



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

Acolytes: James Hornsby, Mason Bland
 Media: Scott Berry, Jeremy Nardozi, Susannah Hogge, Aidan Dumbrocyo
 Altar Guild this month: Peggy Lewis, Laura Glaze, Laura Vaughan
 Liturgist: Pauline Reimold
 Trustee Contact this week: M.E. Thomas
 Greeters: Loreen Paiva, Betty Durette
 Ushers: Milton Hudgins, Kirk Bell
 Counting Team: Loreen Paiva, Jackie Hampton, Betty Durette

| STEWARDSHIP | 3/1 |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| General Fund | 7076.00 |
| Pastor's Discretionary Fund | 160.00 |
| Capital Improvement Fund | 120.00 |
| ATTENDANCE | 3/1 |
| Worship – 8:30 am | 27 |
| Worship – 11:00 am | 51 |
| Online Worship | 91 |
| Total | 169 |

BETHANY STAFF

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|--|---|
| 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:



March 8, 2026

11:00 a.m.

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3rd Sunday in Lent

** Please stand as you are able*

Intrada *What Wondrous Love Is This* UMH 292

Welcome and Announcements Pastor John Choi

***Call to Worship** Pauline Reimold

Leader: Let us approach the throne of grace with boldness,
Congregation: With God is mercy and grace to help in time of need.

Leader: We have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens,
 Jesus, the Son of God.

**All: Our high priest in heaven sympathizes with our weaknesses;
 he has been tested as we are, yet without sin.**

***Hymn** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* UMH 89

***Responsive Reading** (Psalm 24: 1-4; 9-10)

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it,
 the world, and all who live in it;
**for he founded it on the seas
 and established it on the waters.**

Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord?
 Who may stand in his holy place?
**The one who has clean hands and a pure heart,
 who does not trust in an idol
 or swear by a false god.**

Lift up your heads, you gates;
 lift them up, you ancient doors,
 that the King of glory may come in.

**Who is he, this King of glory?
 The Lord Almighty—
 he is the King of glory.**

Opening Prayer Pauline Reimold
God of all the ages, in your sight nations rise and fall, and pass through times of peril. Now when our land is troubled, be near to judge and save. May leaders be led by your wisdom; may they search your will and see it clearly. If we have turned from your way, reverse our ways and help us to repent. Give us your light and your truth, let them guide us; through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of this world, and our Savior. Amen.

Anthem *The Old Rugged Cross* Bennard, Wright, Courtney

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

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 *“Wondrous Love”: Variations on a Shape-note Hymn* Samuel Barber
(1910-1981)

Offertory Prayer and Offering

Offertory *Made for More* Josh Baldwin
(soloist, Susannah Hogge; guitar, Kirk Bell)

***Doxology** UMH No. 469
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 Pauline Reimold
Lord our God, in the reading and proclamation of your Word, we pray you will illumine our minds and hearts so that we may hear and understand your Word; in Jesus’ name, Amen.

***Scripture Reading** John 4: 5-14 Pauline Reimold
Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon “The Unquenchable Thirst and the Living Water” Pastor John Choi

Response to the Word

God holds this world with fierce love. Keeping his promise, he sends Jesus into the world, pours out the Holy Spirit, and announces the good news: sinners who repent and believe in Jesus live anew as members of the family of God—the first fruits of a new creation.

We rejoice in the goodness of God, renounce the works of darkness, and dedicate ourselves to holy living.

As covenant partners, set free for joyful obedience, we offer our hearts and lives to do God’s work in the world. With tempered impatience, eager to see injustice ended, we expect the Day of the Lord.

We are confident that the light which shines in the present darkness will fill the earth when Christ appears. Come, Lord Jesus. Our world belongs to you.

***Hymn** *Jesus Is All the World to Me* UMH 469

***Benediction** Pastor John Choi

***Closing Chorus** *On Eagle’s Wings (1x)* UMH 143

Exodus *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* UMH 298
“Did e’er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?”
- Isaac Watts, 1707

Note on Music for Lent



Samuel Barber is one of America’s most renowned composers, and three of his works appear regularly in services at Bethany: *Adagio for Strings* on Memorial Day; *Chorale Prelude* on “*Silent Night*” on Christmas Eve; and during Lent his “*Wondrous Love: Variations on a Shape-note Hymn*,” created in 1959. The modal tune was borrowed from a secular song about the famous pirate Captain Kidd and first appeared as a hymn in William Walker’s *Southern Harmony* (1835). The text is a meditation on Christ’s love, so great that he would give up His crown for a sinner’s soul.

Samuel Barber’s four variations on *What Wondrous Love Is This* (UMH No. 292) mirror the mood and meaning of the hymn’s four stanzas with sensitivity and finesse the equal of Johann Sebastian Bach in his variations on Lutheran chorales. Springing from such a venerable tradition, the blues-tinged music Barber composed for the final stanza of *Wondrous Love* gains a special poignancy and resonance: “And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on, and through eternity I’ll sing on.”

– Rudy Shackelford

