Vienna Presbyterian Church
A Disciple-Making Community

“Gifts from the Heart of God”

The Power
John 1:10-13

Dec 24: The Glory
John 1:14-18

December 23, 2007
SUNDAY WORSHIP • 8:00

Prelude

Welcome

▲ Worship Song: You Are Holy

Men
You are Holy.
You are mighty.
You are worthy.
Worthy of praise.
I will follow.
I will listen.
I will love you.
All of my days.
I will sing to and worship the King
Who is worthy. And I will love
and adore Him, and I will bow down
before Him. And I will sing to and
worship the King who is worthy. And
I will love and adore Him, and I will
bow down before Him. You’re my...

(Women)
You are Holy.
You are holy.
You are mighty.
You are worthy.
Worthy of praise.
I will follow.
I will listen.
I will love you.
All of my days.

You are Lord of lords, You are King of kings, You are mighty God, Lord of everything. You’re Emmanuel,
You’re the Great I AM, You’re the Prince of Peace who is the Lamb. You’re the Living God, You’re my saving grace. You will reign forever; You are Ancient of Days.
You are Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End. You’re my Savior; Messiah, Redeemer and Friend. You’re my...

(together) Prince of Peace and I will live my life for You. (repeat all)

▲ Hymn #23

Angels We Have Heard On High

Lighting of the Advent Wreath
I’ll Go Tell Elizabeth

Reading
John 1:1-14

▲ Worship Song

Lift Your Voice And Sing (see page 6 for music)

Lift your voice and sing praises to the King. Let your worship rise;
To the true Messiah gifts we bring. Lift your voice and sing.
Sing alleluia. Sing alleluia. Sing alleluia to the King.
Sing alleluia. Sing alleluia. Sing alleluia to the King of kings.

▲ Congregation standing, as able.

Please request large-print hymnals from the ushers.
Assistive listening devices are available in the balcony from the Sound Technician
Prayer of Confession
Lord Jesus, my Savior, my heart is cold, warm it with your selfless love; my heart is sinful, cleanse it by your precious blood; my heart is weak, strengthen it by your joyful Spirit; my heart is empty, fill it with your divine presence. Lord Jesus, my heart is yours, possess it always and only for yourself. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Gloria Patri

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

Offertory
Who’s That Baby?
Bridget Nelson, soloist; Youth Choir
Jay Althouse

During the offertory, please pass the Friendship Pad.

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Sermon
The Power
Pastor E. Stanley Ott
Sermon Series: Gifts from the Heart of God

Prayer of Commitment
Lord Jesus, I ask You to come into my life. I trust You to take charge of my life and make me the kind of person You want me to be for this moment and forever. I confess my sins and I thank You for Your forgiveness and assurance of eternal life in Your name. I expect now to receive the power of the Holy Spirit that I may share this faith, strength, joy and love with others in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Hymn #53
What Child Is This
GREENSLEEVES

Benediction

Postlude
Terry Sisk, organist

If you, or anyone you know, would like prayer for spiritual, emotional or physical well-being, a pastor will be available at the front of the sanctuary.
SUNDAY WORSHIP • 9:30 & 11:00

Prelude
Terry Sisk, organist

Welcome

Call to Worship
Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child
Combined Children’s Choirs
arr. Davis, Gray and Gray

▲ Hymn #23
Angels We Have Heard On High
GLORIA

Lighting of the Advent Wreath
I’ll Go Tell Elizabeth
Danielle Talamantes
Medema

Reading
John 1:1-14
Vince Pistilli

▲ Worship Song
Lift Your Voice And Sing (see page 6 for music) Cindy Cruse-Ratcliffe and Rebecca Alice Cruse
Lift your voice and sing praises to the King. Let your worship rise;
To the true Messiah gifts we bring. Lift your voice and sing.
Sing alleluia. Sing alleluia. Sing alleluia to the King.
Sing alleluia. Sing alleluia. Sing alleluia to the King of kings.

▲ Prayer of Confession
Lord Jesus, my Savior, my heart is cold, warm it with your selfless love; my heart is sinful,
cleanse it by your precious blood; my heart is weak, strengthen it by your joyful Spirit; my
heart is empty, fill it with your divine presence. Lord Jesus, my heart is yours, possess it always
and only for yourself. Amen.

▲ Assurance of Pardon

▲ Gloria Patri
Hymn #579

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

▲ Congregation standing, as able.
Please request large-print hymnals from the ushers.
Assistive listening devices are available in the balcony from the Sound Technician
Anthem
How Far is it to Bethlehem? Sanctuary Choir Mack Wilbur

Children’s Message
After the message, all children may go to their classes.

Offertory
During the offertory, please pass the Friendship Pad.

Sermon
The Power
Sermon Series: Gifts from the Heart of God

Prayer of Commitment
Lord Jesus, I ask You to come into my life. I trust You to take charge of my life and make me the kind of person You want me to be for this moment and forever. I confess my sins and I thank You for Your forgiveness and assurance of eternal life in Your name. I expect now to receive the power of the Holy Spirit that I may share this faith, strength, joy and love with others in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Hymn #53
What Child Is This

Benediction

Postlude

If you, or anyone you know, would like prayer for spiritual, emotional or physical well-being, a pastor will be available at the front of the sanctuary.
Lift Your Voice

Words and Music by
Cindy Cruse-Ratcliffe and Rebecca Alice Cruse

Today's sanctuary flowers are given by
Herbert & Lisa MacArthur, in loving memory of A. Gordon MacArthur
Harold Mason, in loving memory of his wife Pauline (Polly) Mason
INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

**Grieving:** The family of Charles Robinson, Chuck Allen (father), John Burgess (mother), Tricia Hine (father), Susan Leitson (father), Nancy Powell (father), John Remy (father), Ed Venditti (first father-in-law)

**Hospitalized:** Jennifer Fleisher’s father, Laura Noble’s father

**Facing Tests or Surgery:** Malinda & Kurt Virkaitis’s friend Hoyt

**Homebound:** Gaza & Yolan Katona

**Ill or Convalescing:** Curt Anderson, Cecilia Baldwin, Cathy Brudvig, Julia Cornelius, Peggy Darst, Susan Gilmore, Barbara Greig, Irma Kerr, Laura Nickell (age 10), Al Norris, Ruth Nowjack-Raymer, Shana Spiess, Sheila Steele

**Undergoing Treatment:** Sylvia Bergert, Dody Martin, Ken Thomas, Mark Tracz, Kathy Van Meter

**Family and Friends:** Debra Bowen’s friends Jim and Sid, Joe Darst’s sister, Bill Downer’s father and brother, Jennifer Fleisher’s friend Greg, June Follini’s/Donna Reichert’s son/brother, Jean Freeman’s co-worker Laura, Patti Goodrich’s brother-in-law, Tom Greig’s father, Nancy Hallanan’s friend Melissa, Garth Jensen’s father, Betty Larson’s niece’s husband, Sharon Lewis’s daughter Amanda, Alexandra MacCracken’s friend Katie, Neil MacNeil’s brother-in-law, Bob & Connie Markle’s son, Polly & Robert Marshall’s niece, Jenn Mattson’s uncle, Roger Michalski’s father, Rodney Neely’s father, Stan Ott’s friend Rene, Betty Reed’s friend Donna, Ginni Richards’s friend Alinda, the Rohrback family’s friends (injured military) Sgt. Josh Lawton-Belous and Andy Meixell, Kristina Schenck’s mother, Dan & Eileen Shaw’s niece (& her mother), Mary Ann Singlaub’s mother, Judy Smith’s son-in-law, Mary & Dave Smith’s friends Joe & Annie, Tricia Stevely’s mother and her friends Lloyd & Leanne, Karen Thompson’s daughter, Kelly-Anne Thomon’s mother, Sheri Walker’s friend Barbara

