



Bethany United Methodist Church

The Church with Open Hearts, Minds, and Doors

1860 Hayes Road • PO Box 527 • Gloucester Point VA 23062

Office Hours: Tues.-Fri., 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (closed 12-1pm)

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July 2, 2023

11:00 a.m.

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Sunday; Independence Day**

WELCOME, EVERYONE! Thank you for worshiping with us today!

CELL PHONES: Please remember to silence your phones before the service.

HEARING DEVICES AVAILABLE: Please see an usher if you need a hearing device.

**Please stand as you are able.*

VOLUNTEERS SERVING TODAY

Acolyte(s):	Regina Berry (11:00)
Media:	Jeremy Nardozi, Susannah Hogge, Cathy Raines, Kim Song, Chip Neikirk
Altar Guild this month:	Kathy Jacobs, Sandra Harvey, Nancy Kendall, Shannon Roane
Liturgist:	Dee Dee Wike (11:00)
Trustee Contact this week:	Milton Hudgins
Ushers:	Milton Hudgins, Rick Wilson, Kirk Bell (11:00)
Greeters:	Jack and Nina Whitmore, David Ayers (11:00)

— *As the music begins, please quiet your hearts in preparation for worship.* —

Intrada *Concert Variations on “The Star-Spangled Banner”* Dudley Buck
 Theme and Variation 5 (1839-1909)

“O say, can you see, by the dawn’s early light, what so proudly we hail’d at the twilight’s last gleaming?
 Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro’ the perilous fight,
 O’er the ramparts we watch’d, were so gallantly streaming?
 And the rockets’ red glare, the bombs bursting in air, gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
 O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave o’er the land of the free and the home of the brave?”
 — Francis Scott Key (1814)

Welcome, Announcements, and Introduction Pastor Paul Song

***Call to Worship** Dee Dee Wike

Leader: With all our heart, we take refuge in God most high, who created all things, the merciful Father, Source of all goodness.

Congregation: With all our heart, we take refuge in Christ, the Redeemer from sin, who restores our true nature, the perfect and mysterious Word.

All: With all our heart, we take refuge in the One who embraces the universe, who at all times and in all places responds to our needs, the pure and tranquil Holy Spirit.

***Hymn** *America (My Country, ‘Tis of Thee)* UMH No. 697

***Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles’ Creed (Traditional Version) UMH No. 881

Opening Prayer Dee Dee Wike

**Almighty God, you rule all the peoples of the earth.
 Inspire the minds of all women and men to whom you have committed the responsibility of government and leadership in the nations of the world.**

Give to them the vision of truth and justice, that by their counsel all nations and peoples may work together.

Give to the people of our country zeal for justice and strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will.

Forgive our shortcomings as a nation; purify our hearts to see and love the truth.

We pray all these things through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

STEWARDSHIP	Last Sunday
General Fund	1726.00
Pastor’s Discretionary Fund	5.00
ATTENDANCE	
In-person Worship (8:30-40; 11:00-59)	99
Online Worship (Facebook/YouTube/Drive-In)*	88
Total in Worship	187

*YouTube information is from two weeks prior to today’s service.

COUNTING TEAMS	
7/2	Team 2: Betty Neikirk, Chip Neikirk, Sandra Harvey
7/9	Team 3: Al Burner, Judy Burner, Donna Andersen
7/16	Team 4: Bernard Robins, Debbie Robins, Doris Luther
7/23	Team 5: Jackie Hampton, Don Thomas, Donna Lane

BUMC STAFF DIRECTORY

Rev. Moonsup “Paul” Song, Pastor	call/text 703.625.8025, office: 804.642.2110 email: pastor@bethanyumc-gp.org	Tues. thru Fri., 8am-4pm For pastoral emergencies, call/text 703.625.8025
Dee Dee Wike, Church Office Administrator	office 804.642.2110, cell: 901.831.8534 email: admin@bethanyumc-gp.org	Tues. thru Fri., 8am-4pm (Closed 12-1pm for lunch)
Sandra Fox, Director of Music	call/text 757.329.6128 email: rfox6@cox.net	Works from home, by appt.
Dr. Rudy Shackelford, Organist	home 804.642.5938, cell 804.413.0211	By appt.
Carter Roane, Director of Children & Youth Ministries	office 804.642.2110, cell: 804.815.5722 email: youth@bethanyumc-gp.org	Tue./Wed./Thur. 10am-2pm

Anthem *This Land Is Your Land* Woody Guthrie
arr. Jill Gallina

Children's Time Carter Roane

Prayer of Illumination Dee Dee Wike
Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of the Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Old Testament Reading Psalm 33:1-22 Dee Dee Wike
The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Blessed Nation" Pastor Paul Song

Concerns and Prayer of Intercession, Petition "Lord, hear our prayer." Pastor Paul Song

Holy Communion
Invitation to Table Pastor Paul Song

Confession and Pardon (on screen)
All: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
All: Glory to God. Amen.

Offering and Offertory Prayer Pastor Paul Song
Offertory Music *The Stars and Stripes Forever* John Philip Sousa (1854-1932)

"O hasten flag of man — O with sure and steady step, passing highest flag of kings,
Walk supreme to the heavens mighty symbol — run up above them all,
Flag of stars! thick sprinkled bunting!"

— Walt Whitman, *From Noon to Starry Night*, in "Leaves of Grass"

***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.

The Great Thanksgiving (on the screen)

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.

Giving the Bread and Cup (Bread and cup will be served at the communion rail.)

Music during Communion Rudy Shackeford
Variations on "Aberystwyth," Charles Wesley Organbook (composed 2007)
Theme — Lullaby — Pastorale — Nocturne — Tango

"Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior hide, till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide; O receive my soul at last."
— Charles Wesley, UMH No. 479

The Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion (on screen)
Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn** *America the Beautiful* UMH No. 696

***Benediction** Pastor Paul Song

***Closing Chorus** *Shalom to You* UMH No. 666
Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

Exodus *God Bless America* Irving Berlin (1888-1989)

"God bless America, land that I love,
Stand beside her and guide her through the night with a light from above.
From the mountains to the prairies to the oceans white with foam,
God bless America, my home sweet home."