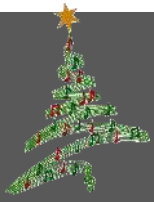


Great Joy

Luke 2:1-11



December 13, 2015



Advent at VPC

Visit viennapres.org for additional information.



Fellowship:

Today! 3pm: Children's Choirs Christmas Concert. Sanctuary.

Sunday, December 20, 4pm: Glorious Sounds of Christmas Concert. Celebrate with the choirs and orchestras of VPC. Don't miss this always entertaining event!

Grow:

Daily Devotionals: Advent devotionals available online at viennapres.org/devotionals or pick up a copy in the lobby.

Sundays, 11am: Reel Spirituality: Finding God in Christmas Movies.
Today's movie: *Polar Express*. Room 203/204.

Tonight, 7pm. Advent Contemplative and Prayer Service.



Gifts from the Heart

Today through December 20, 9-12:30:

Come to the Great Hall—see how you can make a difference this Christmas.

Provide gifts for those in need—locally and globally!

Your gifts will be distributed to these VPC Missions partners:

- Alternative House
- Community for Helping Others (CHO)
- Homestretch
- NOVAHTI – Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Initiative
- The Lamb Center
- Yellow Ribbon (Wounded Veterans)

Purchase gifts that will benefit Haiti through our mission partner, Community Coalition for Haiti.

Worship 8:00am

December 13, 2015

Children are welcome in the service! Wiggles, giggles, and whimpers are expected. Worship folders for kids are available just outside the sanctuary. Childcare and Sunday school class schedules are located at the Welcome and Connect Tables.



The popular Christmas song "Joy to the World" was written by hymn writer Isaac Watts, based on the second half of Psalm 98:

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.



The Connect Pad provides a way for you to connect with others at VPC, as well as to let church leaders know what they can do to support you. Please fill it out and pass it on during the offertory. And visit the Connect Table in the lobby after the service!

Call to Worship

David Jordan-Haas

Leader: But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

People: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men."

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Members of the SALT Bible Study

O Come, All Ye Faithful

My Soul Magnifies the Lord

Unison Prayer of Confession

Good God Immanuel, we confess those places in our hearts where we have refused You entrance: people we've refused to love; habits we never get around to changing; good things we've left undone; and ways in which we hurt You, ourselves and others. Come to us by the Light of Your Child. Shine on those places we have hidden from You. Sweep clean the rooms of our hearts, that Jesus may find a home among us. In His grace and mercy, Amen!

Assurance of Pardon & Choral Response

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Advent Glory and Joy

P. Liebergen

Doxology

& Prayer of Dedication

Scripture

Luke 2:1-11

Sermon

Great Joy

Peter James

Joy to the World/Unspeakable Joy

C. Tomlin

Benediction & Postlude

**Please request large-print hymnals from ushers.
Assistive listening devices are available at the Welcome Table.
A hearing loop is installed under the rear balcony.
Please switch your hearing aid to T-coil.**

Worship 9:30am

December 13, 2015

Children are welcome in the service! Wiggles, giggles, and whimpers are expected. Worship folders for kids are available just outside the sanctuary. Childcare and Sunday school class schedules are located at the Welcome and Connect Tables.



Jr. Choir dismissed after the Assurance of Pardon.

1st-3rd graders in Bridges, Gateways, and Power-Up are dismissed to their teachers after the Baptisms:

Children with yellow and blue wristbands, line up in the center aisle. Children with green and purple wristbands, line up in the outer aisles.

Those who wish to attend but have not yet registered and received wristbands, please take your child to the lobby for registration.



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Prelude
An Echo Carol

Junior Choir

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Rob, Susan, Mark and Sarah Skaggs

Joy Has Dawned (Angels We Have Heard On High)

Getty

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Unison Prayer of Confession

David Jordan-Haas

Good God Immanuel, we confess those places in our hearts where we have refused You entrance: people we've refused to love; habits we never get around to changing; good things we've left undone; and ways in which we hurt You, ourselves and others. Come to us by the Light of Your Child. Shine on those places we have hidden from You. Sweep clean the rooms of our hearts, that Jesus may find a home among us. In His grace and mercy, Amen!

Assurance of Pardon

Junior Choir dismissed for rehearsal.

Baptisms

Harper Beverly Massey, daughter of Alexander and Molly Massey
Lowell Juliet Sapp, daughter of Eric and Julie Sapp (by Rev. Dr. Stephen Sapp)

Offering

Manger Throne

Casting Crowns

Scripture

Luke 2:1-11

Sermon

Great Joy

Peter James

Joy to the World/Unspeakable Joy

C. Tomlin

Benediction

Postlude

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Worship 11:00am

December 13, 2015

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The popular Christmas song "Joy to the World" was written by hymn writer Isaac Watts, based on the second half of Psalm 98:

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Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth.

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Prelude

An Echo Carol

Junior Choir

Call To Worship

David Jordan-Haas

Leader: But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

People: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men."

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Steve, Susan, Patrick & Luke Kenney

How Great Our Joy

Unison Prayer of Confession

Good God Immanuel, we confess those places in our hearts where we have refused You entrance: people we've refused to love; habits we never get around to changing; good things we've left undone; and ways in which we hurt You, ourselves and others. Come to us by the Light of Your Child. Shine on those places we have hidden from You. Sweep clean the rooms of our heart, that Jesus may find a home among us. In His grace and mercy, Amen!

