

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 in Lent

February 21, 2021

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

Music: Carol Kendall

Worship Leader: Jeanne Fulks

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: "Majesty, Worship His Majesty" UMH #176

¹Majesty, worship his majesty; unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise. Majesty kingdom authority, flow from his throne unto his own; his anthem raise. So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus. Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King. Majesty, worship his majesty, Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings.

*Call to Worship:

Leader: From water to wilderness:

People: God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

Leader: On stone and in hearts:

People: God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

Leader: From the ancestor of nations to the Son lifted up:

People: God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

Leader: We follow Jesus on the Lenten path,

People: For where he is, we would be also.

*Opening Prayer:

Creator and Sovereign, our world and our lives are often full of threat. We return to you in this place today to be reminded that you do not abandon us to the hard realities of our lives.

You are the one who saves us.

You are the one who faithfully teaches us your life-giving ways.

You are the one who instills courage within us to stand up from the waters of our baptism and to walk your path. Enter our hearts and lives for your powerful purposes, in the name of our baptized brother Jesus and the soaring Spirit. Amen.

Hymn of Praise:

"Tell Me the Stories of Jesus"

UMH #277

¹Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear; things I would ask him to tell me if he were here: scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea, stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

³Into the city I'd follow the children's band, waving a branch of the palm tree high in my hand; one of his heralds, yes, I would sing loudest hosannas, "Jesus is King!"

Prayer for Illumination:**Gracious God,**

In rushing waters and in dry wilderness, In every season and circumstances, We need your sustaining word. By the power of your Holy Spirit, Proclaim the good news among us today So that we may repent and believe and see anew how the time is fulfilled and the kingdom has come near; in Jesus Christ your Son, our Savior. Amen.

Hebrew Scripture Lesson: Genesis 9:8-17

9:8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him,

9:9 "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you,

9:10 and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark.

9:11 I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."

9:12 God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations:

9:13 I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

9:14 When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds,

9:15 I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

9:16 When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth."

9:17 God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

Gospel Lesson:**Mark 1:9-15**

1:9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

1:10 And 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.

1:11 And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

1:12 And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.

1:13 He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

1:14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God,

1:15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Message:

"The Sign"

Pastor Mi Sook Ahn

Affirmation of Faith: Apostles Creed, Traditional Version UMH 881

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 was 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. **Universal)*

Hymn of Meditation: "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" UMH #348

¹Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me; see, on the portals he's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me. Come home, Come home, come home, come home; you who are weary, come home; earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, O sinner, come home!

²Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me? Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me? Come home, Come home, come home, come home; you who are weary, come home; earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, O sinner, come home!

Offertory Prayer

Doxology: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 95

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.

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: "I Know Whom I Have Believed" UMH #714

¹I know not why God's wondrous grace to me he hath made known, nor why, unworthy, Christ in love redeemed me for his own. 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.

⁴I know not when my Lord may come, at night or noon-day fair, nor if I walk the vale with him, or meet him in the air. 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.

Blessing (based on Mark 1:9-15):

Go, you who have been washed by God!

Go, you who have encountered the transformative power of God's cleansing presence!

Go, you for whom the waters have made brand new!

Staying here would be useless!

Go!

Be water to those who need it!

Go!

Be water for those who are without it!

Go!

Be water for those who without it, tomorrow would only be a dream!

Go in God's grace!

Go in God's peace!

Postlude

Copyright Notice

Call to Worship: Feasting on the Word, Liturgies for Year B. Volume 1, 96

Opening Prayer: Worship Annual, 2021, First Sunday in Lent, February 21 2021. Written by
Rebecca J. Kruger Gaudino

Prayer of Illumination: Feasting on the Word, Liturgies for Year B. Volume 1, 98

Blessing: written by Michael Parker, www.umcdiscipleship.org

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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.**
- ✝ If you would like to contribute to any of the Lenten Service Missions, write a check out to **Mt. Vernon UMC** and **specify on the check which organization** you would like to support and I will send the organization a check.
- ✝ **During Lent**, we will have a time to pray together in-person and online through Zoom. Every Tuesday at 2PM, we will have time to take a moment and gather in prayer together for 30 minutes. Please see the schedule below and call the church office to get the link to the Zoom meeting.

Topic: Take a Moment, Together We Pray During Lent
Time: Feb 23, 2021 02:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Every week on Tue, until Mar 30, 2021, 6 occurrence(s)
Feb 23, 2021 02:00 PM
Mar 2, 2021 02:00 PM
Mar 9, 2021 02:00 PM
Mar 16, 2021 02:00 PM
Mar 23, 2021 02:00 PM
Mar 30, 2021 02:00 PM

- ✝ 2021 Upper James City County Ministerium Lenten Midweek series: Wednesdays at 7PM. Theme: The People of the Cross. See attached flyer.
- ✝ 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.

The People of the Cross

The 2021 Upper JCC Ministerium Lenten Midweek Series
Wednesdays at 7pm

Feb. 17 - Pilate (Ash Wednesday)

Host: Mt. Vernon UMC, the Rev. Mi Sook Ahn
Preacher: the Rev. Alex Creager, Stonehouse Presbyterian
Offering: From His Hands (<https://www.fromhishands.org/>)
Link to Service: <https://www.facebook.com/MtVernonUMCToanoVA>

Feb. 24 - A Young Woman with Mary

Host: Williamsburg Mennonite, the Rev. David Lehman
Preacher: the Rev. Mi Sook Ahn, Mt. Vernon UMC
Offering: Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center (<https://wccrc.info>)
Link to Service: [Zoom Meeting](#); ID: 883 6658 6453 Passcode: 618341

March 3 - Simon from Cyrene

Host: New Zion Baptist Church, the Rev. Dr. Robert Whitehead, Sr.
Preacher: the Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, Hickory Neck Episcopal
Offering: Williamsburg Hospice House (<https://williamsburghospice.org>)
Link to Service: <https://www.newzionwilliamsburg.org/live>
[New Zion Baptist Church | Facebook](#); [Zoom](#) Call-in 19292056099, ID 816 7258 2354

March 10 - John

Host: Olive Branch Christian Church, the Rev. Richard Cline
Preacher: the Rev. David Lehman, Williamsburg Mennonite
Offering: Child Development Resources (<https://cdr.org>)
Link to Service: <https://www.facebook.com/obccwilliamsburg>

March 17 - Joseph of Arimathea

Host: Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, the Rev. Alex Witt
Preacher: the Rev. Richard Cline, Olive Branch Christian Church
Offering: Avalon Center (<https://avaloncenter.org>)
Link to Service: [Zoom Meeting](#); ID: 278 151 3551 Passcode: 7479
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZ_xSafiM0asqj9ITZaUQeA

March 24 - Judas

Host: Stonehouse Presbyterian, the Rev. Alex Creager
Preacher: the Rev. Dr. Robert Whitehead, New Zion Baptist Church
Offering: Proclaiming Grace Outreach (<https://proclaiminggraceoutreach.com/>)
Link to Service: <https://www.facebook.com/stonehousepc/live>

March 31 - The Centurion

Host: Hickory Neck Episcopal Church, the Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly
Preacher: the Rev. Alex Witt, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Offering: Habitat for Humanity Peninsula and Greater Williamsburg (www.habitatpgw.org)
Link to Service: <https://www.facebook.com/Hickory.Neck>
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaNXyscpnWeosIAI78gYcaw>