

Sermon Series: *Who Are You?*



Mt Vernon UMC

January 7, 2024

Epiphany of the Lord

GREETINGS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING ♫♪

3017. Come, Join the Dance of Trinity, v1,4

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; a light has dawned on those living in the land of darkness.

The light is named

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.**

You have enlarged the nation and increased its joy. The people have rejoiced before you as they rejoice at harvest time and as they rejoice when dividing spoils.

Their joy is named

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.**

For a child is born for us, a son is given to us, and the government is on his shoulders.

The Son is named

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.**

HYMN ♫♪

254. We Three Kings

When Mary Hugged Her Newborn Son

NOISY OFFERING

CHILDREN'S SERMON

¹ Isaiah 9:1-3 (CSB), adapted.

² ↑ = Please stand as you are able.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

RESPONSE ♪♪

**Hear our prayer, O Lord.
Hear our prayer, O Lord.
Incline Thine ear to us,
and grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

↑SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON

CONFESSON & PARDON - #12

**Christ Jesus, Son of God, we confess that we have not
loved you with our whole heart.**

**You are our king, but
we have not done your will,
we have broken your law.**

**You are our God, but
we have failed to be an obedient church.
We lean on our own understanding, and
we do not trust you with our whole heart.**

**You sacrificed yourself for our sake, but
we have rebelled against your love.
We do not give ourselves for others,
we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

**Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience, to you,
King, God, and Sacrifice. Amen**

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.**

OFFERING & PEACE

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 - #3070 ♫♪

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

Never forget who you are and whose you are.
The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the LORD turn his face toward you
and give you peace.

POSTLUDE ♫♪

Go, Tell It on the Mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!
Go in peace.

Every Day With Jesus

This year we will follow a Bible reading plan called “Every Day With Jesus”. This plan divides the Bible into four sections—Old Testament, Psalms, Proverbs, New Testament—and reads a portion of those each week. By the end of the year, we will have read the entire Bible.

Pastor Rob will host dinner and Bible talk weekly in the Mt Vernon basement, at 6:30pm on Thursdays.

This week's readings:

2024-01-07	Genesis 1:1–2:25	Psalm 1:1–6	Proverbs 1:1–4	Matthew 1:1–25
2024-01-08	Genesis 3:1–4:26	Psalm 2:1–6	Proverbs 1:5–6	Matthew 2:1–23
2024-01-09	Genesis 5:1–6:22	Psalm 2:7–12	Proverbs 1:7	Matthew 3:1–17
2024-01-10	Genesis 7:1–9:7	Psalm 3:1–8	Proverbs 1:8–9	Matthew 4:1–20
2024-01-11	Genesis 9:8–10:32	Psalm 4:1–8	Proverbs 1:10–14	Matthew 4:21–5:12
2024-01-12	Genesis 11:1–12:20	Psalm 5:1–6	Proverbs 1:15–16	Matthew 5:13–32
2024-01-13	Genesis 13:1–15:6	Psalm 5:7–12	Proverbs 1:17–19	Matthew 5:33–6:4

Upcoming Ministry Opportunities

Noisy Offering (Feeding Our Kids)	Today!
Helping Hands Donation	Today!
Church Council	6pm, 1/10
Dinner and Bible	6:30pm, 1/11

Recent and Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

Mary Kae Sherman, Tom & Cheryl Blackburn

From feedingourkids.org :

We provide nourishing food to food insecure school children on weekends and school holidays throughout the school year. How we execute that mission takes many hands and a great deal of generosity.

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.

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).