**Other Concerns:** Becky James’s sister Reber, Jo Ann Talley’s friends Clark & Edith and Lyle & Sonia, Phil Chavez, Jason’s daughter

**Many thanks to:** Pam Kattenburg & Susan Reeves and their wonderful team who have made our church so beautiful for Christmas – Karen Dunlop, Shirley Gourley, Joanna Greig, Jennifer & Ryan McQuillan, Robert Reeves, Judy Rust, Bert & Gerri Webb, Mary Wisenbaugh, Jaime Tapia and Belarmino Diaz.


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Need Prayer for Yourself or Someone You Love?

**USE** the cards in the Friendship Pads in your pew, or at the rear of the church, and place in the collection plate or the wooden box in the lobby/narthex.

**CALL** the church office at 703.938.9050 ext. 301.

**SEND** an e-mail to shannon.jordan@viennapres.org; or enter a prayer request via the church’s website at www.viennapres.org homepage “Prayer Requests.”

Please make sure that you have permission before submitting a prayer request on behalf of someone else. Confidentiality requests are strictly honored. If requested for the weekly bulletin, prayer notices will normally be made for two weeks, but can certainly be extended upon request.

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To reach a pastor after hours, call 703.568.0000

The Deacon Ministry provides sympathy, witness, and service to people in the VPC community who are sick, grieving, or in need. To leave a message for the Deacon on-call, dial 703.938.9050, ext. 303
For VPC’s Ministry and Missions plans to go forward, we need your help in two important and now urgent ways:


   **Our planning for next year depends on the total amount pledged by the congregation by December 31.** Thanks to the 550+ individuals and families who have submitted pledges to let the church leaders know their estimated giving support for the 2008 Annual Budget. It is very important to know from the congregation what level of resources can be expected. To move forward with the plans, we need to receive approx. $100,000 in additional pledges from the congregation as soon as possible. Pledge cards are in the pew racks as well as on the Welcome Table, Sign-Up Table and the Information Wall in the Gathering Space. Cards may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2008 Annual Budget</th>
<th>Pledge Goal: (approx. 70% of Budget)</th>
<th>Pledge Amount received to date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$3,583,800</td>
<td>$2,500,000</td>
<td>$2,200,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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   **We need your help to close the gap in this year’s budget!** As of November 30, giving to support the 2007 church annual budget has been generous, yet is behind budget by 17%. A shortfall in this year’s funding will have direct consequences on programs and staffing. If you haven’t already fulfilled your giving, please prayerfully consider an offering today to help end the year as planned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2007 Annual Budget</th>
<th>Received as of 11/30/07</th>
<th>Needed by 12/31/07</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$3,407,224</td>
<td>$2,565,635</td>
<td>$841,589</td>
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**Christmas Joy Offering**

Presbyterians have traditionally supported, through the Christmas Joy Offering, the unmet needs of families who have given their lives to the mission of the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), some of them after retirement, others while they continue to serve. Our support also helps students at racially-ethnic schools and colleges develop their gifts and find their calling. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, may this year’s Christmas Joy Offering witness boldly to the unconditional and uncontainable love received from that baby born in Bethlehem. (Envelopes are available in the pews)

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**Word-Share-Prayers Reading Schedule**

**December 17-23**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Read and Meditate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>John 1:1-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Luke 2:8-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Luke 2:21-35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Luke 2:36-40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Matthew 2:1-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Matthew 2:13-23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>John 1:10-13</td>
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UPCOMING EVENTS

The next opportunity for those choosing to become members of VPC will be on Jan 19, (8:30 am – 2:30 pm, includes lunch) and Jan 20, (11 am – 12 N) (both days). If you have questions about VPC, come on Saturday and learn more about the church. Please help us plan for your participation by calling Linda Kemple (703.938.9050) to register or with questions. Childcare is available for ages 6 and under by reservation (ext. 351) no less than 48 hours in advance. Recognition Sunday will be Feb 17.

