

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
February 18, 2026
7:00 P.M.

Rev. John Choi, Pastor

Dr. Rudy Shackelford, Organist

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT BETHANY UMC

8:30 am Informal Worship; 11:00 am Traditional Worship
(Holy Communion first Sunday of each month)
Celebrations & Fellowship (Breakfast on 2nd Sunday) – 9:30 am
Sunday school for all ages - 9:45 am
More info: www.bethanyumc-gp.org



Bethany United Methodist Church
1860 Hayes Road, Gloucester Point VA 23062
804.642.2110

Ash Wednesday Worship Service

*Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

God's mercy endures forever

Opening Prayer

O God, maker of every thing and judge of all that you have made, from the dust of the earth you have formed us and from the dust of death you would raise us up. By the redemptive power of the cross, create in us clean hearts and put within us a new spirit, that we may repent of our sins and lead lives worthy of your calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* UMH 269

First Scripture Lesson 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10

Anthem *Lamb of God* Twila Paris
arr. and transcribed by Craig Courtney

Second Scripture Lesson Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Homily Pastor John Choi

Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline

Thanksgiving over Ashes

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penance, so that we may remember that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Imposition of Ashes

(Pastor will dip a thumb in the ashes and make a cross on your forehead. If you have a facial sensitivity to ashes, please hold out your hand. The sign of the cross can be made on your hand or wrist.)

Music during the imposition of ashes

Funeral March, from Sonata No. 2 Fryderyk Chopin
(1810-1849)

*“Out of the dusk, a shadow, then a spark;
Out of the cloud a silence, then a lark;
Out of the heart a rapture, then a pain;
Out of the dead, cold ashes, life again.”*
-- John Bannister Tabb, *Evolution*

Confession Psalm 51:1-17 UMH 785

Pardon

May the almighty and merciful God, who desires not the death of a sinner but that we turn from wickedness and live, accept your repentance, forgive your sins and restore you by the Holy Spirit to newness of life. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn *Sweet Hour of Prayer* UMH 496

*Dismissal with Blessing

**Please stand as you are able.*

