

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

Adult Sunday School begins at 9am.

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.

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

July 9, 2023 “Behind Every Great Church 10:15am
 There is Prayer”

Worship Leader Jeanne Fulks

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

THE PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude & Meditation Organist, Carol Kendall

Lighting the Candles

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Words

This is a place to pause from the hustle and bustle
of our days.

This is a time to listen to the spoken word,
enjoy the notes of a song,
find joy in the face of our friends and neighbors,
and dwell in the Spirit of God.

*Introit “Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus” UMH #349

*Call to Worship (responsive)

Come from the busyness and the business of the day.

We come to let go of the ways of the world.

Come and turn aside the temptations to do the things
that are only done in the shadows.

**We come to embrace what God offers us,
God’s presence and unconditional love.**

Come, however hesitantly, to find refuge
and the way to live in Christ’s great love.

*Opening Prayer (responsive)

As we come before you God,
in the presence of our siblings,

help us look honestly at our lives
and see what you want us to be.

**Help us perceive the things and attitudes
we need to change.**

**As we open ourselves to your healing presence,
fill us with the Spirit of your love and wholeness.**

Amen.

*Hymn of Praise “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

UMH #66

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
imaginings, 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 Luke 10:38-42 (NRSVue)

Rev. Candee Martin

³⁸Now as they went on their way, [Jesus] entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus’s feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me.” ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, ⁴²but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

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 "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

UMH #396 (v. 1,2)

The Message "What Jesus Saw in Martha"

Rev. Candee Martin

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn of Response "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

UMH #396 (v. 3,4)

Special Music

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Most loving God, most welcoming God,
we bring these gifts to you,
knowing that you will use them
according to your purposes.

**We dedicate ourselves to your way,
to challenge the world's values
that are so prevalent in your world. 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.

*Prayer of Confession (responsive)

Great God, our source of comfort and hope,
we do not always follow your ways.

**We forget to abide by the teachings for living
you have set before us.**

**We hurt each other and ignore the needs
of those around us.**

We become complacent in our quest for justice.
Yet, even when we are unfaithful to you,
you remain faithful to us.

**Your steadfast love holds and heals us,
no matter where we are
or what we have done.**

**Help us turn our lives toward you,
not only on this day,
but every day.**

**In your merciful name, we pray.
Amen.**

*Words of Assurance

The psalmist proclaims,
“I trust in the steadfast love of God
forever and ever.”

Siblings, receive forgiveness
and trust that God’s love is always with us. **Amen.**

SENDING FORTH

*Hymn of Celebration “Standing on the Promises of God”
UMH #374

Extinguishing the Candles

Christ’s light leads us into the world to serve.

*Benediction Rev. Candee Martin

In a world that tries to impose its values on us,
live the way of God.

Challenge injustice, aid those in need, listen intently,
and do not be preoccupied with busyness.

Share what you have heard, so that, together,
we may transform the world
into the beloved community of God.

Go with the strength God gives us,
the love God gives us through Jesus,
and the fire the Holy Spirit offers
to keep us going no matter what. **Amen.**

Postlude

*** Please stand as you are able.**

Hearing Assistance Devices are available in the Narthex

Stewardship for week of July 2: \$3,043.00

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*Centering Words, Prayer of Confession, Words of Assurance, Karin Ellis, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2019* (Abingdon Press, 2018)

*Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, Offertory Prayer, Benediction, Joanne Carlson Brown, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022* (Abingdon Press, 2021)

*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)

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal.

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Announcements/Missions

- **Cereal..Cereal..Cereal**-please consider picking up an extra box or two of cereal each week and deposit it in the basket in the narthex. These boxes will be donated to St. Olaf's Food Pantry and PGO Food Pantry. It's a need that we can help to fulfill. Thanks!
- **Hello Mt Vernon UMC!!** From His Hands is once again partnering with Meals on Wheels for the Summer Lunch Program for Kids!!! The program kicks off on June 19, 2023 through August 25, 2023. We desperately need homemade cookies to pack with the kids' lunches. We are serving 300 children per day this year!!! This means we will need 600 cookies per day!! Please consider baking or buying cookies for the kids. It is a treat for them. If you cannot bake, Oreos are a big favorite!! Please put 2 cookies per plastic snack bag. Please no nuts or peanut butter. If you decide to donate cookies, please contact me at 757-603-6833 and I will add you to our list. I will pick up cookies on Sundays and Wednesdays. Thank you so much for your support!!! Theresa Kaufman
- **The Cemetery Association:** Those who would be so moved can contribute to the fund for the "Cemetery Fence Replacement." The Cemetery association is a 501-(C)3 fund.
- **16th Annual Jenna Bash Festival:** Saturday, August 5, 2023 11am – 4pm at LifePointe Christian Church 8841 Richmond Rd. To adopt a butterfly go to PGOVA.org/jenna-bash-festival.
- **Grass Cutters are needed** for the summer. The sign-up form is on the bulletin board in the hall. If you are able, it would be much appreciated.

- **St. Olaf's Food Pantry:** Please consider donating these items or monies to the food pantry: Pasta Roni, Banquet-Complete meal, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, El Paso Taco kit, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products.
- **Bridge Group:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.- 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Fellowship Hall.