



Bethany United Methodist Church
1860 Hayes Road • PO Box 527 • 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:	Pauline Reimold, Lynne Barnes, Diana Simmons
Liturgist:	Kevin Kiley
Trustee Contact this week:	Rob Raines
Greeter:	Jane Sterling
Ushers:	Milton Hudgins, Kirk Bell
Counting Team:	Al & Judy Burner, Donna Andersen

STEWARDSHIP	11/30
General Fund	5906.05
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	50.00
Bake Sale	600.00
ATTENDANCE	11/30
In person Worship – 8:30 am	29
In person Worship – 11:00 am	56
Online Worship	71
Total	156

BETHANY STAFF

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, call/text: 804.241.4130 Email: admin@bethanyumc-gp.org
Sandra Fox, Director of Music	Cell: 757.329.6128 Email: foxysander@outlook.com
Dr. Rudy Shackelford, Organist	Home: 804.642.5938, Cell: 804.413.0211
Ellie Fountain, Director of Children's & Youth Ministries	Office: 804-642-2110 Email: youth@bethanyumc-gp.org



December 7, 2025

11:00 a.m.

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Communion Sunday
WELCOME EVERYONE! Thank you for worshipping 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	<i>Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates</i>	UMH 213
Welcome and Announcements		Pastor John Choi
Lighting of the Advent Candle		The Minor Family

"So John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness,
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins."
We light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way.
To the lost, to the weary, Jesus says: "Come with me; I am the way."
To those seeking God, Jesus says, "Follow me; I am the way."
O come, Emmanuel.
Your word is the lamp unto my feet, and the light unto my path.

*Call to Worship		Kevin Kiley
Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.		
Congregation: And also with you.		
Leader: A voice cries out:		
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,		
All: make straight in the desert a highway for our God."		

*Hymn	<i>Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Might Gates</i>	UMH 213
Opening Prayer		Kevin Kiley
O God, you so loved the world as to give your only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Grant to us the precious gift of faith, that we may know that the Son of God is come, and may have power to overcome the world and gain a blessed immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.		

Anthem	<i>"Do You Hear What I Hear"</i>	Noel Regney, Gloira Shane arr. by Harry Simeone
---------------	----------------------------------	--

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

All Services May be Viewed on:



Prayer for Illumination Kevin Kiley
Come, O Holy Spirit, and inspire our lives with your light and fire. Speak to us through your timeless Word today. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

*Scripture Reading Matthew 3: 1-12 Kevin Kiley
Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon “Revival in the Desert” Pastor John Choi

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

Hymn Spirit Song UMH 347

Holy Communion

Invitation to Table Pastor John Choi

Confession and Pardon
Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive us, help us amend our ways, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendments of life, and the grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Offering and Offertory Prayer

Offertory Noel Étranger (Carol from a Foreign Country) Louis-Claude Daquin
Happy 90th birthday , Mary Kaylor! (1694-1772)
“Far away in old Judea, Lived the gentle Lord of Love,
Happy children gathered round him, Wheresover he might move,
And they sometimes left their play, Just to follow Him all day.”
- Walter J. Mathams

*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 UMH 13

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 Hymn: “Savior of the Nations, Come” UMH 214
Prelude on “Savior of the Nations, Come” Johann Sebastian Bach
Transcribed for piano by Ferruccio Busoni (1685-1750)

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 Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus UMH 196

*Benediction Pastor John Choi

*Closing Chorus Emmanuel, Emmanuel UMH 204
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel. (Repeat 1x)

Exodus Bring a Torch, Jeannette Isabella! Old French Carol

NOTE ON MUSIC FOR ADVENT

Our organ and piano music today is based upon the great Advent hymn *Savior of the Nations, Come* (UMH No. 214). Attributed to St. Ambrose, father of Western hymnody, the text was translated from Latin into German by Martin Luther. With the addition of a melody adapted from Gregorian chant, the unaccompanied songs of the medieval church, Luther created one of the most beautiful chorales – as congregational hymns were called in the 16th century.
Embracing the whole of Christ’s life, death, and resurrection, *Savior of the Nations, Come* inspired Johann Sebastian Bach to compose three chorale preludes for organ, the first of which we will hear today as a piano transcription by the visionary Italian-German composer Ferruccio Busoni (1866-1924). Bach embellished the hymn tune in the style of an opera aria, supported by a “walking bass” in the organ pedals (played here by the pianist’s left hand). The effect is a profound sense of mysticism quite in keeping with the theme of Christ’s incarnation. -Rudy Shackelford

