

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.

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 4, 2024 "Behind Every Great Church 10:15am
There is Prayer"

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

Those who trust God will rise up with wings like eagles.

*Introit

"On Eagle's Wings"

UMH#143

*Call to Worship (responsive)

People of God, welcome! Surely God is in this place!

We come to worship and to rest in God's presence.

Breathe deep for the goodness of God surrounds us.

The Holy One who sustains the universe is near.

When we are tired, worn down, and carrying heavy burdens,
God is with us.

**God strengthens us that we might help carry one
another's burdens.**

So, let us join together in wonder and thanksgiving for God's
love that lifts us up on wings like eagles.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Opening Prayer (responsive)

O God, we are gathered here under the shelter of your
wings, nurtured by your motherly love, and encouraged,
then, to fly by faith on the wind of your spirit.

**You have spoken to us, saying,
"They that wait upon the Lord, shall renew their
strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles."
Teach us how to wait, then, that we may learn how to fly.
May this nest we call "family" be built with sturdy materials.
Don't let us forget, though, that this nest was not
Created as a fortress behind which to hide, but as a
perch from which to take off. And strengthen us
with the assurance that we do not fly alone.
This we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

*Hymn of Praise "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
UMH #139

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination (unison) Rev. Candee Martin

**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 Mark 1:29-39 (NRSVue)
Rev. Candee Martin

Jesus Heals Many at Simon's House

²⁹As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed by demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons, and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

A Preaching Tour in Galilee

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” ³⁸He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also, for that is what I came out to do.” ³⁹And he went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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 “There Is a Balm in Gilead”

UMH #375

The Message “All We Need Is a Little Rest!”

Rev. Candee Martin

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn of Response “Take Time to Be Holy”

UMH #395

Offering

Offertory Prayer (responsive)

Creator of heaven and earth,
you shower the earth with rain,
nourish the land with sunshine,
and bless your people with goodness.

**Receive the gifts we bring before you this day,
that they may touch the world with gladness
and bring succor to those in need. 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 (unison) 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 offer our prayer before God and one
another.

Prayer of Yearning (responsive)

Holy God, even in our pursuit of safety and security,
we yearn to seek justice for the poor
and to defend the downtrodden
from the privilege of the powerful.

**Give us the heart of Jesus,
that we may care for the sick,
and rescue the perishing.**

Give us the Spirit of Christ,
that we may spend time in prayer
and keep your path before our feet.

**Give us the love of your Son,
that we may be instruments of your peace. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

God showers the earth with rain,
gives animals their food,
and offers blessings to those
who walk in the paths of righteousness.

Sing praises to the Lord
and rest secure in God's blessings.

The Great Thanksgiving (responsive) [UMH p. 13-14]

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.

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 "How Great Thou Art" UMH #77

Extinguishing the Candles

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

*Benediction (responsive)

Though our lives often seem overwhelming,
in God we shall mount up with wings like eagles.

Though our responsibilities weigh us down,
in Christ, we shall run and not be weary.

Though justice and discord sap our strength,
in the Spirit, we shall walk and not faint. Amen.

Postlude

<p>* Please stand as you are able. Hearing Assistance Devices are available in the Narthex</p>
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Stewardship for week of January 28: \$1,320.00

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*

Copyright Notice

*Centering Words, Offertory Prayer, Prayer of Yearning, Words of Assurance, Benediction, B.J. Beu, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024 (2023, Abingdon Press)*

*Call to Worship, Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, August 2023.

*Opening Prayer, Written by Peter L. Haynes, and posted on the [Long Green Valley Church](https://www.longgreenvalleychurch.com/) website. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/01/opening-prayer-isaiah-40.html>.

*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)

*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

- **Jewell Bryant Circle:** Will meet Monday, February 5th at 1 PM in the Fellowship hall.
- **Lenten Books:** Please pick up your addressed envelope from the box by the sanctuary entrance, enclosed is your Lent book for the season. They will be mailed out after February 4th, if unable to pick up.
- **Finance Meeting:** Will be held Wednesday, February 7th at 2 PM.
- **Administrative Council Meeting:** Will be held Wednesday, February 7th at 2:30 PM.
- **Suzanna Wesley Circle:** Will meet Monday, February 12th at 6:30 PM in the home of Judy F.
- **Fellowship Time:** The 3rd Sunday of every month there will be a Fellowship Time after the Sunday Service.
- **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!
- **Bridge Group:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.- 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Fellowship Hall.

*****See Lenten Service flyer on the next page.*****



2024 COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES – 7 P.M.

Hospitality Time – 6 P.M.

February 14, 2024 – Ash Wednesday: Williamsburg
Mennonite Church, 7800 Croaker Road, Williamsburg
757-566-3026. Rev. Zach Dey

Offering-Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center
Speaker – Rev. Richard Cline, Olive Branch Christian
Church

February 21, 2024: Olive Branch Christian Church,
7643 Richmond Road, Williamsburg
757-566-8077 Rev. Richard Cline

Offering-Child Development Resources
Speaker – Rev. Alex Sheppard-Witt, Our Saviour's Lutheran
Church

February 28, 2024: New Zion Baptist Church,
3991 Longhill Road, Williamsburg
757-258-0491 Dr. Rob Whitehead, Sr.

Offering-Williamsburg Hospice House
Speaker – Rev. Mike Burcher, Stone House Presbyterian
Church

March 6, 2024: Our Saviour's Lutheran Church,
7479 Richmond Road, Williamsburg
757-564-3745 Rev. Alex Sheppard-Witt

Offering-Avalon Center
Speaker – Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, Hickory Neck
Episcopal Church

March 13, 2024: Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church,
7801 Church Lane, Toano
757-566-0162

Rev. Candee Martin

Offering - From His Hands

Speaker – Rev. Zach Dey, Williamsburg Mennonite Church

March 20, 2024: Stone House Presbyterian Church,
9401 Fieldstone Parkway, Toano

757-565-1130

Rev. Mike Burcher

Offering-Proclaiming Grace Outreach

Speaker – Dr. Rob Whitehead, Sr., New Zion Baptist Church

March 27, 2024: Hickory Neck Episcopal Church,
8300 Richmond Road, Toano

757-566-0276

Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly

Offering-Habitat for Humanity

Speaker – Rev. Candee Martin, Mt. Vernon United Methodist
Church