



*Mt Vernon UMC*

*Second Sunday after Christmas*

## Verse for the Day

*The law indeed was given through Moses;  
grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. - John 1:17*

## ENTRANCE<sup>1</sup>

### 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.**

Christ, the light of the world, is with us!

**Praise the Lord!**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRAYER

### PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

3056. Jesus, the Light of the World

### CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>2</sup>

Children of God, we enter the new year as we ended the  
last: gathered together for worship!

**We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.**

In the Light is life for all people.

**We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.**

The Light is present, even here, even now.

**We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.**

So, let us heed John's call: that all who call on the Light,  
who call on the name of Christ Jesus, have the power to  
be children of God.

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<sup>1</sup> Cover art by Henk Monster, 24 December 2011, CC-BY 3.0. Cropped.

<https://web.archive.org/web/20161023181326/http://www.panoramio.com/photo/63911603>,

<sup>2</sup> From "Call to Worship," written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2024. Adapted by Rob Adams.

**We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light  
today and every day. Amen.**

## **HYMN**

246. Joy to the World

249. There's Song in the Air

## **SCRIPTURE**

Ephesians 1:3-4,13-14

*Blessed be God, who blessed us  
with every spiritual blessing.*

## **RESPONSE**

71. 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**

John 1:1-9

*"The light shines in the darkness"*

## **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***

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**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***

**HYMN**

**251. Go, Tell It on the Mountain**

**CANDLES**

**BLESSING**

**Carry the light of Christ into a world filled with darkness.**

**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).**

**Go in peace.**

## Every Day With Jesus

Congratulations! Today is the final day of “Every Day With Jesus,” our Bible reading plan for 2024.

Jan 5,365	,Malachi 1:1-4:6,	Psalms 150:1-6,	Proverbs 31:30-31,	Revelation 22:1-21
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## 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!
Sausage Sale!	Today thru 1/17
Sausage Delivery	1/17, 1/18
SPPRC Meeting	6:30 p.m. 1/8
Church Council,	6:30 p.m. 1/15
UWF Meeting	1/22

## Recent and Upcoming Birthdays:

Mary Kae Sherman

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**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.

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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.

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