



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

Welcome and thank you for worshipping with us today!

VOLUNTEERS SERVING TODAY

Media: Scott Berry, Jeremy Nardozzi, Susannah Hogge, Aidan Dumbrocyo
 Altar Guild this month: Nina Whitmore, Wendy Hogge, Mary Linda Brooks
 Liturgist: Ann Byrd
 Trustee Contact this week: Tom Barnard
 Greeter: Chip Neikirk
 Ushers: Milton Hudgins, Kirk Bell
 Counting Team: Jackie Hampton, Chip Neikirk, Cheryl Roane

STEWARDSHIP	2/15
General Fund	5492.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	75.00
Endowment Fund	30.00
ATTENDANCE	2/15
Worship – 8:30 am	31
Worship – 11:00 am	56
Online Worship	97
Total	184

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

All Services May be Viewed on:



February 22, 2026

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

11:00 a.m.

1st Sunday in Lent

Intrada

Lift Every Voice and Sing

UMH 519

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor John Choi

*Call to Worship

Ann Byrd

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Leader: Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord:
 though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow;

All: though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

*Hymn

Amazing Grace

UMH 378

Responsive Reading (Psalm 32)

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity
 and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
 my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity;

**I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
 and you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

Therefore, let all who are faithful offer prayer to you;

at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble;

you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;

I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

**Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
 whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.**

Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.

Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright

Opening Prayer Ann Byrd
Almighty God, your blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan. Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations. And, as you know the weakness of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Anthem *This Lonesome Valley* Nancy Price, Don Besig
 adapted and arr. by Don Besig

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

Prayer of Blessing for 2026 Ministry Teams

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 *Hymn: “O Man, Lament Thy Grievous Fall”* Sebald Heyd (1525)
Prelude on “O Man, Lament Thy Grievous Fall,” J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
from The Little Organ Book

Prayer for Illumination Ann Byrd
Lord God, by the power of your word and Spirit, refresh us with living water, illuminate our path, and calm the storms of our lives with your peace; in Jesus’ name. Amen

***Scripture Reading** Matthew 4: 1-11 Ann Byrd
 Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon “He Trusted in God” Pastor John Choi

Invitation to Discipleship and Prayer

Offertory Prayer and Offering

Offertory *Gone – In Memoriam, from “Lyric Pieces”* Edward Grieg
 Remembering Nadine Tatum (1843-1907)

***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.

***Hymn** *It Is Well with My Soul* UMH 377

***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 *We Shall Overcome* UMH 533
 Celebrating Black History Month, Remembering Rev. Jesse Jackson

**** Please stand as you are able***

NOTE ON MUSIC FOR LENT

Today, we begin our Lenten musical journey with Johann Sebastian Bach, whose 341st birthday is celebrated on 21 March. Like Martin Luther, Bach’s name is synonymous with the Protestant Reformation and his musical legacy remains its most exalted artistic achievement.

Since it was through music that Bach expressed his deepest thoughts and feelings about God, humanity, and the universe, he constantly strove to raise the art itself to the highest possible level of perfection. He did so with the humility of a true teacher, publishing as mere “keyboard exercises” some of the most profound and beautiful music ever composed. Such is today’s organ Meditation, the *Prelude* on the 16th-century chorale (or hymn) “*O Man, Lament Thy Grievous Fall*” from the collection Bach modestly titled his *Little Organ Book*. Although he conceived it as a vast compendium of 164 chorale preludes for every Sunday of the church year, Bach actually completed only 46 pieces. In 1717, at age 32, Bach was placed under “house arrest” by his employer, Duke Wilhelm Ernst of Weimar (Germany), to prevent him from accepting a much better position in Cöthen!

Although unfinished, the *Little Organ Book* stands as an artistic and conceptual whole, fully covering the important liturgical seasons of Advent-Christmas and Lent-Easter with additional preludes for Pentecost and other festival days. Inspired by the theology and imagery of the sacred hymn texts, Bach’s creative imagination unfailingly discovered the unique and inevitable expression in music for each of them – concise “tone paintings” which, as Dr. Albert Schweitzer revealed, comprise “the dictionary of Bach’s musical language, the key to the understanding of his music as a whole.”

The vocabulary of suffering and death is most poignantly displayed in the *Prelude on “O Man, Lament Thy Grievous Fall,”* which reveals the redemptive significance of Christ’s Passion. The purgatorial effect of pain has never been more powerfully expressed than in the final measures of this piece, a rending of the bowels of compassion which is visceral in its emotional impact. Human drama and theological intent are again equated in living myth. — Rudy Shackelford

