



*Mt Vernon UMC*

*June 29, 2025*

*Third Sunday after Pentecost*

# ENTRANCE

## GATHERING

*Welcome to a time of reunion, respite, and renewal.*

OPENING HYMN 393. Spirit of the Living God

## GREETINGS

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

God's Spirit, sent by Christ, is with us!

**Praise the Lord!**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & BIRTHDAYS

## OPENING PRAYER

## 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 WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

Our freedom comes as life in the Spirit.

**We reject the works based only on our fleshly desires.**

We live a new life of spirit and truth.

**Let us worship the Lord in full spirit. Amen.**

HYMN 336. Of All the Spirit's Gifts to Me

PSALM 798. Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20

HYMN 140. Great Is Thy Faithfulness

## NOISY OFFERING

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

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<sup>1</sup> Discipleship Ministries, [umcdiscipleship.org](http://umcdiscipleship.org)

# 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            Galatians 5:1, 13-25 (NRSV)

*Love is the whole of the law*

5:1 For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

5:13 For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another.

5:14 For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

5:15 If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

5:16 Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh.

5:17 For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want.

5:18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law.

5:19 Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery,

5:20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions,  
5:21 envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.  
5:22 By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,  
5:23 gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.  
5:24 And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.  
5:25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

## GOSPEL

Luke 9:51-62

*Jesus says, Follow me*

9:51 When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.  
9:52 And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival,  
9:53 but they did not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem.  
9:54 When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?"  
9:55 But he turned and rebuked them.  
9:56 Then they went on to another village.  
9:57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."  
9:58 And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."

9:59 To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

9:60 And Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

9:61 Another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home."

9:62 And Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

## SERMON

HYMN 2171. Make Me a Channel of Thy Peace

PASSING THE 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.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>2</sup>

**Loving God, you give us freedom.  
In fact, in you, we live in perfect freedom.  
Fear tries to bind us.  
Idolatry comes chasing after us.  
Divisive arguments try to trap us in corners  
and keep us locked away from one another.  
These are not the freedoms  
you have in mind for your children, loving God.  
We confess, we have submitted to them in the past,  
but no more.**

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<sup>2</sup> Discipleship Ministries, [umcdiscipleship.org](http://umcdiscipleship.org)

**Inspire us to live in the freedom you have given us  
for love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,  
faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.**

**You set us free.**

**Give us the courage to enjoy it.**

**We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Beloved children of God: hear and believe the good news,  
for freedom Christ has set us free to live anew.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

**Glory to God. Amen.**

HYMN

347. Spirit Song

## *SENDING FORTH*

### BENEDICTION<sup>3</sup>

Children of God: you are loved into freedom, set loose on  
the world to share the gifts of the Holy Spirit, so go and  
love your neighbor, all of your neighbors, as you love  
yourself, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the  
Holy Spirit. Amen.

### CANDLES

64. Holy, Holy, Holy! (v4)

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**

**All thy works shall praise thy name,  
in earth and sky and sea.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.**

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<sup>3</sup> Discipleship Ministries, [umcdiscipleship.org](http://umcdiscipleship.org)

## ***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:        | 32.0    |
| Average Sunday Attendance, year-to-date: | 32.8    |
| Average Sunday Offering, year-to-date:   | \$2,015 |
| Average Offering, compared to budget:    | +\$602  |
| <b>Recent Ministries:</b>                |         |

Three Easter Services, Easter Breakfast & Games,  
Children's Fundraiser, UWF Fundraiser, Humane Society  
Visit, Mother's Day, Memorial Picnic / Shriner's Hospital  
Talk, Worship Concert w/ Sam Waltemyer

## Ministry & Discipleship Opportunities

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Helping Hands: Soup, Crackers, TP, \$\$        | Today!   |
| Noisy Offering for St Jude Children's Hospital | Today!   |
| Seymour Parade decoration                      | Today!   |
| Seymour Parade                                 | 7/4      |
| Noisy Offering for Sperot Family Services      | 7/6-9/28 |

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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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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, [pastor@mtvernon-umc.org](mailto:pastor@mtvernon-umc.org)).