

Mount Vernon United Methodist Church
November 15, 2020

PRELUDE "It Is Well with My Soul" *Juliet Cho*
Greeting and Announcements *Rev. Jae W. Cho*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord, be with us when our lives seem embedded in sorrow and sadness.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Open our hearts to receive your healing grace.
Prepare us to be children of the light rather than dwellers in darkness.
Throughout all our days, you have been with us.
Be with us again. Remind us of your presence and healing mercy. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER

The Lord be with you
And also with you.
Let us pray.
Gracious and generous God, you are always with us, offering guidance, healing and hope. We know that with things seem dark or are dazzlingly bright; when troubled times assail or peace reigns; there you are with us. Continue to guide and challenge our lives. Lead us in pathways of service and away from trails of fear and anxiety. Open our hearts to receive your healing transforming love that we might serve you more faithfully; for we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

HYMN 714 "I Know Whom I Have Believed" *Megan Gould*

1. I know not why God's wondrous grace to me he hath made known, nor why, unworthy, Christ in love redeemed me for his own. <i>Refrain:</i> But I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I've committed unto him against that day.	wrought peace within my heart. <i>(Refrain)</i> 3. I know not how the Spirit moves, convincing us of sin, revealing Jesus through the word, creating faith in him. <i>(Refrain)</i> 4. I know not when my Lord may come, at night or noontide fair, nor if I walk the vale with him, or meet him in the air. <i>(Refrain)</i>
2. I know not how this saving faith to me he did impart, nor how believing in his word	

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:24-30

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶ But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

SERMON

"Don't Bury Your Treasure"

Jae Cho

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;*
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Traditional use of this creed includes these words: "He descended into hell."

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OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

(1) *Send your contribution to the church via U.S. Mail (Mt. Vernon UMC,
Attn: Finance, 107 W. Main Street, Danville, VA 24541).*

(2) *Contribute online (go to mtvernonumc.org and click on the "Donate" button).*

OFFERTORY SONG

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

John Wilt

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord of mercy and justice, you have given us so many talents and gifts to be used in your world. You have given us these gifts because you trust us to use them well — and you will be with us in all our work. But we disappoint you when we denigrate the value of the talents or become so fearful of failure that we don't believe that we are capable of helping in this world. Lord, forgive us. Help us to trust in the gifts you have given to us and to trust in your guidance in using them. Forgive us when we are fearful, stubborn, apathetic, indifferent to the needs around us. Give us hearts for serving you all our days. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Rejoice and celebrate! God has placed God's trust and love deep within your hearts. You have been called and trusted to serve God.

Alleluia! Amen.

BENEDICTION

Go forth into God's world as children of the light, offering ministries of hope and healing to a hurting world. Go forth filled with God's abundant love. Go forth in peace.
Amen.