Are you in the process of planning your wedding? We hope that one step on your way to the altar will be the Marriage Prep Classes at VPC. Held in the parlor from 11 am -12:15 pm on Sundays, Jan 6 – 27, these free sessions are required for those being married by our pastors, but are open to others also. Please call Linda Kemple, 703.938.9050 with questions, or enroll at www.viennapres.org – “on-line sign-up forms” ASAP! Next class April, 2008.

Gathering Place Quilt: A rainbow made of hundreds of fabric squares now hangs at the top of the Information Wall in the Gathering Place (outside the Great Hall). The scripture below the rainbow expresses Hope for the future. The rainbow has long been a symbol of that Hope. The rainbow is the work of the VPC Quilters, also known as the Piecemakers. The 1-1/2 foot by 12 foot quilt was started in February, 2007, and finished in early November. The quilters invite you to enjoy its beauty and its scripture message.

Town Hall Meeting scheduled for Jan 6 at 12N in the Hall. We want to explore the congregations’ feelings about holding regular VPC community gatherings to help close the communications gap. There has been so much transformational and transitional change in such a short period of time that it is hard to keep up. So if you have questions please bring them with you. If you feel you only have a partial view of where VPC is heading, please plan to attend this meeting. We look forward to your participation in this open forum.

The Library and Resource Center (LARC) on the second floor of the Ministry Center is open:
Sunday, 9:00 -11:00 am
Monday, 10:30 AM -12:30 pm
Thursday, 9:30 AM -12:30 pm
Look at the window display of new audio books on CDs available for check-out. Selected works on Christmas are displayed in the library.

Gently-used books in excellent condition are for sale in the second-floor Library and Resource Center (LARC). Self-serve, $1.00 for paperbacks, $2.00 for hardback. Proceeds go to expand LARC services.
CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES

If your child chose a friend to invite to a Christmas Eve service, and hung an ornament on the Children’s Ministries Christmas tree for them, please remember to bring the friend to pick up their ornament on Christmas Eve in the Great Hall. If the friend is unable to come, please pick up their ornament so you can take it home for them. Eleanor Hay, nimickhay@aol.com.

Children’s Classes Today: There will be regular classes at 9:30 and 11 am for all children in Kindergarten and younger. There will also be regular classes for Bridges and Gateways children at both hours. All children in grades 1-6 will remain in the worship services today.

Children’s Classes on Dec 30: On Dec 30, there will be regular classes at 9:30 and 11 am for all children in Kindergarten and younger. All children in grades 1-6, including Gateways will be split into two classes (room 308/9 for 1-3 grades and room 322/3 for 4-6 grades) to watch a suitable movie and have some fun together. Changes to these classes are being made so that many of our teachers who teach every week can have a week or two off during this busy period. Please also note that many of the Kindergarten and younger classes will combine on these dates for the same reason. Contact clare.maynard@viennapres.org with questions.

Additional Sunday Teachers are needed for pre-school-age and Bridges classes at both 9:30 and 11 am. For more information contact clare.maynard@viennapres.org.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Do you love Contemporary Worship Music? Can you relate to worship bands like Chris Tomlin, David Crowder and Matt Redman? We’re looking for someone to help lead a class for students on Contemporary Christian Music in Worship. If you are interested contact Barry Hill 703.938.9050, ext 130.


Middle School: Ski trip registration is open. Register early to insure your spot. No Youth Group Dec 28. Join us for our first Youth Group of 2008 on Jan 4!

High School: There are still a few spaces left on the ski trip. Sign up today! No Youth Group tonight Dec 23 or Dec 30. Join us for the first Youth Group of 2008 on Jan 6!

