

# *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.

## Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 6, 2023 "Behind Every Great Church 10:15am  
There is Prayer"

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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

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Words

When our faith is at its weakest, God struggles with us—  
not to punish, but to bless us,  
if we have the courage to ask.

\*Introit "He Is Lord" UMH #177

\*Call to Worship (responsive)

Are you hungry for a word of hope?

**We come to be fed and nourished.**

Are you yearning to see the bounty of God?

**We long to see and believe.**

Are you ready to witness the power of our God?

**We are ready.**

Come! Let us worship.

\*Opening Prayer (responsive)

Mighty God,

pour out your power and strength on us.

Grant us the nourishment

we need to receive your word.

**May your presence fill our lives and carry us forth,  
preparing us to be your people**

**and equipping us to do your work  
in the world.**

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

\*Hymn of Praise

“I Come with Joy”

UMH #617

## **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.**

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 14:13-21 (CEB)

Rev. Candee Martin

<sup>13</sup>When Jesus heard about John, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. When the crowds learned this, they followed him on foot from the cities. <sup>14</sup>When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion for them and healed those who were sick. <sup>15</sup>That evening his disciples came and said to him, “This is an isolated place and it’s getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves.”

<sup>16</sup>But Jesus said to them, “There’s no need to send them away. You give them something to eat.”

<sup>17</sup>They replied, “We have nothing here except five loaves of bread and two fish.”

<sup>18</sup>He said, “Bring them here to me.” <sup>19</sup>He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves of bread and the two fish, looked up to heaven, blessed them and broke the loaves apart and gave them to his disciples. Then the disciples gave them to the crowds. <sup>20</sup>Everyone ate until they were full, and they filled twelve baskets with the

leftovers. <sup>21</sup>About five thousand men plus women and children had eaten.

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

Hymn of Meditation "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

UMH #496 (v. 1,3)

The Message "The Gift of Bread"

Rev. Candee Martin

### **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

Hymn of Response "Let Us Break Bread Together"

UMH #618 (v. 1)

Special Music

David Sharp

Offering

Offertory Prayer (responsive)

Source of Compassion, you meet our needs.

**May our gifts become loaves and fish  
for those who hunger.**

**May our offerings become love and light  
for those who feel lost and afraid.**

Bless our lives and our ministries,  
that we may be a people  
who share our abundance  
with those who live in need.

**In our living and in our giving,  
may the world be fed  
and made whole again. 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.**

## **A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II**

Invitation to Holy Communion

Rev. Candee Martin

Eternal God, we are humble in body and spirit.

We are empty and long to be filled.

We are hungry and long to be fed.

We are lost and long to be found.

Heal our brokenness through the breaking  
of this bread and the sharing  
of this cup.

Then pick up the pieces of our lives,  
just as Jesus gathered up the fragments  
of bread and fish  
after he fed the five thousand.

Prayer of Yearning (responsive)

Rev. Candee Martin

God of wonder and mystery, you struggle with us  
when our faith is weakest,  
yet you do not overcome us;  
you meet us in our weakness,  
yet you do not humble us  
with your strength.

**In dark nights of the soul,  
and when the needs of others seem too great,  
you always stand us back on our feet.**

**When we face overwhelming odds  
and yearn to find an easy way out,  
you open new vistas of faithful living.**

**Stay with us when we have need of you, O God,  
and bless us in our struggles,  
that we might be a blessing  
for others in need. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Christ's grace is sufficient to meet every need.  
Rejoice and meet your God face to face,  
as you receive the bounty of God's hand.

The Great Thanksgiving

[Responses, UMH p. 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 (unison)

**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 “Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling”  
UMH #348

Extinguishing the Candles

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

\*Benediction (responsive)

Rev. Candee Martin

We are blessed by the hand that leads us  
to a land flowing with milk and honey.

**We go with God’s blessings.**

We are blessed by the One who  
heals our wounds and makes us whole.

**We go with the blessings of the One  
who meets us face to face. Amen.**

Postlude

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

**Hearing Assistance Devices** are available in the Narthex

**Stewardship for week of July 30: \$2,223.00**

### **Copyright Notice**

\*Centering Words, Call to Worship, Offertory Prayer, Invitation to Holy Communion, Prayer of Yearning, Words of Assurance, Benediction, B.J. Beu, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023* (Abingdon Press, 2022)

\*Opening Prayer, Mary Scifres, *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)

\*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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## Announcements/Missions

- **Finance Meeting:** Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 2PM.
- **Administrative Council:** Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:30PM.
- **S/PPRC Meeting:** Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am.
- **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 total replacement cost is around \$10,000. Average price per foot is \$13.00 for a two rail fence. The Cemetery association is a 501-(C)3 fund.
- **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.