

February 5, 2023 "Behind Every Great Church There is Prayer" 10:15 am

Worship Leader: Suzanne Latimer

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

THE PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude & Meditation Organist, Carol Kendall

Lighting the Candles Bring in the light of Christ

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Words

You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world. Jesus says so. Be salty and let your light shine.

Introit: "Majesty, Worship His Majesty" UMH #176

*Call to Worship

Leader: Come and see! God's light is shining brightly.

People: God's light shines in us.

Leader: When we honor God's commandments,

People: God's light shines in us.

Leader: When we feed the hungry and give to those in need,

People: God's light shines in us.

Leader: When we show mercy and compassion,

People: God's light shines in us.

Leader: We are the light of the world!

People: God's light shines in us. Amen.

*Opening Prayer:

Luminous God, we give thanks for this Epiphany season of light. When fear casts shadows in our lives, open our hearts to your radiance. Shine on us, shine in us, and shine through us. Make us beams of justice, mercy and love, that we may brighten your world. Amen.

*Hymn of Praise "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations" UMH #569

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer of 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.

Gospel Lesson Matthew 5:13-20 (Common English Bible) Rev. Candee Martin

Prayers of the People/Pastoral Prayer

Hymn of Meditation

The Message

"It Is Well with My Soul"

"You Are...Salt and Light"

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn of Response

"Wonderful Words of Life"

Rev. Candee Martin

UMH #377 (v.1)

Rev. Candee Martin

UMH #600 (v.1)

*Offering

Offertory Prayer

Gracious God, through these gifts given freely — may the hungry be fed, the homeless receive shelter, and the mistreated be set free. We offer all we have and all we are, that your light might break forth in us. 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.

*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

The Choir

A Service of Word and Table II

Invitation to Holy Communion

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession:

Loving Creator, you have placed within us the spark of your Divine Light. As people of your justice and mercy, you cause us to shine. We long to grow closer to you and walk in your ways. And yet, we usually do whatever we want. We point fingers at others and serve our own interests.

We satisfy ourselves with an hour in worship each week when there is so much more you ask of us. When we fail to heal your world, forgive us. Give us hearts that are open, generous and unafraid, that your divine spark might

ignite within us and make us shine as beacons of your kindness and your love. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Even when we stray, **God continues to guide us.**

Even when our souls are parched, **God provides for us.**

Even when we call for help, **God says, "I'm here."**

Praise God!

The Great Thanksgiving

Responses, UMH #13-15

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.

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Receiving

We give thanks, O Gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*Hymn of Celebration

"I Love to Tell the Story"

UMH #156

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.

*Benediction

You are the salt of the earth; so be salty. You are the light of the world; let your light shine. May your thirst for justice and righteousness be like a city on a hill that cannot be hidden. Go with the blessings of the one who makes us salt and light.

Amen.

Postlude

Ministry and Mission Opportunities: *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

- **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 –January 29, 2023

Worship Attendance	Offering
In Person: 32/Streaming: 31	\$1,175.00
Total: 63	

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Centering Words, Benediction, B.J. Beu, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023* (2022, Abingdon Press)

*Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, Offertory Prayer, Prayer of Confession, Words of Assurance, Mary Sue Brookshire, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020* (Abingdon Press, 2019)

*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)

*Invitation to Holy Communion, The Great Thanksgiving, A Service of Word and Table II, Responses, United Methodist Hymnal, Copyright 1989, The United Methodist Publishing House.

*Prayer After Receiving, June Boutwell, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2012* (2011, Abingdon Press)

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal

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****REMINDER:** The winter season is upon us and Covid cases are increasing in our area. PRG encourages wearing masks and social distancing. Please be mindful of those wearing masks and allow them to approach you according to their comfort level.

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.