

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.



September 29, 2024

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.

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 29, 2024 “Behind Every Great Church 10:15am
There is Prayer”

Worship Leader

Kathy Glindemann

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

THE PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude & Meditation

Organist, Carol Kendall

Pastor’s Address

Welcome & Announcements

Centering and Reflection (Leader):

All too often we hear promises being made that we know will never be fulfilled. All too often we make promises without knowing if we can truly fulfill them. Trust and credibility erode when we make hollow promises and don’t fulfill them. Jesus sets the example of trust – and as a consequence, love.

*Introit

“Into My Heart”

TFWS #2160 (v 1)

*Call to Worship (responsive)

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord!

People: God’s Kingdom has drawn near!

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord!

People: God’s salvation is at hand!

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord!

People: God’s Spirit is among us!

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord!

People: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

*Opening Prayer (unison)

Holy and Eternal God, we assemble in worship of you, yet we confess that we are given to moment of doubt. Our faith is not always strong, and we have questioned your presence, your will, and even your existence. Draw close to us now and let us feel your blessings fall upon us. Come closer and let us draw strength from your presence. Prepare our hearts to worship you, and strengthen our faith. AMEN

*Hymn of Praise "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

UMH #117

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Rev. Dennis Morgan

Gracious God, who, through the Son and with the Holy Spirit continues to provide the guidance we need, unveil for us the lessons we need to learn from your holy scriptures. Reveal to us your will, and make clear for us the paths that you desire for us. Blessed with free will, we still often choose a path that leads us away from you. Return us to your paths and guide us forward. AMEN

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 21:23-32

Rev. Dennis Morgan

Prayers of the People and the Church

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 "His Eye Is on the Sparrow"

TFWS #2146

The Message "Questioning the Authority of Jesus"

Rev. Dennis Morgan

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Special Music

The Choir

Offertory Prayer (Pastor)

Rev. Dennis Morgan

Paul exhorts: Let each of us look not to our own interests, but to the interests of others. In doing so, we share the mind of Christ. May we share generously of our gifts, and dedicate ourselves to lives of service and compassion as we gather today's offering. Amen

Offering

*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.

*Words of Assurance (Pastor)

Rev. Dennis Morgan

Hear the good news: No matter who you are, or what you have done in your life, God's Kingdom is open to all who hear the call to repentance and turn their lives over to Jesus. Whether you're a tax collector, prostitute, bank robber, or con artist, the Kingdom is still available to you.

When we open our hearts and give our lives over to Christ, God's forgiveness is truly ours. Thanks be to God!

SENDING FORTH

*Hymn of Celebration "God Be with You till We Meet Again"
UMH #672

*Benediction (Pastor)

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

- Philippians 2:1-4

Postlude

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

Hearing Assistance Devices are available in the Narthex

Stewardship for week of September 22: \$2525.00

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

603-490-5992

dennismorgan@vaumc.org

Pastor office hours:

Monday 3pm-6pm

Thursday 10am-1pm

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Announcements/Missions

- **Finance Committee:** meeting will be held Wednesday, October 2nd at 2pm.
- **Administrative Council:** meeting will be held Wednesday, October 2nd at 2:30 pm.
- **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.

Mt. Vernon's 137th Anniversary

This week marks the 137th year in the life of Mt. Vernon UMC. Methodist circuit riders founded James City Chapel in 1791 on the site of today's James City Chapel Cemetery in Norge, the cemetery of Mt. Vernon UMC. The Chapel was the mother church of Mt. Vernon. After nearly 100 years of service as a Methodist house of worship, the Chapel's congregation decided to build a new church in Toano. The new railroad line from Richmond to Newport News would have a station, bringing prosperity and more potential members for the church. A portion of the James City Chapel was deconstructed and moved to Toano on a railcar to the depot at the bottom of Church Hill, hauled up the hill by a team of oxen, and reconstructed. Mt. Vernon Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was dedicated in 1887 and continues to serve its members and the community today as Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church 137 years later.

Carole Dishman, Church Historian

