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.



"Faithful Stewards"

November 15, 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.

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 on the back cover.
- **By mail:** Send to 7801 Church Lane, Toano, VA 23168.
- **Drop off:** Deliver your offering during office hours.

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026 10:15am

"Faithful Stewards"

Worship Leader Donna Wilson

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

THE PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude & Meditation

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Words:
God has entrusted each of us with gifts, abilities and opportunities to serve. We gather not to compare what we have been given but to consider how faithfully we are using what God has placed in our hands. May we worship with open hearts, ready to listen, respond and serve.

*Introit UMH #396, verse 1

"O Jesus, I Have Promised**"**

*Call to Worship:
God has given each of us gifts to share.

We are many, but we belong to one body in Christ.

There are different gifts but one Spirit; different ways of serving but one Lord.

We will use what God has entrusted to us for the good of all.

Come, let us worship the God who calls us to faithful service.

With grateful hearts, we offer our gifts and our lives to God.

*Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance:

Generous God, you have entrusted us with gifts, opportunities and resources, yet we confess we do not always use them faithfully. We compare ourselves with others, underestimate what we have to offer or allow fear

to keep us from serving. Forgive us when we bury our gifts rather than share them. Renew our courage, deepen our gratitude and help us use all we have been given for your glory and the good of our neighbors. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: God's grace is abundant, and God's Spirit equips each of us for faithful service. We are not defined by our fears or failures but renewed by the love of Jesus Christ. Through God's forgiveness, we are free to begin again and to offer our gifts with joy. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*Passing of the Peace:

As members of one body, let us share Christ's peace with one another and encourage one another in the work to which God has called us. The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*Opening Hymn UMH #430

"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children's Message

First Reading Worship Leader

1 Corinthians 12:4–11

Choral Anthem

"In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful" by J. Berthier

Second Reading

Matthew 25:14–30

The Message

"Faithful Stewards"

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

"Jesus, Have Mercy!"

BUNESSAN 5.5.5.4 D ("Morning Has Broken")
text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, used with permission

Jesus, Have Mercy!

"Jesus, have mercy! Help! Son of David!"
So Bartimaeus called to the Lord.
Filled with great faith, he knew as he waited:
Christ was his hope for vision restored.

Jesus, have mercy! May we see clearly
You gave a gift we cannot repay.
You had it all, but loving us dearly,
Even your life, Lord, you gave away.

Jesus, have mercy when we're uncertain,
Hiding our talents high on our shelves.
As we've been blessed, may we be an offering —
Healing your world by giving ourselves.

Jesus, have mercy! May we give freely
So that the church has plenty to share.
May we bring tithes and offerings gladly,
Reaching to those in need everywhere.

Jesus, have mercy! Give us new vision;
Show us new ways to build up your church.
We are your people, called into mission!
Help us to bring your hope to the earth.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer
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.

Mission Moment Fran Delo, Mission Chair

Invitation to Give

Offertory

*Doxology: UMH #95
"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"
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 God, we thank you for the many gifts you have placed in our hands and for the ways your Spirit works through each of us. Bless these offerings and the lives they represent. Help us to be faithful stewards of our

time, talents and resources, using all we have received to strengthen your Church, serve our neighbors and share the good news of Jesus Christ. May our lives bear fruit for your kingdom. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn UMH #593

"Here I Am, Lord"

*Benediction:

Go forth in the love of God, who has blessed each of us with gifts to share.

We will offer our gifts faithfully for the good of all.

Follow Jesus Christ, who calls us to serve with humble and generous hearts.

We will use what God has entrusted to us to share Christ's love.

Go in the power of the Holy Spirit, who equips us for every good work.

With grateful hearts, we will serve God and our neighbors. Amen.

*Postlude

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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

November Birthdays

November 4	**Gene Turner**
November 12	**Karen Hobgood**
November 20	**Cody Grundy**

- **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 had 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.**

- **Empty Ink Cartridges Wanted-**the office recycles ink cartridges at Staples where they give us a credit for each one turned in. With the cost of ink and paper that would anything is a huge help! There is a basket on top of the staff mailboxes in the Narthex or you can just drop them in the office. Thank you for your help!

Scan this QR code to be taken to the Mt Vernon UMC online giving page:

Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church Staff

Rev. Meghan Roth Clayton, Pastor
Linda Poinsett, Choir Director
Mary Sowder, Organist
Ellyn Stephens, Office Administrator