



Bethany United Methodist Church  
 1860 Hayes Road • Gloucester Point, VA 23062  
 Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9:00 am–3:00 pm  
 Phone: 804.642.2110  
 Email: admin@bethanyumc-gp.org; Website: www.bethanyumc-gp.org

**VOLUNTEERS SERVING TODAY**

Media: Scott Berry, Jeremy Nardozi, Susannah Hogge, Cathy Raines, Aidan Dumbrocyo  
 Altar Guild this month: Peggy Lewis, Laura Glaze, Laura Vaughan  
 Liturgist: Judy Burner  
 Trustee Contact this week: Donna Lane  
 Greeter: Betty Neikirk  
 Ushers: Milton Hudgins, Kirk Bell  
 Counting Team: Al & Judy Burner, Donna Andersen

STEWARDSHIP	10/19
General Fund	3465.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	65.00
ATTENDANCE	10/19
In person Worship – 8:30 am	30
In person Worship – 11:00 am	48

**BUMC STAFF DIRECTORY**

Rev. John Choi, Pastor	Office: 804.642.2110; Cell: 804-384-3521 Email: johnchoi@vaumc.org
Jimmy Mackey, Church Office Administrator	Office: 804.642.2110 Email: admin@bethanyumc-gp.org
Ellie Fountain, Director of Children's & Youth Ministries	Office: 804-642-2110 Email: youth@bethanyumc-gp.org
Sandra Fox, Director of Music	Cell: 757.329.6128 Email: foxyfoxies@gmail.com
Dr. Rudy Shackelford, Organist	Home: 804.642.5938, Cell: 804.413.0211

All Services May be Viewed on:



October 26, 2025

11:00 a.m.

**BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost | Reformation Sunday**

**WELCOME EVERYONE! Thank you for worshiping with us!**

— *As the music begins, please quiet your hearts in preparation for worship.* —  
*\*Please stand as you are able and please silence your mobile devices.*

**Intrada** *All Praise to Jesus' Hallowed Name* Martin Luther  
 Harmonized by Johann Sebastian Bach (1483-1546)

**Welcome and Announcements** Pastor John Choi

**\*Call to Worship** Judy Burner

Leader: Let us worship the eternal God,  
 the source of love and life, who creates us.  
**Congregation: Let us worship Jesus Christ,  
 the risen one, who lives among us.**

Leader: Let us worship the Spirit,  
 the holy fire, who renews us.  
**All: To the one true God be praise in all times and places.  
 Praise the Lord!**

**\*Hymn** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* UMH 110

**\*Responsive Reading** (Psalm 65: 1-5) Judy Burner  
 Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion,  
 and to you shall vows be performed,  
**O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come.**

When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.  
**Happy are those whom you choose and bring near  
 to live in your courts.**  
**We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,  
 your holy temple.**

By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,  
 O God of our salvation;  
**you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.**

**All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
 as it was in the beginning, now is, and ever shall be, unto the ages of ages. Amen.**

<b>Opening Prayer</b>		Judy Burner
<b>O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven. Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.</b>		
<b>Anthem</b>	<i>“The Light Still Shines”</i> In Loving Memory of Robert (Bob) Nardozzi	Natalie Sleeth
<b>Children’s Time</b>	(All children are invited to attend Children’s Church afterwards)	Ellie Fountain
<b>Concerns and Prayer of Intercession, Petition “Lord, hear our prayer.”</b>		
<b>The Lord’s Prayer</b>		UMH No. 895
<b>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.</b>		
<b>Meditation</b>	<i>A Mighty Fortress Is Our God</i> <i>Fantasy on “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”</i> Celebrating Reformation Sunday	Martin Luther Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)
<b>Prayer for Illumination</b>		Judy Burner
<b>Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.</b>		
<b>First Scripture Reading</b>	Joel 2: 28-32	Judy Burner
<b>Second Scripture Reading</b>	2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18	Pastor John Choi
<b>Sermon</b>	“The World’s End and the End of My Life”	Pastor John Choi
<b>Invitation to Discipleship</b>		
<b>Affirmation of Faith</b>	The Apostles’ Creed	UMH 881
<b>Offering and Offertory Prayer</b>		Pastor John Choi
<b>Offertory</b>	<i>Toccata in D Minor, “Dorian”</i>	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

<b>*Doxology</b>		UMH No. 95
<b>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.</b>		
<b>*Hymn</b>	<i>We, Thy People, Praise Thee</i>	UMH 67
<b>*Benediction</b>		Pastor John Choi
<b>*Closing Chorus</b>	<i>Emmanuel, Emmanuel</i> Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel. God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel. (Repeat 1x)	UMH 204
<b>Exodus</b>	<i>In Peace and Joy I Now Depart</i>	Martin Luther

---

### MUSIC AND THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION

“Acclaimed the Great Reformer, Martin Luther challenged the mightiest power on earth in his day, the Roman Catholic Church. On 31 October, 1517, Luther called for a debate on the doctrine of indulgences - documents authorized by the Pope to insure purchasers against punishment in purgatory or to release souls already there. With his posting of 95 theses on the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, the scholar and monk ignited an explosion that reverberates even today. In the process he placed the Bible in the hands of the common people, in the language of their everyday speech. He offered European man a new notion of himself, preaching access to God without intercession of clergy. And by wrenching much of Western Europe away from obedience to the Roman Church, he ended the social order of centuries and sparked a century of bitter warfare

Few upheavals affected music as directly as did the Lutheran Reformation. Where the Catholic church was traditionally suspicious of it, Luther embraced music as perhaps his most powerful ally in winning souls for God. “The devil doesn’t tarry where there is music,” he quipped, reflecting the artistic inclination of a theologian who possessed a strong tenor voice and also played the lute and flute. In his writings Luther warns against over-zealous suppression of the arts by biblical enthusiasts, expressing instead the hope that all the arts – especially music- might be used to serve their Creator. He defines music as a gift of God that transcends all eloquence and that reaches its full power in the union of text and song in praise of God.

As to the Reformer’s reforms, they were meant to make church ritual generally, and church music in particular, a participatory, active experience, in keeping with Luther’s vision of the church as a community of believers. Therefore, functions that had traditionally been the province of monastic or professional choirs were now to be shared by the entire congregation. Thus was born the unaccompanied congregational hymn known as the Lutheran *chorale*, sung in unison and in the vernacular language, German, rather than Latin.

Certainly the most iconic chorale is *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott (A Mighty Fortress Is Our God)*, UMH 110, often called “the battle hymn of the Reformation.” Martin Luther wrote the text, a paraphrase of *Psalms 46*, and probably the music as well, and published it in his first church hymnal containing both words and tunes (Wittenberg, 1529).

From the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, many excellent composers have contributed extensively to Protestant church music. Yet the achievement of one man, Johann Sebastian Bach, dwarfs even his most talented and prolific predecessors – Johann Pachelbel and Dietrich Buxtehude, and followers such as Felix Mendelssohn, Johannes Brahms and Hugo Distler. Bach’s legacy of sacred music includes over 200 cantatas, motets and passions (settings of the Crucifixion story), not to mention myriad organ works based on Lutheran chorales. – Rudy Shackelford

