

Celebration of Worship

* Congregation is invited to stand PH: Presbyterian Hymnal LH: Lift Up Your Hearts
Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church CCLI # 1092190

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

* OPENING SONG

10,000 Reasons

Chorus:

Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul, worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul, I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Chorus

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Chorus

And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Chorus x2

I'll worship Your holy name, Lord, I'll worship Your holy name

ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING

Jodie and Hannah Kercheval,
Megan and Lucy Nash

Advent is the beginning of the church year. The word is derived from the Latin word which means “coming”. Advent is a time of expectant waiting for the celebration of the coming of Christ. Each week, as part of our Advent tradition, we light a candle to prepare our hearts for the light of the world, who was, and is, and is yet to come. This year we celebrate gifts that result from the coming of Christ.

GIFT OF JOY

We relight the hope candle in the hope of eternal life that God, promised before the ages began *Titus 1:2*

We relight the candle of peace in recognition that the LORD will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts. *Psalms 85:8*

Speaker: This is the candle of Joy. Throughout history God brings joy to his people. Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart. *Psalms 32:11*

Speaker: I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in the God of my salvation.
Habakkuk 3:18

Speaker: We light this candle in joy. Lord, restore to us the joy of your salvation, and sustain in us a willing spirit. *Psalms 51:12*

Speaker: Jesus said, I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. *John 15:11*

All: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and Peace in believing by the power of the Holy Spirit

WORSHIP IN SONG

When Hope Came Down

So this is how it was, a silent night like any other
When heaven sent the One, the One we would call our Savior
And redemption began in a stable in Bethlehem

Chorus:

All of the angels lifted up their voices and filled the night with hallelujahs,
God is with us now

Everyone come and join the heavenly chorus,
our Savior King is here before us

O to hear the sound the song creation sang when Hope came down

So this was truly God wrapped up in a tattered blanket
Hope was finally here, sleeping while the world awakened
And redemption began with a baby in Bethlehem

Chorus

So let us sing redemption songs, let us worship Christ the Holy One
We were lost but we were found when Hope came down

Chorus

He Knows My Name

I have a maker, He formed my heart,
Before even time began my life was in his hands

He knows my name, He knows my every thought,
He sees each tear that falls, and hears me when I call

I have a father, He calls me his own
He'll never leave me, no matter where I go

He knows my name, He knows my every thought,
He sees each tear that falls, and hears me when I call

He knows my name, He knows my every thought,
He sees each tear that falls, and hears me when I call
He hears me when I call

INVITATION TO OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

If you would like your gift to go to the Deacons White Gift Offering please use the designated white envelope in your bulletin.

He Shall Reign Forevermore
Glorify!

* DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CHILDREN’S DISMISSAL TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Kindergarten through 2nd grade go to **Sprouts** Room
3rd through 5th grade go to **Saplings** Room
Youth (6th-12th grade) are welcome to remain in worship or join the Saplings

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:39-56

MESSAGE

“THE GIFT OF JOY”
Pastor Dan Holland

SONG

Joy To The World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns: let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness, and wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

BENEDICTION

Leading Our Worship Today

Pastor
Director of Music Ministry
Liturgist

Rev. Dan Holland
Joshua VerHalen
Liz Cooksey

WELCOME TO MVPC!

WELCOME TO MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

We are so glad to have you worshipping with us. We are a warm, inquisitive, servant-oriented community of faith and we hope you sense God's Spirit among us. Please fill out the Friendship Register when it is passed to you. If you are a new visitor, please include your contact information so that we may send you news of our upcoming events. You are invited to stop by the Espressbyterian for a delicious treat! If you have any questions about MVPC, please speak to any of the Elders wearing blue nametags. *Again, welcome!*

TODAY @ MVPC ...

9 to Noon Nursery Care

9:00 ADULT CLASSES

The Bible Class—Join teacher Bob Rauch for a discussion-based study the "Truly, Truly" sayings of Jesus in the Conference Room. No prior Bible experience is required.

10:30 Worship Service

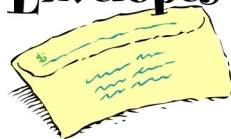
Nursery Care and Sunday School

11:45 Fellowship Time: Please stay to enjoy treats and good conversation!

REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS:

- Small Groups:** Call the church to get connected!
- Bible Study:** Studying the book of Genesis Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
- Prayer Group:** 10:15 a.m. on Tuesdays in the Library
- Family Night:** Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- Youth Group:** 3rd Sunday of the month from Noon to 1:30 p.m.
- Chancel Choir:** Wednesdays from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m.
- Glorify!:** Wednesdays, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- Senior Shepherds:** 3rd Tuesdays @ noon. Mark your calendar!
- Knitting Club:** 4th Wednesday of the month at noon
- Women's Fellowship:** Fourth Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m.
- Men's Breakfast:** Fourth Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m.

Offering Envelopes



Giving Envelopes for 2017 are now available in the narthex. If you don't find yours, please talk to Leslie Braun or contact the church office.



We're on the web!
www.MountVernonPres.org
Contact the church office:
360-424-7675
Email: mvpc@MountVernonPres.org

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHITE GIFT OFFERING

Today in worship we will receive the White Gift offering for the Deacons. The Deacon ministry is not funded as part of the general budget, so the White Gift offering makes possible the many Deacon ministry activities.

In the past year, in addition to regular activities the Deacons have provided scholarships for children attending Tall Timber summer camp, purchased provisions for the Annual Christmas Baskets organized by the Mission Ministry, provided boxes for Operation Christmas Child, helped fund the new Hearing Assistance system now being used Sundays during worship, provided extra funding for Friendship House Mission, and facilitated memorial services and receptions for our MVPC community.

The Deacons thank you in advance for praying for and giving from your heart so that we may continue and enlarge our ministry.

The Joy of Christmas

An evening of musical delight presented by MVPC's Music Department. Saturday, December 17 @ 6 p.m.

This event is completely FREE —a free will offering will be received to benefit Family Promise.



We would like your special cookies for our Christmas Concert!

If you are able to bake an extra batch or two this week, please bring them to the church by this Friday at 3. **Thank You!**

MVPC's Family Promise Week begins TODAY!

There are still opportunities for you to help families in the Skagit Valley with hot meals and a warm place to stay. Setup/Tear down with Laurie Parker. Cook meals or help entertain the families with Jodie Kercheval. Or talk to Gary Jones about spending the night. Any other questions, or for training, see Meredith Kostek. **Thank you to all the support to make this time possible. It truly makes a difference in these families' lives!**

Thank you to all who helped put on our 2nd annual Women's Christmas Dessert. The tables were beautiful, the music and speaker were wonderful, and we had a fantastic evening, filled with the spirit of Christmas.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service December 24, 7:00 p.m.

Followed by our traditional Wassail Bowl (Spiced Cider) and potluck Christmas Cookies! Bring your favorite Christmas Cookie or Candy to share ... you might just find a new favorite recipe!



Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church

Growing Followers of Christ since 1902

1511 East Broadway Street
Mount Vernon, WA 98274

(360) 424-7675
www.MountVernonPres.org

10:30 Worship

December 11, 2016



The Gift of Joy

Our Vision Statement

*E*ncounter The Hope
of the living God through Jesus Christ
*E*ngage One Another
in authentic friendship
*E*mbrace The World
with the heart and hands of Jesus