Assurance of Pardon

Baptisms

William Campbell Gharib, son of Johnny and Shannon Gharib

Regan Elise McGuire, daughter of Eugene and Kathryn McGuire

Jack Peyton McGuire, son of Eugene and Kathryn McGuire

Hayden Leigh Niethamer, daughter of Jason and Tapleigh Niethamer

Leah Ellen Niethamer, daughter of Jason and Tapleigh Niethamer

Offering

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Wilberg

Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

Scripture

Luke 2:1-11

Sermon

Great Joy

Peter James

Joy to the World, #40

Benediction & Postlude

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Please switch your hearing aid to T-coil.

TODAY

Coffee Hour & Breakfast Snacks in the Great Hall in between services!



Stop by Grapevine for Advent candles and calendars, Christmas ornaments & cards, and much more!

Sunday school classes available for children and adults. Visit the Connect Table for all the details!



Please note: Worship will be available at 10am only on Sunday, December 27.



Christmas Eve Poinsettias

Sign up in the lobby or contact Barb Strite at barbstrite@aol.com by **December 16.**



December 24

4 & 5:15pm Perfect for Children
7 & 8:45pm Sanctuary Choir
10:30pm Candlelight & Communion
(Childcare not available at 8:45 or 10:30)

LOOKING FORWARD in 2016

Sundays beginning January 3, 4-7:30pm: Perspectives Class: 15 instructors in 15 weeks. This college-level course will provide fresh knowledge and understanding of God's unchanging purposes and why they're relevant to your life. Learn more and register at viennapres.org/local-events

Wednesday, January 6, 7-9pm, MOMSnext: Food, fellowship, and speaker Anna Whiston-Donaldson. She will present "Bent, Not Broken: Cultivating Resilience and Radical Trust in Your Life." For more information: viennapres.org/adult-ministries

Monday, January 11, 7-8:30pm: Men's Great Steak Out! Guest Speaker, Jeff Skeen, President and CEO of Fitness Connection. Cost: \$25 in advance, \$35 at the door. Register at bridgepointconnections.org or contact Phil Kratovil at phil.kratovil@viennapres.org 703.938.9050 x115.

Monday, January 11, 7pm, or Tuesday, January 12, 9:30am: Women's Bible Study: Secrets of Kingdom Living, Studies on the Beatitudes. Visit viennapres.org/adult-ministries for additional information or contact Shannon Jordan at shannon.jordan@viennapres.org 703.938.9050 x123. Childcare available on Tuesday morning; contact childcare@viennapres.org



Giving is easy:

Online at viennapres.org/giveonline

In the offering plate on Sunday.

Mail a donation to the church, postmarked by 12.31.15.

Stop by the church office Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.

Make a stock donation or charitable donations from an IRA.

Contact Julie Headley at julie.headley@viennapres.org

LOOKING FOR HELP?

GriefShare, DivorceCare/Passages, Christian Cancer Companions, Widows' Groups, NewSpring, Stephen Ministry, Renewing Prayer Ministry. Visit viennapres.org/care or contact David Jordan-Haas at 703.938.9050 x116.



One Man's Journey from Homelessness to Salvation: A Story of How God Is Impacting Lives Through VPC

Last February, VPC opened our doors to individuals who were without shelter, and provided them with nourishment, fellowship, and a warm place to sleep. By all accounts, our Hypothermia Week was a great success. When the call went out for volunteers to help with this mission project, our community responded with generous serving hearts. Individuals, families, and small groups all came together to help welcome and serve the homeless in our community.



There were many inspiring moments that week, but one story in particular illustrates God's powerful work in and through VPC. Throughout the week, we offered Christian fellowship through Bible studies. One of our guests knew nothing about Jesus, had never set foot in a church, but merely came to VPC for food and shelter from the cold. While staying at VPC, he befriended another guest who encouraged him to attend a Bible study. He was introduced to Jesus during that time, and he continued to come to Bible study every evening. In fact, he engaged in prayer for the first time in his life!

God, through those Bible studies and VPC's sharing the love of Christ with him, made an impact in his life. Our guest eventually found employment and a place to live and began attending VPC. Every week, he faithfully gave a portion of his wages as an offering to God. His generosity reminds us of the story of Jesus and the Widow's Offering found in Mark 12: 42-44:

...a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins. They were worth much less than a penny. Jesus asked his disciples to come to Him. He said, "What I'm about to tell you is true. That poor widow has put more into the offering box than all the others. They all gave a lot because they are rich. But she gave even though she is poor. She put in everything she had. She gave all she had to live on."

Like the widow in Jesus' story, our guest from Hypothermia Week who learned about Jesus in those Bible studies, gave sacrificially with a generous and pure heart. This is just one story out of many that illustrate how God is transforming lives through VPC. This winter, we plan to expand this mission and offer hypothermia shelter to area residents for two separate weeks. Thank you to our many donors and volunteers who support ministries and missions of VPC, such as Hypothermia Week.

Please consider making an end-of-year financial gift to VPC. Through your support of money and service, you are making an eternal impact. viennapres.org/online-giving

Vienna Presbyterian Church
124 Park Street NE, Vienna, VA 22180
703.938.9050

Pastors:
Peter James, Glenda Simpkins Hoffman,
and David Jordan-Haas
Teaching Pastor: E. Stanley Ott

viennapres.org

Wish to talk about our worship services?
Contact Rachel Thompson,
worshipfeedback@viennapres.org

