

Bethany United Methodist Church

1860 Hayes Road • PO Box 527 • Gloucester Point VA 23062

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9:00 am-3:00 pm (closed 12-1pm)

Phone: 804.642.2110

Email: admin@bethanyumc-gp.org; Website: www.bethanyumc-gp.org

VOLUNTEERS SERVING TODAY

Media: Scott Berry, Jeremy Nardozzi, Susannah Hogge, Cathy Raines, Aidan Dumbrocyo

Altar Guild this month: Peggy Lewis, Laura Glaze, Laura Vaughan

Liturgist: Laura Glaze

Trustee Contact this week: Jackie Hampton

Greeters: Jack & Nina Whitmore

Ushers: Milton Hudgins, Kirk Bell

Counting Team: Dawn Cluts, Betty Durrette, Clair Hillard

STEWARDSHIP	9/28
General Fund	2819.00
Hospitality	50.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	65.00
Endowment Fund	50.00
ATTENDANCE	9/28
In person Worship – 8:30 am	29
In person Worship – 11:00 am	61
Online Worship (Facebook/YouTube)	65
Total in Worship	155

BETHANY STAFF

Rev. John Choi, Pastor	Office: 804.642.2110; Cell: 804-384-3521 Email: johnchoi@vaumc.org	
Jimmy Mackey,	Office 804.642.2110, call/text: 804.241.4130	
Church Office Administrator	Email: admin@bethanyumc-gp.org	
Sandra Fox,	Cell: 757.329.6128	
Director of Music	Email: foxyfoxies@gmail.com	
Dr. Rudy Shackelford,	Home: 804.642.5938, Cell: 804.413.0211	
Organist	110.1101 00 110 1210500) 0011 004.415.0211	
Ellie Fountain, Director of	Office: 804-642-2110	
Children's & Youth Ministries	Email: youth@bethanyumc-gp.org	





All Services May be Viewed on:

October 5, 2025 11:00 a.m.



BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

17th Sunday after Pentecost¦Communion Sunday
World Communion 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 Creatures of Our God and King UMH 62

Celebrating the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, October 4th

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor John Choi

*Call to Worship Laura Glaze

Leader: People of God, worship the living God today!

Remember that out of nothing

God created the heavens and earth.

Congregation: Remember that God raised Jesus

from the powerlessness of death to the power of his right hand.

Leader: Remember that not even the gates of hell

can stand against God's purposes.

All: Behold your God, who reigns now and forever!

*Hymn Nothing but the Blood UMH 362

Opening Prayer Laura Glaze

O God, we join with our sisters and brothers around the world in remembering Christ's sacrifice for us. For the opportunity to eat and drink together and for the life we have received, we give you thanks and praise. In the abundance of your many gifts, grant us grace to fill one another's lives with love. Redeem, restore and remold us until we are made new. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Anthem "Communion Hymn" David M. Kettermeyer

Children's Time (All children are invited to attend Children's Church afterwards) Ellie Fountain

Prayer for Illumination Laura Glaze

Come, Holy Spirit: Inspire our lives with your light and fire. Come, Holy Spirit: Anoint us with your bounteous spiritual gifts. Come, Holy Spirit: Speak to us through your timeless Word today. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

*Scripture Reading Luke 17: 5-10

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Laura Glaze

Sermon "The Power of Small Faith" Pastor John Choi

Concerns and Prayer of Intercession, Petition "Lord, hear our prayer."

Holy Communion

Invitation to Table Pastor John Choi

Confession and Pardon (on screen)

Offering and Offertory Prayer

Offertory The Swan, from "Carnival of the Animals" Camille Saint-Saëns

Performed in memory of Maxine Bayly (1835-1921)

*Doxology UMH No. 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.

The Great Thanksgiving (on screen)

The Lord's Prayer UMH No. 895

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.

Giving the Bread and Cup

(Communion is served by intinction. After you receive the bread, please dip it into the cup.)

Music during Communion Lauda Spirituale: "Ogne Homo" Anonymous Franciscan

Transcribed for organ by Rudy Shackelford (13th-14th Century)

Capriccio Pastorale Girolamo Frescobaldi (1543-1623)

Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

*Benediction Pastor John Choi

UMH 361

UMH 204

*Closing Chorus Emmanuel, Emmanuel

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel. God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel. (Repeat 1x)

Exodus God of the Sparrow God of the Whale UMH 122

NOTE ON MUSIC FOR ST. FRANCIS OF ASSIST

Today, on World Communion Sunday, we celebrate the life and ministry of St. Francis, who was born in the central Italian town of Assisi circa 1182 A.D. and died there on 4 October 1226. Born into wealth, he spent a frivolous youth until a serious illness caused him to dedicate himself to the imitation of Christ's life in poverty, prayer, and service to mankind.

Francis considered all of nature as the mirror of God, and his Canticle of the Creatures, set to music in our Intrada (UMH No. 62), refers to "brother Sun" and "sister Moon," to wind and water and fire, and even to "sister Death." With his heightened awareness of the environment and animal welfare, St. Francis is still very relevant and compelling in the 21st century!

Birds are among God's most magical creations. One of many charming episodes in the Franciscan legend is his "Sermon to the Birds," depicted in Giotto's frescoes at Assisi and recounted in the Fioretti (or Little Flowers of St. Francis), a treasure of 13th-century Italian literature. Taking a little poetic license, we have chosen the swan to represent the avian kingdom, portrayed in music by a different saint—Camille Sāint-Saēns—in his Carnival of the Animals.

Our Music during Communion is a Lauda spirituale, an anonymous 13th-century Italian praise song. The genre originated in connection with the Franciscans and lay organizations engaged in religious or devotional activities, such as the guild of Laudesi della Beata Vergine in Florence. In a simple style suitable for performance by persons without musical training, the Lauda spirituale was vigorously cultivated during the period of penitential fervor in the last half of the 13th century. My organ transcription of the Lauda "Ogne Homo" expands the monophonic texture of the original to embrace added counterpoint and harmonies redolent of the 20th century. Although it was written four centuries after the era of St. Francis, Capriccio Pastorale, by Vatican organist Girolamo Frescobaldi, evokes the communion with nature that is a hallmark of Franciscan worship.

- Rudy Shackelford