

Proverbs 7

Keep my commandments
and live,
And my teaching as the
apple of your eye.
Bind them on your fingers;
Write them on the
tablet of your heart
v 2-3



Say to wisdom, "You are
my sister,"
And call understanding your
intimate friend!
That they may keep you
from an adulteress,
From the foreigner who
flatters with her
words. v 4-5

...Dressed as a harlot and cunning of heart.
She is boisterous and rebellious, Her feet do not
remain at home. v 10-11

With her many persuasions,
She entices him...
Suddenly he follows her
As an ox goes to the
Slaughter... v 21-22

... So he does not know
that it will cost
him his

LIFE

v 23c



[Doodle Through The Bible](#)

ENTRANCE

GATHERING¹

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, ever faithful, is with us!

Praise the Lord!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER²

God, you are our refuge.

You are the shore in sight,
you are hands that reach out,
you are the ground on which to rest.

God, you are our strength.

You are the life we long for,
you are the refusal to give up,
you are the keys of home we carry with us.

God, you are our help in time of trouble.

We call on you from the ruins and the rubble,
We call on you from the wildness and the deep,

ALL: We call on you to meet us in this place! Amen.

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

2006. Lord God Almighty

**Lord, God, Almighty, Savior, redeemer,
only true God to be worshipped and praised.**

How can we tell you how much we love you?

¹Cover art © by Tara D. doodlethroughthebible.com/. Scripture from NASB.

² Found in Cláudio Carvalhaes, *Liturgies from Below: Praying with People at the Ends of the World* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2020), 40.

Take now our lives, Lord, and teach us to love.

CALL TO WORSHIP³

On this first Sunday in Lent, we join Jesus in the wilderness, a place of wild and dangerous things, of testing and temptation away from the security of home.

God, rescue us in the wilderness!

Once again, we watch and listen as Satan throws out temptation upon temptation, and we find our security in Jesus, who does not waver from the truth.

God, rescue us within the wilderness!

Once again, we face our own frailty and realize that the wilderness is not nearly as dangerous as our choices to prioritize selfish gain and hoarding of power.

God, rescue us through the wilderness!

Once again, we call upon God in the wildernesses of our lives, and we trust God's faithful reply:

Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue them and honor them. Thanks be to God! Amen.

³Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, August 2024.

HYMN

698. God of the Ages

HYMN

2053. If It Had Not Been For the Lord

SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Saved from Egypt

26:1

"When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess and you possess it and settle in it,

26:2

you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name.

26:3

You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.'

26:4

When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God,

26:5

you shall make this response before the LORD your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number,

and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.

26:6

When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us,

26:7

we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.

26:8

The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders;

26:9

and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.

26:10

So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.' You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God.

26:11

Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

HYMN

140. Great Is Thy Faithfulness

SCRIPTURE

Romans 10:8b-13

You will be saved

10:8b

"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart"
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim),

10:9

because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord
and believe in your heart that God raised him from the
dead, you will be saved.

10:10

For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness,
and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation.

10:11

The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be
put to shame."

10:12

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the
same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call
on him.

10:13

For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be
saved."

RESPONSE

70. GLORIA PATRI

NOISY OFFERING

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

RESPONSE

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Incline Thine ear to us,

and grant us Thy peace. Amen.

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

PROVERB

Proverbs 7, excerpts (NIV)

Warning Against the Adulterous Woman

4 Say to wisdom, “You are my sister,”

and to insight, “You are my relative.”

5 They will keep you from the adulterous woman,
from the wayward woman with her seductive words.

6 At the window of my house

I looked down through the lattice.

7 I saw among the simple,

I noticed among the young men,
a youth who had no sense.

21 With persuasive words she led him astray;
she seduced him with her smooth talk.

22 All at once he followed her
like an ox going to the slaughter,
like a deer stepping into a noose

25 Do not let your heart turn to her ways
or stray into her paths.

26 Many are the victims she has brought down;
her slain are a mighty throng.

27 Her house is a highway to the grave,

leading down to the chambers of death.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 4:1-13 (MSG)

Tested by the Devil

- 1-2 Now Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wild. For forty wilderness days and nights he was tested by the Devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when the time was up he was hungry.
- 3 The Devil, playing on his hunger, gave the first test: “Since you’re God’s Son, command this stone to turn into a loaf of bread.”
- 4 Jesus answered by quoting Deuteronomy: “It takes more than bread to really live.”
- 5-7 For the second test he led him up and spread out all the kingdoms of the earth on display at once. Then the Devil said, “They’re yours in all their splendor to serve your pleasure. I’m in charge of them all and can turn them over to whomever I wish. Worship me and they’re yours, the whole works.”
- 8 Jesus refused, again backing his refusal with Deuteronomy: “Worship the Lord your God and only the Lord your God. Serve him with absolute single-heartedness.”
- 9-11 For the third test the Devil took him to Jerusalem and put him on top of the Temple. He said, “If you are God’s Son, jump. It’s written, isn’t it, that ‘he has placed you in the care of angels to protect you; they will catch you; you won’t so much as stub your toe on a stone’?”
- 12 “Yes,” said Jesus, “and it’s also written, ‘Don’t you dare tempt the Lord your God.’”

13 That completed the testing. The Devil retreated temporarily, lying in wait for another opportunity.

MESSAGE

PEACE & OFFERING

A wandering Aramean was my ancestor;
**he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien,
few in number, and there he became a great nation,
mighty and populous.**

When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by
imposing hard labor on us,
**we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the
LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our
toil, and our oppression.**

The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand
and an outstretched arm,
**with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and
wonders;**

and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a
land flowing with milk and honey.

**So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that
you, O LORD, have given me.**

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 - UMH11

**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

BLESSING

Confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord
and believe in your heart
that God raised him from the dead. (Romans 10:9)
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).

CANDLES 2006. Lord God, Almighty (v3)

Father, we praise you.
Jesus, we love you.
Spirit, we thank you for the gifts of new life.
How can we tell you how much we love you?
Take now our lives, Lord, and teach us to love.

*Go into the world,
the body of Christ redeemed by His blood,
in the strength of the Holy Spirit,
to praise the Father and love His people.*

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!
UWF meeting	9am 3/9
SPPRC meeting	6:30pm 3/12
Community Breakfast	9-11am 3/15
Blessings of Tractors & Seeds	11am 3/15
Pi Day	3/16
Church Council	6:30pm 3/19

Recent and Upcoming Birthdays

Rob Biehl, Hudson Barnes, Landon Heiken, Joe 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.

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.



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](tel:217-751-4400), pastor@mtvernon-umc.org).