



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



February 15, 2026

11:00 a.m.

**BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY**  
**WELCOME EVERYONE! Thank you for worshipping with us!**

**VOLUNTEERS SERVING TODAY**

Media: Scott Berry, Jeremy Nardozi, Susannah Hogge, Aidan Dumbrocyo  
 Altar Guild this month: Nina Whitmore, Wendy Hogge, Mary Linda Brooks  
 Liturgist: Clair Hillard  
 Trustee Contact this week: Donna Lane  
 Greeters: Wendy Hogge, Mary Kaylor  
 Ushers: Milton Hudgins, Kirk Bell  
 Counting Team: Mary Kaylor, Ann Byrd, Wendy Hogge

<b>STEWARDSHIP</b>	<b>2/8</b>
General Fund	27,584.50
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	130.00
Capital Improvement Fund	120.00
Media Fund	5,000.00
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>2/8</b>
Worship – 8:30 am	26
Worship – 11:00 am	58
Online Worship	118
Total	202

**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 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

— 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** *The Washington Post* John Philip Sousa  
 Celebrating the 294<sup>th</sup> birthday of President George Washington (1854-1932)

**Welcome and Announcements** Pastor John Choi

**\*Call to Worship** Clair Hillard

Leader: On this day we gather on the mountaintop with Jesus,  
 waiting with expectancy.

**Congregation: We come to encounter the glory of the Son of God.**

Leader: God's voice is heard today through the Word and the Spirit.

**All: We welcome the Holy Spirit  
 to reveal for us truth and love.**

**Praise be to God!**

**\*Hymn** *The God of Abraham Praise* UMH 116

**Responsive Reading** (Psalm 2: 1-8)

Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain?

**The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together,**

against the LORD and his anointed, saying,

"Let us burst their bonds apart, and cast their cords from us."

**He who sits in the heavens laughs; the LORD has them in derision.**

Then he will speak to them in his wrath and terrify them in his fury, saying,

"I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill."

**I will tell of the decree of the LORD:**

**He said to me, "You are my son; today I have begotten you.**

Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage  
**and the ends of the earth your possession.**

All Services May be Viewed on:



**Opening Prayer** Clair Hillard  
**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**Anthem** *Contemplative Spiritual* arr. by Donald Moore

**Children’s Time** (All children are invited to attend Children’s Church afterwards) Pastor John Choi

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

**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.**

**Meditation** *“The Lord’s Prayer”: Hymn with Variations, from Sonata No. 6 in D Minor, Opus 65* Felix Mendelssohn (3 Feb. 1809-1847)

**Offertory Prayer and Offering**

**Offertory** *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus* UMH 349  
 Duet by Susanah Hogge and Kelly Fox

**\*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.**

**Prayer for Illumination** Clair Hillard  
**Eternal God, grant by your Holy Spirit that, in the reading of the Scripture, your Word be heard; and in the meditations of our hearts, your Word be known, in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

**\*Scripture Reading** Matthew 17: 1-9 Clair Hillard  
 Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** “The Voice We Must Heed Today” Pastor John Choi

**\*Affirmation of Faith** The Nicene Creed UMH 880

**\*Hymn** *Every Time I Feel the Spirit* UMH 404

**\*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** *O Wondrous Sight! O Vision Fair* UMH 258  
 Celebrating Transfiguration Sunday

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FELIX!  
 3 FEBRUARY 1809**



Second only to Mozart as a musical prodigy was Felix Mendelssohn, born in Hamburg, Germany, 217 years ago. In early childhood he astonished everyone with his talent as a pianist, and whilst a mere teenager he composed works that are still performed and enjoyed today, such as the *Octet* for string instruments and the incidental music for Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.

Although of Jewish heritage, Mendelssohn was baptized as a Protestant and remained throughout his career a devoutly practicing Lutheran. His choral masterpiece *Elijah* remains one of the most popular Christian oratorios, and no organist’s repertoire would be complete without the *Six Sonatas* and other works he created for what Mozart called “The King of Instruments.”

As a conductor Mendelssohn was also very important for reviving in 1829, one century after its first performance, Johann Sebastian Bach’s *Saint Matthew Passion*, the greatest musical setting of the crucifixion narrative as recorded in the Gospels. Since his aunt Sarah Levy had studied with Bach’s eldest son Wilhelm Friedemann, it is not surprising that Felix would be profoundly influenced by Sebastian Bach when composing for the organ.

*Sonata No. 6 in D Minor* is generally considered Mendelssohn’s organ masterwork. It is based on the German chorale (or hymn) *Vater unser im Himmelreich*, Martin Luther’s version of “*The Lord’s Prayer*,” set to an anonymous melody of circa 1539. *Vater unser* was a favorite of John Wesley and served as a model for many of Charles Wesley’s original hymns. In the current United Methodist Hymnal it appears with a different text, “Thou Hidden Love of God” (No. 414).

Today’s Meditation, the first movement of *Sonata No. 6*, presents the hymn in Mendelssohn’s Bach-inspired harmonization, followed by four contrasting transfigurations – the fourth extremely tempestuous! Unfortunately, time does not permit the performance of the second and third movements, *Fugue* and *Andante*, the latter being one of the most sublime moments in all organ music. -Rudy Shackelford