Lower Is Higher
Matthew 3:13-17

The Good Life

The Sermon on the Mount
Sermon Series
Matthew 5-7

January 3, 2016
Worship
8am & 9:30am

January 3, 2016
Children are welcome in the service! Wiggles, giggles, and whimper 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.

During the 9:30am service:
1st-3rd graders in Bridges, Gateways, and Power-Up are dismissed to their teachers after the Assurence of Pardon: 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.

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!

Glory to God Forever

How Great Is Our God

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Offering

Scripture
Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon
Lower Is Higher

Take My Life

Communion

Stronger

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.
January 3, 2016

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...suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.’

Matthew 3: 16-17

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Prelude

Call to Worship

**Leader:** Praise be to the Lord God, Who alone does marvelous deeds.

**People:** All nations will be blessed through Him, and they will call Him blessed.

**Leader:** Praise be to His glorious name forever, may the whole earth be filled with His glory.

**People:** Amen and Amen.

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine, #341, vss. 1, 2, 3

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

At the Name of Jesus

Apostles’ Creed

Welcome

Offering

Scripture

Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon

**Lower Is Higher**

Peter James

Communion

Take My Life, #391, vss. 1, 5, 6

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.
Serve

“In everything do to others as you would have them do to you.” Matthew 7:12

Join the Staff at VPC! Applications are being accepted for a 15 hour/week Finance Assistant. Job duties will include accounts receivable and teller operations. Contact Michelle Lowell at michelle.lowell@viennapres.org or go online to viennapres.org/join-the-staff

Perspectives on the World Christian Movement, Sundays, January 3 through May 1, 2016, 4-7:30pm, 3rd-floor Activity Center

You have an epic role to play. Get threaded into the biggest story of all time. You’re about to experience God’s heart for all peoples and encounter the momentum of the World Christian Movement. Perspectives will open the eyes of your heart with fresh knowledge and understanding of God’s unchanging purposes and why they are relevant to your life. Perspectives is a fifteen-week course designed around four vantage points, or “perspectives” — Biblical, Historical, Cultural and Strategic. Each one highlights different aspects of God’s global purpose. Certificate cost: $285. Register at perspectives.org

Hypothermia Shelter Interest Meeting, January 10, 12:15pm, Great Hall. Pizza provided.

Many hands are needed as we open our doors to serve as shelter for homeless men and women in our Northern Virginia area. For two weeks — Feb 7–13 and March 13–19 we will house and feed people in the Great Hall who would otherwise have no shelter. This truly becomes their temporary home as we also entertain, encourage, and provide for them— as we share God’s love with them— during our time together. Their stories will surprise you, from the professional concert pianist to the Air Force Lt. Col. Come get to know our guests — you’ll be enriched by the experience!

Summer Mission Project Interest Meeting, January 24, 12:15pm, Great Hall.

Hear from our mission partners about the exciting trips coming this summer!

Anti-Human Trafficking Initiative, January 31, 6pm, Great Hall

Join this new initiative to work with other faith communities throughout Northern Virginia to increase awareness about this increasing problem in our communities. Tyson’s Corner has become a hot bed of trafficking activity, and our children are being targeted!
& Grow

“Ask and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock and the door will be opened for you.” Matthew 7.7

Reel Spirituality
Jesus’ teaching is one of his greatest gifts, and the Sermon on the Mount makes clear his key theme: the kingdom of God. Les Miserables is an epic story of struggle and redemption, and of joy and anguish. Come explore how Les Miserables connects to Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount and how it can make a difference in our own stories.

Reel Spirituality is about applying truth to our everyday lives. The Sermon on the Mount is about a heart change that results in a transformed life. Engage in disciplines each week that will help us in “Becoming Like Christ Together for the World.”

Sunday Classes
Make the most of your Sunday mornings by adding a class to your worship experience! Sunday classes offer the opportunity to connect with others and to connect God with our daily lives. In addition to study, each class has time set aside to have fun together and to serve together. Childcare is available. For a full list of Sunday options, visit the Connect Table, or go online to viennapres.org/adult-ministries

Centerpoint— Retirement: Faith. Family. Friends, January 10, 6:30-8:30, Room 322/323
Everyone has his or her own vision of an ideal retirement: family, travel, a hobby or an unfulfilled ambition. With proper planning, retirement can provide the luxury of time to truly enjoy one’s passions. Thoughtful, detailed planning is an essential ingredient for success! Learn more and talk with some real-life retirees! Visit viennapres.org/group-finder for details on this class and other VPC class options.

Monday Night Men’s Group and Monday Night/Tuesday Morning Women’s Groups
No time on Sundays? We’ve got you covered!
Men’s Monday Night Groups, Great Hall, 7pm. Led by Pete James, Phil Kratovil, and Steve Garner. Pizza, drinks, and popcorn...We don’t take ourselves too seriously but we do take God seriously.
Women’s Groups: Mondays, 7-8:30pm, and Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30am-(Childcare available with advance registration). Secrets of Kingdom Living: Studies on the Beatitudes. Begins Monday, January 11 and Tuesday, January 12. Cost: $12. Please register to receive a book or childcare. For more information and to register, please contact Shannon at shannon.jordan@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050 x123.
Coffee & Refreshments: in between services, Great Hall.

MomsNext, Wednesday, January 6, 7pm, Great Hall.
Specially designed for moms of elementary-aged children. Special speaker
Anna Whiston-Donaldson presents “Bent Not Broken: Cultivating Resilience and Radical
Trust in Your Life.” Free event, but registration requested at viennapres.org/MomsNext

CLUB: Friday, January 8, 7-9pm, 3rd Floor.
It’s your place to belong!
viennapres.org/childrens-ministries

Men’s Steak-Out, Monday, January 11.
“Defining the ‘Why’ of Your Life” with special guest Jeff Skeen.
Great Hall, 7pm. Register at Bridgepointconnections.org

SWATT (55+ fellowship) Potluck Lunch, January 13, noon, Great Hall.
Bring a dish to share and bring a friend to the monthly potluck lunch. RADM Kathleen L. Martin (Ret.), For-
mer Deputy Surgeon General of the Navy will be the guest speaker.

Become a VPC Member, January 31, 12:15pm, Great Hall.
Hear from Pastor Pete James about what makes VPC unique and special—
and how you can be a part of something exciting.
Register at viennapres.org/join-vpc
Caring for our members, neighbors, and friends is a vital ministry of Vienna Presbyterian Church. Galatians 6:2 says, “Bear one another’s burdens, for in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” We seek to come alongside those who are experiencing challenging circumstances through a health crisis, the death of a loved one, or other life issues, in an effort to help make God’s love and care evident in the midst of even the toughest situations.

**Stephen Ministers** are committed to individually being with those in crisis. One of their mottos is “When the casseroles are gone, the Stephen Ministers are still there.” Contact David Jordan-Haas at david.jordan-haas@viennapres.org or call 703.938.9050.

**Griefshare** is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life’s most difficult experiences. You don’t have to go through the grieving process alone. Next session begins February 14. For additional info and to register, visit viennapres.org/care

**Divorce Care/Passages** is here to help and support those experiencing the pain and stress of divorce and separation. It’s a confusing time when you feel isolated and have lots of questions about issues you’ve never faced before. Next session begins February 23. For additional info and to register, visit viennapres.org/care

**Renewing Prayer** is about inviting prayer recipients to have a personal, transforming, renewing encounter with the Lord Jesus. Visit viennapres.org/care to see how this may be helpful to you.

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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](http://viennapres.org)
Wish to talk about our worship services?
Contact Rachel Thompson,
worshipfeedback@viennapres.org