



Mt Vernon UMC

March 5, 2023

Second Sunday in Lent

GREETINGS¹

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING 

207. Prepare the Way of the Lord.

Prepare the way of the Lord,

and all people will see the salvation of our God. (2x)

CALL TO WORSHIP²

Eternal God,

whose signature we see, if we dare to look,

in the creation of the universe,

help us this hour to look and to listen

for Your handwriting and Your voice in this place,

among these people.

Connect our temporary praise

to Your timeless rhythms,

Your ageless melodies,

Your everlasting joyful noise.

Guide us now to focus upon You,

knowing that in You,

our distractions become new possibilities for action.

Breathe life into our singing, our praying,

our speaking, our listening, our touching,

that all these activities might become

more than they are.

¹ Cover Art: "Blank Calendar page icon" by Jackaranga, CC BY-SA 4.0, via
Wikimedia Commons; text added and color changed

² posted on *My Redeemer Lives* website.

<http://www.myredeemerlives.com/prayers.html>

**In our worship we reach out to You, O God,
knowing that You have already enfolded us
in Your arms.**

In Jesus, we pray. Amen.

HYMN 🎵🎵

405. Seek Ye First

PSALM

Psalm 19

HYMN 🎵🎵

64. Holy, Holy, Holy!

NOISY OFFERING

CHILDREN'S SERMON

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER - #895

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

RESPONSE 🎵🎵

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

**Incline Thine ear to us,
and grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

GOSPEL

John 2:13-22

SERMON

CONFESSION & PARDON³

**Jesus, cleanser of temples and souls,
at this point in our Lenten journey,
look deep within our hearts and our lives,
and clear away all that holds us back.**

**May our minds, spirits and bodies
be a Temple that is open to Your presence:
and may our words and our actions
be transparent to Your love and truth.**

**We pray that this church community,
will be purified in its life and mission,
so that all that we do in and from here
may reveal Your Gospel to others.**

**In a moment of silence we sit before You,
and name those things for which
we seek Your cleansing and healing,
so that we may be more faithful disciples. Amen.**

Silence

**Friends of Jesus, we are made clean
by the words he has spoken to us.**

**There is room in our lives and in our community
for the Holy One to dwell.**

**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;

³ written by Ann Siddall, Stillpoint Spirituality Centre and Faith Community.
Posted on the Uniting Church SA website.

**Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING - #17 

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 FORTH⁴

**The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance[a] upon you
and give you peace.**

POSTLUDE 




**God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
may the Shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.**

Refrain:

**Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet.
Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.**

⁴ Numbers 6 (ESV)

Upcoming Ministry Opportunities

Noisy Offering (Cunningham Children's Home)	Today!
Helping Hands Donation (   \$)	3/5
SavoyUMC Pancake Breakfast	7a-10a 3/11
Sign up as liturgist, acolyte, etc.	Every Sunday!
Pi Day	3/12

Recent and Upcoming Birthdays

6 - Rob Biehl, 8 - Hudson Barnes

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.

Week 10 Reading Plan:

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Num 23-25	Num 26-27	Num 28-30	Num 31-32	Num 33-34	Num 35-36	Deut 1-2

Next Sunday: Walk In the Light - John 12:20-36

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).