

Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church

Where All the People are Ministers of Christ



Our vision is to seek to live and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to nurture persons of all ages and circumstances for faithful discipleship, and to transform faith into service to others.

Pastor Mi Sook Ahn

7801 Church Lane, Toano, Virginia 23168

Welcome to our worship service! Mt. Vernon has been worshipping our Lord and serving the Greater Williamsburg Community since 1887. If we can be of any assistance to you, please let us know.

Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am–12pm

Pastor Mi Sook: 804-840-8747 E-Mail: misookahn@vaumc.org

Brenda Rowe, Admin. Asst.: 757-566-0162 E-Mail: office.mtvernon@gmail.com

Web Site: mtvernontoano.org

Sunday Worship Service on-line via Facebook and Web Site at 10:15 am.

Facebook: [MtVernonUMCToanoVA](https://www.facebook.com/MtVernonUMCToanoVA)

First Sunday After the Epiphany / Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2021

(*please rise as you are able. **Bold wording** please read in unison.)

Music: Carol Kendall

Worship Leader: Suzanne Latimer

Prelude

Greeting: Grace and Peace to you from God and the Lord Jesus Christ

Passing the Peace:

Greetings: The Peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

Announcements

Introit: "Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus" UHM #349

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face, wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strongly dim in the light of his glory and grace.

Call to Worship: **Written by Bryan Schneider-Thomas**

Leader: Water. Refreshing, cleansing, nourishing, life-giving

People: Water. Dangerous, life-threatening, powerful

Leader: The waters rush over us in our baptism.

People: And we are filled with the Holy Spirit. Alleluia!

Opening Prayer **Written by Bruce Prewer**

Most wonderful God, foolish and flawed though we are, we too delight in your beloved Son. As in his name we gather in the house of many praises, may the heavens be opened for us, that we may catch a glimpse of that Light and Love that transforms our common days with a beauty not of our making. Through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Hymn of Praise: "O How I Love Jesus" UHM #170

1. There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth; it sounds like music in my ear, the sweetest name on earth. O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus, because he first loved me!
3. It tells of one whose loving heart can feel deepest woe; who in each sorrow bears a part that none can bear below. O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus, because he first loved me!

Prayer for Illumination:

Send down your Holy Spirit, O God—tear open the veil of heaven and speak to us as beloved children so that we may hear and believe the good news of your Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hebrew Scripture Lesson:

Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. (New Revised Standard Version)

Gospel Lesson:

Mark 1: 4-11

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” (New Revised Standard Version)

Message: “Tearing Open the Heaven” Pastor Mi Sook Ahn

Congregational Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant UMH 50-53

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE:

Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy Church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price. Through the reaffirmation of our faith we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy Church.

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH:

Pastor: On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:
Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

Congregation: I do.

Pastor: Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

Congregation: I do.

Pastor: Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

Congregation: I do.

Pastor: According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

Congregation: I will.

Pastor: Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. Do you believe in God the Father?

Congregation: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

Congregation: I believe 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, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

Congregation: 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.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal God:

When nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

****Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.**

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

****Declare Christ's works to the nations, his glory among all the people.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and by this gift of water call to our remembrance the grace declared to us in our baptism. For you have washed away our sins, and you clothe us with righteousness throughout our lives, that dying and rising with Christ we may share in his final victory.

****All praise to you, Eternal God, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen.**

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

Acts of reaffirmation are not acts of rebaptism.

Pastor says: Remember your baptism and be thankful. Amen.

The pastor addresses:

The Holy Spirit work within you, that having been born through water and the Spirit, you may live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING:

Pastor: Let us rejoice in the faithfulness of our covenant God.

Congregation: We give thanks for all that God has already given us.

As members of the body of Christ

and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church,

we will faithfully participate in the ministries of the Church

by our prayers, our presence, our gifts,

our service and our witness

that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

Pastor: The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace.

Hymn of Meditation: “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee” UHM #175

1. Jesus, the very thought of thee with sweetness fills the breast; but sweeter far thy face to see, and in thy presence rest.
2. O hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek, to those who fall, how kind thou art! How good to those who seek!

Offertory Prayer

Doxology: “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH 95
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise God, Son and Holy Ghost, Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Lord’s Prayer:

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn of Celebration: “When Jesus Came to Jordan”. UHM #252

1. When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John, he did not come for pardon but as the sinless one. He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins, to speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.
3. Come, Holy Spirit, aid us to keep the vows we make; this very day invade us, and every bondage break. Come, give our lives direction, the gift we covet most: to share the resurrection that leads to Pentecost.

Blessing

Postlude

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Call to Worship: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/follow-me/epiphany-baptism-of-the-lord-year-b-lectionary-planning-notes/epiphany-baptism-of-the-lord-year-b-liturgical-resources>

Opening Prayer: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/follow-me/epiphany-baptism-of-the-lord-year-b-lectionary-planning-notes/epiphany-baptism-of-the-lord-year-b-liturgical-resources>

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The Church in Ministry and Mission

- ✝ You can complete a Health Questionnaire form **by going to www.EVC.vaumc.org and click the yellow tab on the left side that states Covid Health Acknowledgement Form.** Once you submit the health form on line it will go directly to Pastor Mi Sook. You can also bring your completed health form on Sunday. **Please use the ramp door to enter the sanctuary for the worship service and the exit doors as you leave. The fellowship hall door will remain locked before/during/after service.**

- ✝ **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** To everyone

- ✝ **January Bible Study** continues on Wednesday, January 13th at 2PM in person in the Fellowship hall or via Zoom. The study is on 2nd Isaiah 40-55; the theme is Finding Healing and Hope in Time of Trouble.

- ✝ To be on the prayer list or One Call Now, please call Brenda at the office at 757-566-0162 or Pastor Mi Sook at 804-840-8747. The ongoing prayer requests will stay on for 2 months unless requested to stay on longer. If there is anyone who needs to be taken off the prayer list please call the office.