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.



"The King Among the Least"

November 22, 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.

Christ the King Sunday

November 22, 2026 10:15am

"The King Among the Least"

Worship Leader Theresa Kaufman

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

THE PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude & Meditation

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Words

*Introit UMH #138, verse 1

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is**"**

*Call to Worship:

Christ is our King, reigning not through power as the world understands it but through love, mercy and compassion.

We gather to worship the One who welcomes the stranger, feeds the hungry and cares for the least among us.

Christ calls us to see his face in our neighbors and to serve him through acts of kindness and justice.

Open our eyes, O Lord, that we may recognize you in everyone we meet. Let us worship Christ our King, whose love transforms the world.

*Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance:

Merciful God, we confess we do not always recognize Christ in the people around us. We become so focused on our own concerns we overlook those who are hungry, lonely, hurting or in need of welcome. We offer words of compassion without taking the next step of service. Forgive us when we have ignored opportunities to love our neighbors. Open our eyes, soften our hearts and strengthen our hands for the work of your kingdom. Help

us follow Jesus not only in what we believe but in how we live. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ our King comes among us in love and mercy, offering grace that forgives and transforms. Through him, we are made new and empowered to serve. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.**

*Passing of the Peace:
As we recognize Christ in one another, let us share signs of Christ's peace and love. The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

*Opening Hymn UMH #131
"We Gather Together"

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children's Message & Dedication of Operation Christmas Child Boxes

Today we offer these Operation Christmas Child boxes, prepared with love and generosity. Each box is a reminder that small acts of kindness can share the great love of God.
Gracious God, bless these gifts and all who will receive them.

We give thanks for all who have packed boxes, gathered supplies and shared their resources. Bless the children who will receive these gifts, their families and their communities. May each box bring joy, hope, and the assurance that every child is precious in your sight.
May every child know they are loved by you.

Jesus teaches us that when we care for others, we are serving him. May these gifts reflect Christ's love, and may we continue to share our time, our resources and our compassion with neighbors near and far.
Christ our King, make us generous in giving and faithful in serving.

Let us pray. Loving God, bless these boxes and all who will deliver them. May each gift bring joy and open hearts to your love. Bless the children who receive them, and help us follow Jesus by caring for others in his name. May our gifts be a sign of your goodness and a reminder that we are all called to share your love with the world. In the name of Jesus Christ, our King and Savior, we pray. **Amen.**

First Reading — Worship Leader
Ephesians 1:15–23

Choral Anthem
"Our Many Hymns of Thanks" by D. Lantz

Second Reading
Matthew 25:31–46

The Message
"The King Among the Least"

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 TFWS #2222
"The Servant Song"

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 Teresa Saeed

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

*****Celebration of Receiving Estimate of Giving Cards

Generous God, all that we have comes from you. With grateful hearts, we bring these estimates of giving as a sign of our faith and commitment.

Receive our gifts, O God, and use them to share your love with our church, our community and the world.

Bless these commitments and the ministries they will make possible. Strengthen us to serve faithfully with our time, our talents and our resources.

May our giving reflect our gratitude and our trust in you.

All that we have and all that we are belong to you.

Use us, O God, to do your work and share Christ's love. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn UMH #327

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

*Blessing of the Thanksgiving Meal

Gracious God, we thank you for the food we will soon enjoy, the hands that prepared it and the fellowship we share. Bless this meal and all who gather around this table. As we give thanks for our many blessings, open our hearts to those in need and help us share your love with others. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Benediction:

Go forth in the name of Christ our King, who comes to us in the least and the overlooked.

We will seek Christ in our neighbors and serve with love.

Feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, care for the suffering and share the gifts God has entrusted to you.

By God's grace, we will live with grateful hearts and generous hands.

Go in the peace and power of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen!**

*Postlude

All are invited to a Thanksgiving Meal in the Fellowship Hall

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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

- **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.**

- **Church Office Holiday Hour-**Day to day office hours are 9 am-1 pm. It is always a good idea to call first 757-566-0162 to ensure availability and Ellyn is always glad to meet you at other times as well if needed.

  The office will be closed on Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

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