

Digital Bulletin Sunday December 14, 2025 @ 10:30 am



# Welcome To Mount Vernon Baptist Church Announcements:

- The season of Advent continues today, when we celebrate the incarnation of the Son of God to be our Savior. As you will notice, we have lit the third candle of the Advent wreath, often called the Shepherd's Candle to represent the Shepherds rejoicing in the birth of Christ. Let us join in rejoicing in Jesus's birth as we wait for His return!
- Our Christmas card table is set up outside for those who want to save on postage while exchanging cards. So please feel free to use it over the next few weeks, and don't forget to check your folder for cards.
- This afternoon, many of us will join together to carol at nursing homes. If you'd like to join us, please meet at the church to carol at 2:45 pm.
- Next Sunday will be a busy and blessed Lord's Day! Our Advent Breakfast will take place during our Sunday School hour starting at 9 am. While we won't have a potluck fellowship meal after church, our Christmas Concert and Candlelight Service will start at 6 pm. It will be followed by post-concert refreshments, as well as a Gingerbread House competition again this year. More information was emailed in our December church newsletter. If you have any questions, please see Pastor John.
- Our women's ministry meets this Wednesday, December 17th at 6 pm. Ladies, please come and enjoy time together while studying truths from God's Word!
- Today's sermon is from 2 Samuel 20. Our bulletin is available on our web site, <u>mvbaptist.church/bulletin</u>. On our web site, you can submit prayer requests and give. You may worship through giving by placing your offering in the plates between the double doors just after worship.

# Call to Worship: Psalm 68: 1-6 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered; and those who hate him shall flee before him!

- <sup>2</sup> As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away; as wax melts before fire, so the wicked shall perish before God!
- <sup>3</sup> But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God; they shall be jubilant with joy!
- <sup>4</sup> Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts; his name is the Lord; exult before him!
- <sup>5</sup> Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.
- <sup>6</sup> God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.



### Reading in Unison:

### Titus 3: 1-7 (ESV)

- <sup>1</sup>Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work,
- <sup>2</sup> to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.
- <sup>3</sup> For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.
- <sup>4</sup> But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared,
- <sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,
- <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,
- <sup>7</sup> so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

## The First Noel [Lyrics]

#### Verse 1

The first Noel the angel did say Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay In fields where they lay keeping their sheep On a cold winter's night that was so deep

### Chorus 1

Noel Noel Noel Born is the King of Israel

### Verse 2

They looked up and saw a star Shining in the east beyond them far And to the earth it gave great light And so it continued both day and night

### Verse 3

And by the light of that same star Three wise men came from country far To seek for a king was their intent And to follow the star wherever it went

### Verse 4

This star drew nigh to the northwest O'er Bethlehem it took its rest And there it did both stop and stay Right over the place where Jesus lay

#### Verse 5

Then entered in those wise men three Full rev'rently upon the knee And offered there in His presence Their gold and myrrh and frankincense

## Who Would Have Dreamed [Lyrics]

### Intro

### Verse 1

On a starlit hillside, shepherds watched their sheep Slowly David's city drifted off to sleep But to this little town of no great renown The Lord had a promise to keep

### **Turnaround 1**

#### Verse 2

Prophets had foretold it, a mighty King would come Long awaited Ruler, God's Anointed One But the Sovereign of all looked helpless and small As God gave the world His own Son

#### Charus

And who would have dreamed or ever foreseen That we could hold God in our hands? The Giver of Life is born in the night Re - vealing God's glorious plan To save the world

### **Turnaround 2**

#### Verse 3

Wondrous gift of heaven, the Father sends the Son Planned from time eternal, moved by holy love He will carry our curse and death He'll reverse So we can be daughters and sons



### Scripture for Confession of Sin:

### Hebrews 3: 1-19 (ESV)

- <sup>1</sup>Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession,
- <sup>2</sup> who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house.
- <sup>3</sup> For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself.
- <sup>4</sup> (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.)
- <sup>5</sup> Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later,
- <sup>6</sup> but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.
- <sup>7</sup> Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, "Today, if you hear his voice,
- <sup>8</sup> do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness,
- <sup>9</sup> where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years.
- <sup>10</sup> Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.'
- <sup>11</sup> As I swore in my wrath, 'They shall not enter my rest.'"
- <sup>12</sup> Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.
- <sup>13</sup> But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.
- <sup>14</sup> For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.
- <sup>15</sup> As it is said, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion."
- <sup>16</sup> For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses?
- <sup>17</sup> And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?
- <sup>18</sup> And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient?
- <sup>19</sup> So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

### **Assurance of Pardon:**

### Hebrews 2: 17-18 (ESV)

<sup>17</sup> Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.



<sup>18</sup> For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

# Away In A Manger [Lyrics, 3/4]

### INTRO

### Verse 1

Away in a manger no crib for a bed The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head The stars in the sky looked down where He lay The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

### Verse 2

The cattle are lowing the Baby awakes But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes I love Thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh

### INTERLUDE

### Verse 3

Be near me Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay Close by me forever and love me I pray Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there

### Responsive Reading of Illumination:

Hear three statements as our request for Illumination. You may respond to each by saying, "Amen."

- 1. Mighty God, our souls need to be strengthened by your powerful word. Still our wandering minds to hear and receive your truth. Warm our cold hearts with the fire of the Holy Spirit as your word is preached. Lead us to draw close to Christ so that we will live by faith in his gospel of grace. Amen.
- 2. God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. Amid all the changing words of our generation, speak your eternal Word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.
- 3. Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.



# Prepare Him Room [Lyrics]

### **INTRO**

### VERSE 1

O behold the mystery now unfolds See the star shine on the virgin foretold Angels sing and light up the sky Hope rings out in a newborn's cry Swing wide you ancient gates For Christ is born today

### **CHORUS**

Prepare Him room prepare Him room Let the King of Glory enter in

### VERSE 2

God with us the promise has come to be This the one the prophets were longing to see In the darkness a blazing light To the hungry the words of life His kingdom now is near For those with ears to hear

Sermon: Pastor Matt Watson The Worthless and the Wise 2 Samuel 20

Pastoral Prayer/Benediction Hebrews 13: 20-21 (ESV)

### **CHORUS**

Prepare Him room prepare Him room Let the King of Glory enter in

Prepare Him room prepare Him room Let the King of Glory enter in

### **INSTR BRIDGE**

#### VERSE 3

Oh our hearts as busy as Bethlehem
Hear Him knock don't say there's no room in the inn
Through the cradle cross and grave
See the love of God displayed
Now He's risen and He reigns
Praise the Name above all names

#### **CHORUS**

Prepare Him room prepare Him room Let the King of Glory enter in

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### **Elders:**

Our elders are Danny Cole, Matt Watson, John Divito & Joshua Hammond-Kelley. You may reach out to our elders via email at <a href="mailto:church@mvbaptist.church">church@mvbaptist.church</a>

### **Mount Vernon Baptist Church:**

If you are interested in membership or have further questions, please send us send an email or reach us at <a href="https://www.mvbaptist.church/membership">www.mvbaptist.church/membership</a>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.