

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.



“One Bread, One Body”

October 4, 2026

Rev. Meghan Roth Clayton

7801 Church Lane, Toano, Virginia 23168

757-566-0162

Adult Sunday School begins at 9:15 am

Worship begins at 10:15 am

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.

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

Welcome to Worship!

During worship, the entrance nearest the parking lot is locked. If you need a restroom during the service, facilities are located in the hallway directly behind the chancel. You can access this hallway using the side door next to the piano.

Let's Get to Know Each Other:

We invite everyone to wear a nametag today so we can greet you warmly by name. If you are visiting with us, or if your name tag is missing or needs a correction, please fill out the request form on the clipboard right by the name tag rack. We would love to make a permanent nametag just for you!

A Word for Families with Children:

Children of all ages are a vital part of our worship, and we do not offer a separate nursery or childcare. Please do not worry about wiggles or noises; your presence is a blessing to our church family.

Connect with Pastor Meghan:

As Pastor Meghan settles into her new role, she is eager to get to know everyone. Whether you prefer a quick phone call, a cup of coffee, or a casual meeting at the church, please reach out to schedule a visit. You can contact her directly at **meghanclayton@vaumc.org** or at the church phone at **(757) 566-0162**.

Invitation to Serve:

Our church thrives when we lead together. If you feel called to serve, please connect with Pastor Meghan to see where your talents fit best.

Benevolence Fund:

On Communion Sundays, we have the opportunity to extend Christ's love beyond our church walls through our Benevolence Fund. Gifts placed at the communion rail help provide financial assistance to individuals and families in our local community who are experiencing financial need.

As we come to Christ's Table, we remember that God's grace is given freely—and we are invited to share that grace with others. If you would like to contribute, gifts may be left at the rail during Communion.

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 2026

10:15am

“One Bread, One Body”

Worship Leader

Suzanne Latimer

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

THE PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude & Meditation

Lila O’Sullivan, Guest Pianist

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Words:

Today Christians around the world gather at Christ's Table. Christians are from different nations and cultures, speak different languages and carry different stories. We worship in various ways and face unique challenges. Yet we are united at the Table by our Lord.

*Introit

UMH #618, verses 1-2

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

*Call to Worship:

We gather from different places, with different stories and different experiences.

Yet we gather as one body in Christ.

We come with different languages, cultures, traditions and gifts.

Yet there is one Spirit who unites us.

We come hungry for grace, thirsty for justice, and longing for peace.

Christ meets us at the Table and gives us what we need.

Come, let us worship the God who gathers us from every corner of the earth.

We come as one body to worship our one Lord!

*Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance:

God of every people and every place, we confess we often allow the things that make us different to become barriers between us. We cling to our traditions, perspectives and preferences. We forget your family is larger than our congregation, our denomination, our nation or our culture. Forgive us when we exclude others from the Table you have prepared for all. Forgive us when we fail to see Christ in people whose lives and experiences are different from our own. Teach us to recognize our unity in Christ, to receive the gifts of our siblings in faith around the world and to live as one body in love.

Hear the good news: Christ has broken down the barriers that divide us. At this Table, we are reminded that God's grace is not reserved for a particular people or place. There is one bread, and we are one body. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*Passing of the Peace:

Today we share Christ's peace with people whose lives may look different from our own—and we remember that Christians around the world are doing the same. The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*Hymn of Praise UMH #545
“The Church’s One Foundation”

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children’s Message

First Reading Worship Leader
Exodus 17:1–7

Gospel Lesson
1 Corinthians 10:16–17

The Message
“One Bread, One Body”

Rev. Meghan Roth Clayton

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Affirmation

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

*Hymn of Meditation
“Help Us Accept Each Other”

UMH #560

Mission Moment: Stewardship

Russ Hobgood
Finance Chair

Invitation to Give

*Offertory

*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**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Gracious and generous God, you have given us more than we could ever earn or repay. Receive these gifts as expressions of our gratitude and our commitment to your mission. Use what we offer to strengthen this congregation, serve our neighbors and extend your love into the world. Teach us to see ourselves not as isolated individuals but as one body, sharing what we have so others may know your abundance. Through Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving for World Communion Sunday

UMH #13

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

God of grace, we give you thanks for meeting us at this Table. In bread and cup, you have reminded us that we belong to one another because we belong to Christ. Send us from this Table nourished by your grace and strengthened for your mission. Where there is division, make us instruments of reconciliation. Where there is hunger, make us generous. Where there is thirst, make us attentive. Where there is loneliness, make us present. Send us into the world as one body, carrying Christ's love wherever we go. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*Sending Hymn

UMH #620

"One Bread, One Body"

*Benediction:

Go now as people who have shared one bread and one cup. Remember you are part of a body larger than this congregation, a family that reaches across cultures, languages, nations, and generations.

Where there is division, may we seek unity.

Where there is hunger, may we share what we have.

Where there is thirst, may we offer compassion.

Where there is need, may we serve with love.

And wherever you go, remember: There is one Lord, one faith, one body. May the grace of Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you and with God's people everywhere, now and always. Amen.

*Postlude

Your Giving Makes a Difference:

Thank you for your faithful support of Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church. Your generosity helps us worship, serve our neighbors and share Christ's love in our community and beyond. Here are different ways to give:

- **During worship:** Place cash or a check in the offering plate as it is passed.
- **Online:** Give securely through <https://mtvernontoano.org/give> or scan the QR code below with your mobile phone
- **By mail:** Send to 7801 Church Lane, Toano, VA 23168.
- **Drop off:** Deliver your offering during office hours.



Announcements/Missions

- **Pastor's Hours:** Rev. Meghan's current office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 am-noon. Please try to call before coming for a visit as she may have a schedule change. She is happy to make an appointment for other days or times, please call the office 757-566-0162 or email meghanclayton@vaumc.org.
- **Jewell Bryant Circle:** Will meet on Monday, October 5 at 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Bridge Group:** Bridge meets at 10 am and 6:30 pm, Tuesdays, Fellowship Hall all are welcome.
- **Finance Meeting:** Finance Committee is meeting on Wednesday, October 7 at 9 am in the Wesley Room.
- **Admin Council:** Will meet on Wednesday, October 7 at 2 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Cereal/Food Donations:** We are always collecting non-perishable food and hygiene products for FISH and boxes of cereal for Proclaiming Grace Outreach. There is a bin for FISH donations, and a basket for PGO near the nametag rack in the front entryway. Please help us feed our neighbors in need.

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The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026, Abingdon Press

The Spiritual Wisdom of the Gospel for Christian Preachers and Teachers, Liturgical Press

The Daily Study Bible commentary series, Westminster Press

The New Interpreter's Bible commentary series, Abingdon Press