

# *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 9:15am.

**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.

# Twenty-fifth Sunday After Pentecost

November 19, 2023 “Behind Every Great Church 10:15am  
There is Prayer”

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Worship Leader

Kathy 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 & Announcements

Centering Words

Let those who sow in tears,

bear sheaves of joy this Thanksgiving.

Let those who have endured a long season of waiting,

sing for joy at the rich harvest of God’s beautiful love.

\*Introit

“He Is Lord ”

UMH #177

\*Call to Worship (responsive)

Thanksgiving is more than just a day.

Thankfulness is a way of living our lives.

**Christ is more than just our guide.**

**Christ is the bread that nourishes our lives.**

The peace of God is more than a phrase.

This peace is beyond our understanding.

**The bread of life is given to us.**

**We rejoice in God’s amazing grace.**

\*Opening Prayer (unison)

**Generous God of abundance and life,**

**thank you for the many gifts of our lives.**

**Thank you for this time of worship.**

**Thank you for your constant presence.**

**Thank you for your healing love.**

**Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In gratitude and joy, we pray. Amen.**

\*Hymn of Praise “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”  
UMH #694 (vs. 1,2,3)

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

**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      Philippians 4:4-9 (NIV)

Rev. Candee Martin

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. <sup>9</sup>Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

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 (unison)

**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 "We Gather Together" UMH #131

The Message "Living Gratefully in All Circumstances"  
Rev. Candee Martin

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

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

Special Music The Choir

Offering

Offertory Prayer (unison)

**Generous, loving One, receive these gifts.**

**May they be symbols of your generous love  
for all creation.**

**Bless these gifts and those who give them,  
that all may become blessings to your world  
and signs of your glory.**

**In your glory and grace, we pray. 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)

Creator of life and giver of all that we have,  
thank you for your amazing grace  
and your abundant love.

When we reject your many gifts,  
forgive us.

**Open our lives once more to your generosity.**

**When we neglect to give as generously  
as we have received,  
forgive our selfishness.**

Draw us back to the generous love  
that first drew us into the mystery of your love  
and the marvels of your world.

**When we forget to give thanks,  
forgive us.**

**Turn our thoughts back to you  
with joy and thanksgiving.**

**In your grace and love, we pray. Amen.**

\*Words of Assurance

Remember this day the gifts and blessings  
that God showers in our lives.

This is a season to trust God's providential care  
and to rest assured in Christ's arms of love.

In those arms, we have everything we need.  
Rejoice and give thanks!

## **SENDING FORTH**

\*Hymn of Celebration “For the Beauty of the Earth”

UMH #92

Extinguishing the Candles

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

\*Benediction

Rev. Candee Martin

This Thanksgiving, be filled with thanks and praise.

Let it overflow, bursting through every stress  
and anxiety.

May it trickle gently over every grief and sadness,  
until thanks and praise are in every word you say,  
every choice you make, every moment you live.

Glory and praise to God.

Peace be with you. **Amen.**

Postlude

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

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

**Stewardship for week of November 12: \$1,463.00**

### **Copyright Notice**

\*Centering Words, Rebecca J. Kruger Gaudino, Mary Scifres, B.J. Beu, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021* (Abingdon Press, 2020)

\*Call to Worship, Mary J. Scifres, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2013 (2012, Abingdon Press)*

\*Opening Prayer, Offertory Prayer, Prayer of Confession, Michael Beu, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023* (Abingdon Press, 2022)

\*Words of Assurance, Benediction, Silvia Purdie, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024* (Abingdon Press, 2023)

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal.

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## Announcements/Missions

- **Office Closure:** The office will be closed Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> & Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup> in observance of Thanksgiving. Wishing everyone a happy & safe Thanksgiving!
- **Cemetery Meeting:** Will be held Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 10AM.
- **Finance Meeting:** Will be held Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 2PM.
- **Administrative Council Meeting:** Will be held Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:30PM.
- **Cereal..Cereal..Cereal:** We will concentrate on collecting ONLY cereal donations to St. Olaf's & PGO Food Pantries, so please consider picking up an extra box or two of cereal each week and deposit it in the basket in the narthex. It's a need that we can help to fulfill. Thanks!
- **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.
- **Bridge Group:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.- 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Fellowship Hall.

*We sincerely hope you have felt the presence of the Lord in our Worship Service this morning.*

*We appreciate your attendance and support.*

*Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church  
7801 Church Lane  
Toano, VA 23168*