

# *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 Dennis Morgan*

7801 Church Lane, Toano, Virginia 23168

757-566-0162

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.

## Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 14, 2024

“Behind Every Great Church  
There is Prayer”

10:15am

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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

For too long our people relied on human action to please God. We felt that our sacrifices and acts of charity would earn God’s love and redemption. Now we understand that God’s grace alone saves us from our sinfulness, and we are still learning how to thank our Lord for this precious gift.

\*Introit

“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

UMH #334

\*Call to Worship (responsive)

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord our God;

**People: For the Lord is our God, and we are the Lord’s people.**

Leader: As we wait upon the Lord, let us open our ears,

**People: That we might both hear and heed the word of the Lord.**

Leader: As we wait upon the Lord, let us open our eyes,

**People: That we might both see and perceive the will of the Lord.**

Leader: As we wait upon the Lord, let us open our hearts,

**People: That we might understand with our hearts and turn to the Lord for healing.**

\*Opening Prayer (responsive)

Leader: God of Grace and God of Wonder, we confess that we do not love one another as you have instructed.

**People: Help us to see each other with the love with which you see us!**

Leader: We confess that we hold on to petty grievances and are slow to forgive.

**People: Help us to mirror the grace that you afford us who are not worthy!**

Leader: Where your love is unconditional and eternal,

**People: We feel that we must obey your will to earn that divine love.**

**All: Help us understand, Lord, that obedience without love is not your desire. Amen.**

\*Hymn of Praise      “Lead On, O King Eternal”      UMH #580

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Rev. Dennis Morgan

**We have listened to the words of the street corner and the marketplace. And we have heard the words of our friends and neighbors. These words have often left us confused. They have not pointed the way to a clear and compelling goal. So we come to you, O Lord, in search of the Word that will give direction and meaning to our lives. Amen.**

Hebrew Scripture

Romans 8:1-11

Rev. Dennis Morgan

Prayers of the People

Rev. Dennis Morgan

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Dennis Morgan

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 "I Need Thee Every Hour"

UMH #397

The Message "The Law of the Spirit"

Rev. Dennis Morgan

### **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

Hymn of Response "I Am Thine, O Lord"

UMH #419

Special Music

David Sharp

Offering

Offertory Prayer (responsive)

Rev. Dennis Morgan

Leader: Gracious God, giver of all good gifts and graces, you have blessed us far beyond whatever we deserve.

We give our thanks and praise for the many blessings you have granted us.

**People: Yet we understand that not everyone is equally blessed – that there are still those around us without basic necessities.**

Leader: We acknowledge that your generosity has extended to us so that we, too, can ease the burdens of the less fortunate.

**People: We freely and generously give so that we can support one another here in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, the community that surrounds us, and to the world at large. 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.**

Prayer of Yearning (responsive):

Leader: You who are thirsty but do not have the money, come and drink,

**People: That the word of the Lord might accomplish its purpose.**

Leader: You who are hungry but do not have the price, come and eat,

**People: That the word of the Lord might accomplish its purpose.**

Leader: You who labor but do not get your reward, come and consider,

**People: That the word of the Lord might accomplish its purpose.**

Leader: You that scatter seed but do not reap the harvest, come and plant,

**People: That the word of the Lord might accomplish its purpose.**

**All: Let us drink the water of life and eat the bread of heaven. Let us sow our seed in good soil, that others might reap the fruit of our labor. Amen.**

\*Words of Assurance

Rev. Dennis Morgan

In return for our faith alone, Christ forgives us. Because we continue to live our lives as Christ has taught us, we are righteous in God's eyes. Because we lift each other up in faith, we are a forgiven people. Praise God!

## **SENDING FORTH**

\*Hymn of Celebration

"Are Ye Able"

UMH #530

Extinguishing the Candles

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

Benediction:

May the Babe of Bethlehem bring you peace;

May the Child of Nazareth bring you joy;

May the Man of Galilee bring you strength;

May the Christ of Calvary bring you courage;

May the Risen Christ bring you hope;

And the Ascended Christ a foretaste of his glory!

Postlude

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

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

**Stewardship for week of July 7: \$3,365.00**

*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*

*757-566-0162*

**Pastor Contact Information:**

**Rev. Dennis Morgan**

**dennismorgan@vaumc.org**

**Pastor office hours:**

Monday 3pm-6pm

Thursday 10am-1pm

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## Announcements/Missions

- **S/PPRC Meeting:** Will be held Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am.
- **Annual Jenna Bash:** Will be held Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 11AM – 4PM at LifePointe Christian Church 8841 Richmond Rd., Toano, VA; @PGOVA.org/jenna-bash-festival.
- **Fellowship Time:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.