

Proverbs I

Wisdom shouts in the street,
She lifts her voice in the square;

*How long, O naive ones,
will you love being
Simple-minded?

And scoffers delight
themselves in scoffing
And fools hate knowledge?

Turn to my reproof...
Behold, I will pour out my
spirit on you;

I will make my words
known to you.

Because I called and you refused,
I stretched out my hand and
no one paid attention;

And you neglected all my counsel
And did not want my reproof;

When your dread comes
like a storm
And your calamity comes
like a whirlwind,
When distress and anguish
come upon you

Then they will call on me,
but I will not answer;
They will seek me diligently
but they will not find me

Because they hated knowledge
And did not choose to

fear the LORD...

So they shall eat of the fruit of their own way
And be satiated with their own devices" v 20-31

the fear of the LORD
is the beginning of
KNOWLEDGE;
fools despise Wisdom
and instruction
v7



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, of whose body we are all members, is with us!

Praise the Lord!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

3056. Jesus, the Light of the World

CALL TO WORSHIP²

We have come to worship Almighty God.

We are prophets. We are apostles.

We have come to worship Almighty God.

We are teachers. We are healers.

We have come to worship Almighty God.

We are servants. We are leaders.

We are all of these things. Yet each of us are only one or at most a few of these things. Together, we form one body, with one Lord.

We have come to worship Almighty God.

HYMN

548. In Christ There Is No East or West

620. One Bread, One Body

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

“There are many members, yet one body.”

¹ Cover art © by Tara D. (Scripture quotations taken from the NASB © The Lockman Foundation). <http://www.doodlethroughthebible.com/>

² <http://jesusscribbles.wordpress.com/2012/09/19/>

SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 2 (NRSV)

- 1 My child, accept my words
and treasure up my commandments within you,
2 making your ear attentive to wisdom
and inclining your heart to understanding,
- 6 For the Lord gives wisdom;
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;
7 he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly,
8 guarding the paths of justice
and preserving the way of his faithful ones.
9 Then you will understand righteousness and justice
and equity, every good path,
10 for wisdom will come into your heart,
and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;
11 prudence will watch over you,
and understanding will guard you.

- 20 Therefore walk in the way of the good,
and keep to the paths of the just.
21 For the upright will abide in the land,
and the innocent will remain in it,
22 but the wicked will be cut off from the earth,
and the treacherous will be rooted out of it.

RESPONSE - 70. GLORIA PATRI

NOISY OFFERING

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

RESPONSE

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Incline Thine ear to us,

and grant us Thy peace. Amen.

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 37:1-10

Can these bones live?

37 The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. 2 He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. 3 He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." 4 Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. 5 Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath[a] to enter you, and you shall live. 6 I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath[b] in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

7 So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 8 I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. 9 Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath:[c] Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath,[d] and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." 10 I prophesied as he commanded me, and the

breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

MESSAGE

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

Eternal God, we give you thanks ...

SENDING FORTH

BLESSING

May the connectedness of God,
Father, Son, and Spirit,
be reflected in you.

May each of us be so open to connection
That all of us become one in Christ.

Holy Spirit, send us out,
one in Christ,
one with each other,
so that we minister to all the world. Amen.

CANDLES 664. Sent Forth by God's Blessing

*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!

Noisy Offering for Champaign County Human Society ————— Today!

Recent and Upcoming Birthdays:

Carolyn Cain, Susan Jones

~~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).