h8tzuyyp>. 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](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, [pastor@mtvernon-umc.org](mailto:pastor@mtvernon-umc.org)).