



**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)

Phone: 804.642.2110 Fax: 804.642.2114

Email: [admin@bethanyumc-gp.org](mailto:admin@bethanyumc-gp.org)

Website: [www.bethanyumc-gp.org](http://www.bethanyumc-gp.org)



**December 10, 2023**

**11:00 a.m.**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**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):	Aidan Dumbrocyo (11:00)
Media:	Jeremy Nardozi, Susannah Hogge, Cathy Raines, Kim Song, Chip Neikirk Aidan Dumbrocyo
Altar Guild this month:	Peggy Lewis, Laura Glaze, Laura Vaughan
Liturgist:	Judy Burner (11:00)
Trustee Contact this week:	Don Thomas
Ushers:	Milton Hudgins, Rick Wilson, Kirk Bell (11:00)
Greeters:	Patsy Bell, David Ayers (11:00)

STEWARDSHIP	12/3
General Fund (\$180 Charlotte Cecil)	5092.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	80.00
Altar Flowers	50.00
Youth	200.00
ATTENDANCE	12/3
In-person Worship (8:30-27; 11:00-75)	102
Online Worship (Facebook/YouTube) <i>(YouTube is from two weeks prior to today's service)</i>	109
<b>Total in Worship</b>	<b>211</b>

COUNTING TEAMS	
<b>12/10</b>	<b>Team 1:</b> Mary Kaylor, Ann Byrd, Pat Hasty
<b>12/17</b>	<b>Team 3:</b> Al Burner, Judy Burner, Donna Andersen
<b>12/24</b>	<b>Team 2:</b> Betty Neikirk, Chip Neikirk, Cheryl Roane
<b>12/31</b>	<b>Team 4:</b> Bernard Robins, Debbie Robins, Doris Luther

**BUMC STAFF DIRECTORY**

Rev. Moonsup "Paul" Song, Pastor	call/text 703.625.8025, office: 804.642.2110 email: <a href="mailto:pastor@bethanyumc-gp.org">pastor@bethanyumc-gp.org</a>	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: <a href="mailto:admin@bethanyumc-gp.org">admin@bethanyumc-gp.org</a>	Tues. thru Fri., 8am-4pm (Closed 12-1pm for lunch)
Sandra Fox, Director of Music	call/text 757.329.6128 email: <a href="mailto:rfox6@cox.net">rfox6@cox.net</a>	Works from home, by appt.
Dr. Rudy Shackelford, Organist	home 804.642.5938, cell 804.413.0211	By appt.
Brad Thomas, Director of Children & Youth Ministries	Office 804.642.2110, call/text 304.483.3403 Email: <a href="mailto:youth@bethanyumc-gp.org">youth@bethanyumc-gp.org</a>	Office Hours vary / by appt.

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

**Intrada** *Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella!* French Carol

**Welcome, Announcements, and Introduction** Pastor Paul Song

**\*Call to Worship** Judy Burner

Leader: Come! Listen! A voice cries out: "In the wilderness, prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

**Congregation: We come, and we wait in the just peace of the coming Messiah.**

Leader: Pay attention! God is removing barriers and leveling the playing field, making a way for all people to witness the glory of the Lord.

**Congregation: We pay attention, and we wait in the just peace of the coming Messiah.**

Leader: We wait, and we work as God's landscapers, filling in valleys and making rough places a plain, bringing justice where conflicts and obstacles once reigned.

**Congregation: We wait, and we work in the just peace of the coming Messiah.**

Leader: As we gather, may we prepare our voices to proclaim and our hands to get messy as our lives declare the coming of our Savior and Comforter.

**All: We come to worship and to grow in the just peace of Jesus Christ, the coming Messiah. Amen.**

**\*Hymn** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* UMH No. 213

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

**Lighting of Advent Candle** Laura and Scott Glaze

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way.

May the Word sent from God through the prophets lead us to the way of salvation.

"And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." (Mark 1:4)

*(Light two candles.)*

**O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

**Opening Prayer** Judy Burner  
**Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ; we are waiting expectantly. In his name, we pray. Amen. ---the Pilgrim Uniting Church---**

**Anthem** *One Small Child* David Meece  
 Janet Chapin, soloist

**Time with Children** Brad Thomas

**Concerns and Prayer of Intercession, Petition "Lord, hear our prayer."** Pastor Paul Song  
**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** *Pastorale* César Franck  
 (Celebrating Franck's 201st birthday, December 10th) (1822-1890)  
 "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."  
 — Luke 2: 8-11

**Offering and Offertory Prayer** Pastor Paul Song  
**Offertory** *Sheep May Safely Graze,* Johann Sebastian Bach  
 from the "Birthday Cantata," No. 208 (1685-1750)  
 Happy Birthday, Mary Kaylor!

**\*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)

**Prayer of Illumination** Judy Burner  
**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** Isaiah 40:1-11 Judy Burner  
**New Testament Reading** 2 Peter 3:8-15a  
**\*Gospel Reading** Mark 1:1-8  
 The Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** "A Minefield to Be Removed" Pastor Paul Song

**\*Hymn** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (vs. 1-4) UMH No. 211

**\*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.

**Postlude** *Coventry Carol* English Carol  
*Carol of the Bells* Ukrainian Carol

## DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Sunday, December 17

Informal Worship 8:30 a.m.  
 Christmas Cantata 11:00 a.m.

### Sunday, December 24

No Informal Worship  
 Traditional Worship 11:00 a.m.  
 Christmas Eve Family Service with Candlelight and Communion 7:00 p.m.

### Sunday, December 31

Informal Worship 8:30 a.m.  
 Traditional Worship 11:00 a.m.