

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.



October 6, 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.

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 6, 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

Pastor's Address

Welcome & Announcements

Centering and Reflection (Leader):

“What are humans that you are mindful of them or mortals that you care for them?” Not angels, to be sure. Just people, the beloved children of God.

*Introit

“More Precious Than Silver”

UMH #2065

*Call to Worship (responsive)

Leader: God's word inspires faith. God's glory inspires hope. God's love brings joy. God's Spirit offers life. Give glory and praise to God!

People: Give glory and praise to God!

Leader: Give glory and praise to God!

*Opening Prayer (unison)

Almighty God, we open our service today seeking your help. Help us think the right kind of thoughts. Help us think about things that are true and honorable, things that are just, pure, and honorable in your sight. Help us to focus on things that are commendable, things that are excellent and worthy of praise. There is so much in life that is unjust and ugly, but we have gathered in your name this day to commit ourselves to following your paths – paths of justice and mercy, paths that are worthy of your calling. AMEN

*Hymn of Praise “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”
UMH #64

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination (unison) Rev. Dennis Morgan

Open our hearts, O Lord God, to feel your unending, steadfast love. Open our ears, O Lord God, to hear the mighty things you have done and are doing in our midst. Open our eyes, O Lord God, to observe justice and righteousness. Open our minds, O Lord God, to remember our deliverance from evil.
AMEN

Gospel Lesson Matthew 22:33-46 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 “Come, We That Love The Lord ”
UMH #732

The Message “Still Questioning the Authority of Jesus”
Rev. Dennis Morgan

Service of Communion
INVITATION

Leader: 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 confess our sin before God and one another.

People: Merciful god, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, We have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; That proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving for the Season After Pentecost

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity and made covenant to be our sovereign God, you spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from the slavery which is sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. At his ascension you exalted him to sit and reign with you at your right hand. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith. And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**ALL: Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ. The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

The table is now prepared.

Offertory Prayer (Pastor):

As you have blessed us, gracious God, bless the gifts we return to you now. May our tithes and offerings bless your world with love and salt your world with peace. AMEN

*Words of Assurance (Pastor)

Rev. Dennis Morgan

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, is ours through Christ Jesus. In Christ we are forgiven indeed!

- (Philippians 4)

SENDING FORTH

*Hymn of Celebration

“Hymn Of Promise”

UMH #707

*Benediction (Pastor)

When you depart today, do not forget the wonderful works of the Lord and all that God has given to you in grace.

Remember what you have learned and received as the God of Peace goes with you. Go forth and serve the Lord!

Postlude

*** Please stand as you are able.**
Hearing Assistance Devices are available in the Narthex

Stewardship for week of September 29: \$728.00

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

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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

- **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.

New Pricing for Cemetery Plots...

Previous Pricing Honored Until 12/31/2024

On September 4, 2024, at the request of the Cemetery Association, the Mt. Vernon UMC Administrative Council approved changes in the Cemetery Rules and Regulations, which included a price increase for assignment of plots to people eligible for burial in the cemetery. The new pricing continues to be less than that of local commercial cemeteries. 4' X 8' plots are for one (1) **traditional casket/vault burials**, or for **up to three (3) urn/vault cremation burials**. 4' X 4' plots are for **one (1) cremation urn/vault burials**. **For anyone interested in being assigned a plot, or plots, the previous pricing schedule will be honored through December 31,2024.** The new pricing will become effective on January 1, 2025. For answers to your questions, please contact Russ Hobgood (Home 757-566-0210) or Bob Dishman (Home 757-250-3365).