

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

July 31, 2022 "Behind Every Great Church There is Prayer" 10:15 am

Worship Leader: Al Glindemann

*Please stand as you are able. Please read in Unison in **Bold**.

THE PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude & Meditation Organist, Carol Kendall

*Lighting the Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Words

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding." Let us worship in wisdom and in truth.

*Introit: "There's Something About That Name" UMH #171

*Call to Worship

Leader: Give thanks to God!

People: We thank God for joy, for laughter, for abundant blessings of every kind.

Leader: Give thanks to God at all times and for everything!

People: We thank God, when we can and as we can, for struggles, for solitude, for fears.

Leader: Give thanks to God at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: We thank God that, in Christ, our joys as well as our pain, our losses as well as our laughter, are in God's heart and hands.

*Opening Prayer:

God of wisdom, open our hearts to your call. Give us understanding minds, that we may know your will. Give us discerning minds, that we may see your truth and walk in paths of righteousness. Teach us to use our time wisely, that we may make good use of your gifts. Give us joyful hearts, that we may sing and rejoice in your love. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may walk in wisdom all our days. Amen.

*Hymn of Praise "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty" UMH #64

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination:

We thank you, O God of sacred stories, for the witness of holy scripture. Through it, you nurture our imaginations, touch our feelings, increase our awareness, and challenge our assumptions. Bless, we pray, our hearing of your word this day. Speak to each of us; speak to all of us; and grant that by the power of your Spirit, we may be hearers and doers of your word. Amen.

Epistle Lesson Ephesians 5:15-20 (New Living Translation) Rev. Candee Martin
The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People Rev. Candee Martin

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Candee Martin

The 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 Meditation "To God Be the Glory" UMH #98
(Verse 1,3)

The Message "Be Careful How You Live" Rev. Candee Martin

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn of Response "Spirit of the Living God" (sing twice) UMH #393

*Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed 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 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.

Special Music David Sharp

Offering

Offertory Prayer

God of wisdom and understanding, send these gifts into the world that they may become instruments of your grace; send this offering to your people that it may become a source of your mercy. May these gifts be bread and blessing for a world in need of your mighty Spirit. Amen.

*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.

Prayer of Yearning

Living Bread that comes down from heaven, we yearn to be filled with your Spirit of truth, but we often embrace the folly all around us.

We long to eat our fill of your sacred Presence, but we often choose poorer fare and food that does not feed our souls. We desire to embrace your wisdom and your power, but we often choose the path of weakness, ignoring your call to seek justice and mercy.

Come to us once more, Spirit of wisdom and truth, that we may abide in you, as you abide in us. In your holy and blessed name we pray. **Amen.**

Words of Assurance

God's love is steadfast and faithful. God is gracious and merciful. In God, we are a forgiven people.

SENDING FORTH

*Hymn of Celebration "Now Thank We All Our God" UMH #102

The altar is available for prayers and dedication.
Come forward as the Holy Spirit leads you.

Extinguishing the Candles Christ's light leads us into the world to serve.

*Commissioning and Blessing

Go forth into the world trusting with your hearts the wisdom God bestows upon all who seek to follow God's will. When called to lead, do so with humility and confidence in God. Be in this world a sign of Jesus' presence. Share compassion with all whom you encounter. Live wisely in God's name, and glorify God in all you do. And may the grace, mercy and wisdom of God be your support, guidance and strength from this day forward and forever more. **Amen.**

Postlude

Ministry and Mission Opportunities

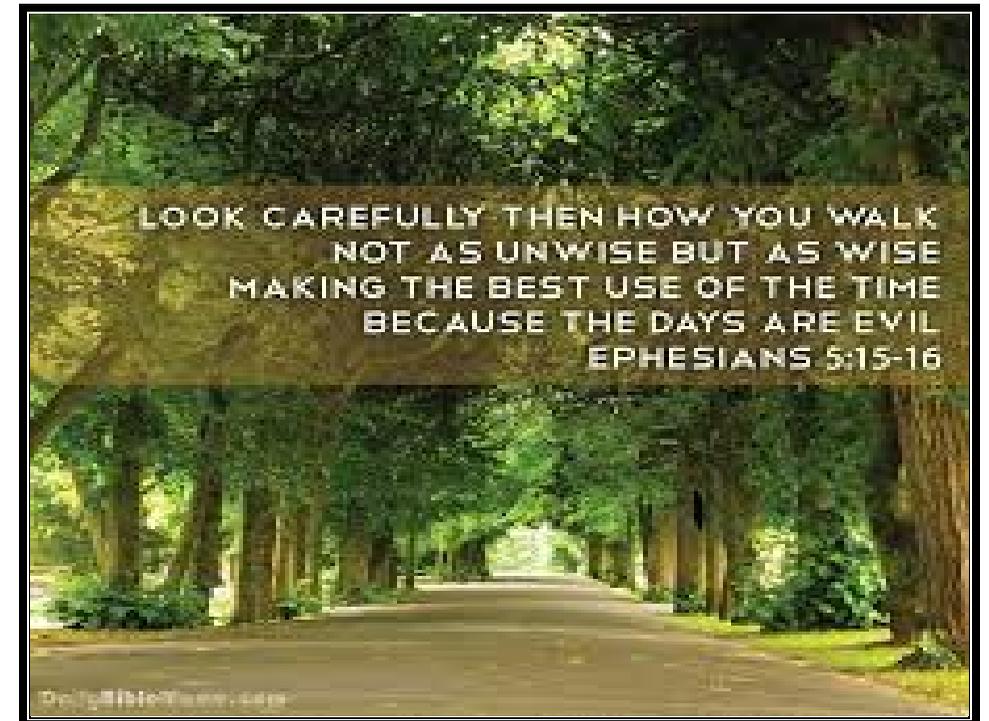
See Insert

Please read the insert for information on meetings, dates and upcoming events.

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.*



Reverend Candee Martin

7801 Church Lane, Toano, Virginia 23168

Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:15 AM.

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.

The Church in Ministry and Mission

- † **PRG (Post Pandemic Re-entering Group) Update:** A face mask is optional. We encourage you to keep social distance to minimize potential risk if you are unmasked.
- † **Name Badge Basket—Please place your name badge in a basket by the Exit door as you leave the service.**

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- **Finance & Admin. Council meeting:** Finance meeting will be held Wednesday, August 3rd at 2PM with the Admin. Council following at 2:30PM.
- **Bridge Group:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.- 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Fellowship Hall.

Hearing Assistance Devices are available in the Narthex

Mt. Vernon Stewardship –July 24, 2022

Worship Attendance	Offering
In Person: 36 Streaming: 19	\$2,800.00
Total: 55	

Copyright Notice

Centering Words, Prayer of Yearning: B.J. Beu, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021* (Abingdon Press, 2020)

Call to Worship: *Written by Thom Shuman and posted on Lectionary Liturgies.*

<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca>. Also posted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/08/call-to-worship-ephesians-5-20.html>.

Opening Prayer, Words of Assurance: Mary Petrina Boyd, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2012 (2011, Abingdon Press)*

Prayer of Illumination: Ann B. Day, *Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship*, edited by Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi, (United Church Press, Cleveland, Ohio, 1990, The Pilgrim Press)

Benediction: *From Wisdom Quest, written by the Rev. Dr. Bertrice Wood. Posted on the United Church of Christ website.* <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/>

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal.

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To be on the prayer list or One Call Now, please call church office 757-566-0162 or Rev. Candee Martin 703-907-9456.

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 church office.