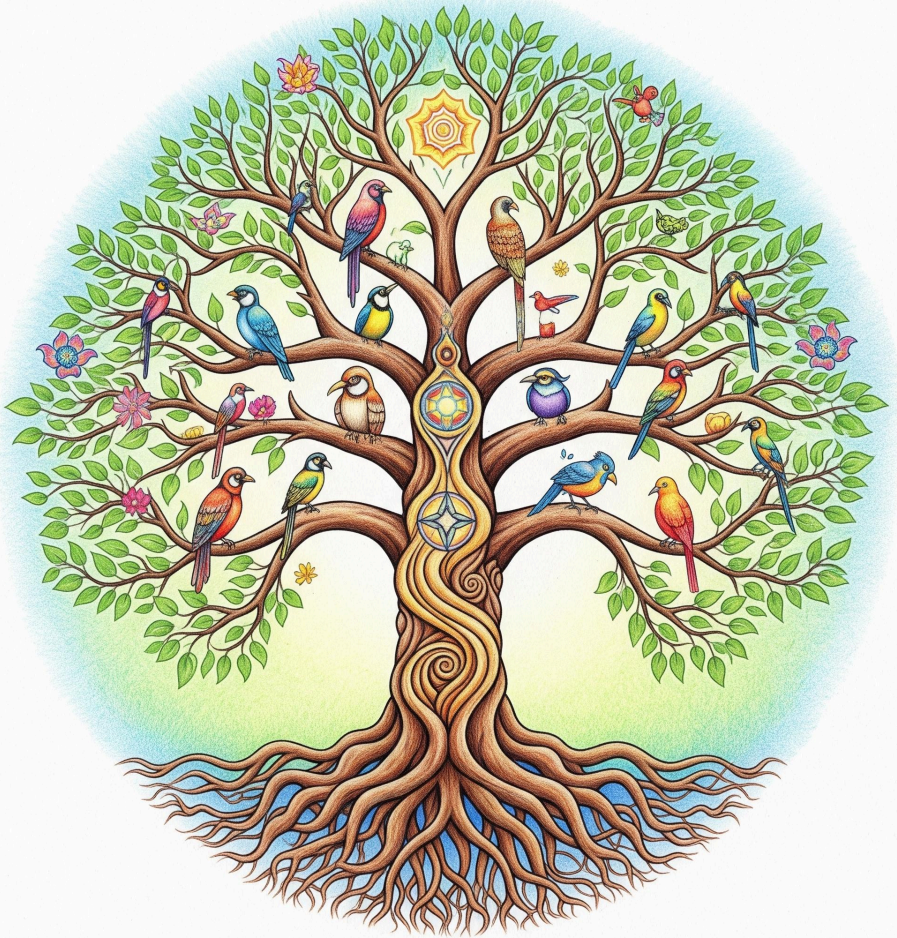


*Blessed are those who wash their robes, so
that they will have the right to the tree of
life, and may enter the city by the gates.*

Revelation 22:14 (NASB)



Mt Vernon UMC

*Seventh Sunday of Easter
June 1, 2025*

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, the Alpha and the Omega,

the First and the Last,

the Beginning and the End,

Is with us!

Praise the Lord!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER²

Gracious Creator, you invite us into relationship with every breath. Settle us, center us, and calm us to the ever-moving flowing of your Spirit calling us to become one with you. We pray in humility and hope of grace. Amen.

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

177. He is Lord, He is Lord!

He is risen from the dead and he is lord!

Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess

That Jesus Christ is Lord.

CALL TO WORSHIP³

The roots of the Tree of Life run deep into the sacred soil.

The limbs of the Tree of Life reach out to embrace the goodness of all creation.

¹ Cover art by Rob Adams, using Google Gemini AI.

² Written by Sally Johnson, United Methodist Creation Justice Movement

³ Written by Sally Johnson, United Methodist Creation Justice Movement

The trunk of the Tree of Life stands strong in the face of hatred and malice toward the least, the lonely, the left out.

The branches of the Tree of Life struggle toward the heavens, hoping to bring about God's reign of justice and love for all.

The winds of the Spirit breathe through the Tree of Life, bringing renewal and hope.

May our worship this day be a worthy offering that supports the Tree of Life and brings the goodness of the Sacred to our world.

HYMN 2062. The Lily of the Valley

SCRIPTURE Revelation 22:12-14,16-17,20-21

Blessed are those who wash their robes

22:12

"See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work.

22:13

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

22:14

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

22:16

"It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

22:17

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let everyone who hears say, "Come." And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

22:20

The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

22:21

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

PSALM 816. Psalm 97 (Response 2)

HYMN 3003. How Great Is Our God

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

SCRIPTURE

John 17:20-26

Christ's prayer for his disciples

17:20

"I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word,

17:21

that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

17:22

The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one,

17:23

I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

17:24

Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

17:25

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you have sent me.

17:26

I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them."

MESSAGE

HYMN

All of Me

347. Spirit Song

THANKSGIVING & COMMUNION

INVITATION - #12

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING - #17

THE LORD'S PRAYER - #895

HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - #11

SENDING FORTH

BLESSING

May God fill you with the water of life as a gift.

May God's Spirit make you one with the Father, through
Jesus Christ, our Lord..

CANDLES

177. He Is Lord!

He is Lord, He is Lord!

He is risen from the dead and he is lord!

Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess

That Jesus Christ is Lord.

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

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. 34	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				

Church Vitality

Average Sunday Attendance in May:	30
Average Sunday Attendance, year-to-date:	32.0
Average Sunday Offering, year-to-date:	\$2,134
Average Offering, compared to budget:	+\$721
Recent Ministries:	

Spring Cleaning, Humane Society Noisy Offering, 3
Easter Services, Easter Breakfast & Games, Children's
Fundraiser, UWF Fundraiser, Humane Society Visit,
Mother's Day, Memorial Picnic / Shriner's Hospital Talk

Ministry & Discipleship Opportunities

Helping Hands: Soup, Crackers, TP, \$\$	Today!
Noisy Offering for St Jude Children's Hospital	Today!
Annual Conference (please pray)	6/5-6/7
Pentecost (Katie Stout preaches)	6/8
Worship Concert w/ Sam Waltemyer (SamPiano.com)	6/22

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.

You can view this week's bulletin at <https://tinyurl.com/4h8tzuyyp>. 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).