



Bethany United Methodist Church  
 1860 Hayes Road, Gloucester Point VA 23062  
 Phone: 804.642.2110  
 Email: admin@bethanyumc-gp.org; Website: www.bethanyumc-gp.org  
 Office Hours: Mon-Fri., 9:00 am–3:00 pm

**WELCOME** and thank you for worshiping with us today!

**VOLUNTEERS**

Acolytes: James Hornsby, Mason Bland  
 Media: Scott Berry, Jeremy Nardozi, Susannah Hogge, Aidan Dumbrocyo, Jurah Yang  
 Altar Guild this month: Pauline Reimold, Lynne Barnes, Diana Simmons  
 Liturgist: Judy Burner  
 Trustee Contact this week: Jackie Hampton  
 Greeter: Betty Neikirk  
 Ushers: Milton Hudgins, Kirk Bell  
 Counting Team: Betty & Chip Neikirk, Cheryl Roane

STEWARDSHIP	5/10
General Fund	12,486.21
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	355.00
Endowment Fund	100.00
Capital Improvement Fund*	400.00
*In honor of 2 faithful members helping with home projects	
ATTENDANCE	5/10
Worship – 8:30 am	24
Worship – 11:00 am	60
Online Worship	46

**BETHANY STAFF**

Rev. John Choi, Pastor	Office: 804.642.2110, Cell: 804-384-3521 Email: johnchoi@vaumc.org
Jimmy Mackey, Church 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



May 17, 2026

11:00 a.m.

**BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**ASCENSION SUNDAY**

*\*Please stand as you are able*

**Intrada**

*Come, Let Us With Our Lord Arise*  
 Celebrating Ascension Sunday

TFWS 2084

**Welcome and Announcements**

Pastor John Choi

**\*Call to Worship**

Judy Burner

Leader: Risen with Christ, let us seek the realities of the Spirit.  
**Congregation: Our life is hidden with Christ in God.**

Leader: He who descended is also ascended far above the heavens,  
 that he might fill all things.

**All: When Christ, our life, appears,  
 we shall appear with him in glory! Alleluia!**

**\*Hymn**

*Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise*

UMH 312

**\*Responsive Reading (Psalm 47)**

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

**For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.**

He subdued peoples under us and nations under our feet.

**He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

**Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.**

For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

**God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.**

The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham;

**for the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted.**

**All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.**

Opening Prayer Judy Burner

**O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven. Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.**

Anthem *"I'll Walk with God"* words by Francis Webster  
(soloist Janet Chapin) music by Nicholas Brodzky

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 *Serene Alleluias of a Soul Longing for Heaven,* Olivier Messiaen  
from *"The Ascension"* (1908-1992)  
*"We beseech Thee, almighty God, that we may dwell spiritually in heaven."*  
Mass for Ascension Day

\*Hymn *Spirit of the Living God* UMH 393

\*Prayer for Illumination Judy Burner

**God, source of all light, by your Word give light to our lives; in Jesus' name. Amen.**

\*Scripture Reading Luke 24: 44-53 Judy Burner  
Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Our Leader Ascends to God" Pastor John Choi

Invitation to Christian Discipleship Pastor John Choi

\*Affirmation of Faith Judy Burner

Christ, while his disciples watched,  
was taken up from the earth into heaven.  
**He remains there on our behalf until he comes again  
to judge the living and the dead.**

Christ is true human and true God.  
**In his human nature Christ is not now on earth;  
but in his divinity, majesty, grace, and Spirit  
he is never absent from us.**

Christ is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father.  
**We have our own flesh in heaven  
as a sure pledge that Christ our head  
will also take us, his members, up to himself.**

Christ sends his Spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge.  
**By the Spirit's power we seek not earthly things  
but the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.**

Christ is seated at the right hand of God  
to show there that he is head of his church,  
the one through whom the Father rules all things.  
**Through his Holy Spirit he pours out gifts from heaven upon us his members,  
and by his power he defends us and keeps us safe from all enemies.**

Offertory Prayer and Offering

Offertory *Offertory, from "Organ Service"* Gordon W. Binkerd  
Celebrating Binkerd's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday (22 May 1916-2003)

\*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 *There's a Spirit in the Air* UMH 192

\*Benediction Pastor John Choi

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

Exodus *Hail Thee, Festival Day* Ralph Vaughan Williams  
(1872-1958)