Confirmation classes for High School students begin with an interest meeting in Jan. Watch your mail in the next few weeks for information, or call the church office if you are new to the church.

MUSIC MINISTRIES

Children’s Choirs rehearsals resume on Jan 6, 2008 at 5 pm. Please see the VPC website about the children’s choirs or contact Robin LeTourneau at robinwfcva@verizon.net.

CARE & SUPPORT

GriefShare begins Sunday, Jan 20 at 6 pm. If you have lost a spouse, child, family member, or friend, you may have found that few people understand the deep hurt you feel. That’s the reason for GriefShare, a special seminar and support group for people grieving the loss of someone close. The next 13-week GriefShare session will be held Sundays from 6-8 pm, beginning Jan 20, in Room 203/204. More information is available at (703) 938-9050 or by emailing GriefShare@viennapres.org.

Do you believe in the Power of Drama as a Worship component? We’re looking for someone to help our Middle and High school students prepare dramas for Worship. Please contact Barry Hill, 703.938.9050, ext 130, for information.
STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached
Sundays, Jan 6 for five weeks, 6-7:30 pm.
It has been called the greatest sermon ever
preached by the greatest preacher who ever lived.
Join us as we grapple with the truths that have
proven themselves with the passage of time, and
discover what Jesus teaches us about the road to
genuine happiness, how to make an impact upon
our community, divorce, and dealing with those
who rub us the wrong way. This study will be
informative, inspiring and challenging. Instructor,
J. Robin (Rob) Bromhead, Senior Pastor, Cent-
reville Presbyterian Church

Christian Reflections on the Silver Screen,
Sundays, Jan 6 for five weeks, 6-7:30 pm
Can The Matrix teach Christian principles? Learn
how to find instructive, faith-relevant ideas in a
film’s symbolism, music, character names, plot
lines and more. Other films examined in this
course include: Hotel Rwanda, Amazing Grace,
The Chronicles of Narnia, Life Is Beautiful, The
Green Mile, and The Fellowship of the Ring. Led
by Brian Hays.

Jesus 102: Growing in Christ, begins
Tuesday, Jan 8 for 5 weeks, 7:30-9 pm
Jesus invites us to follow him, but what does that
mean? Join us as we explore what it means to be
an apprentice of Jesus by answering the following
questions: How do we stay connected to Jesus
through all the ups and downs and changes of
life? How do we lean on God’s grace and power?
How do we find direction for our lives? How do
we find God and live faithfully for God in the
midst of our everyday, ordinary lives? Teaching
Pastor Stan Ott and Glenda Simpkins Hoffman,
Associate Pastor.

Christianity and American Public Culture,
begins Tuesday, Jan 8, 7:30-9 pm
2008 is an election year, and issues of faith are
at the forefront. How did this come to be, and
what does it mean for us as Christians? During
the 20th century, the United States moved from a
culturally Christian nation to a culturally pluralist
nation. Join us as we examine how this emerged
and explore the distinct problems and
opportunities we have as believers as we seek to
discern God’s will in this post-Christian but still
Protestant nation. Fred Beuttler, Deputy
Historian of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Young Adults: If you are finished with high
school and consider yourself a young adult, we
invite you to join us for the Lightseekers
Underground Sunday School class at 9:30 am
in L4. We discuss what that morning’s Scripture
says to us as we try to live as authentic disciples
of Christ.

Beth Moore Study on Tuesday nights! Once
again, there will be a Beth Moore Study on
Tuesday nights, from 7:30-9:30 pm, beginning
in January. The class will be studying her “Living
Beyond Yourself,” on the Fruits of the Spirit. Call
LeslieVereide@msn.com for more information.

Thursday Morning Bible Study will be
coming back together on Jan 10th for a pot-luck
and discussion of women’s ministries, our
winter and spring study options and fellowship!
All current and past members of the class are
invited. Please email Chris Chun if you have any
questions at chrischun58@aol.com.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

The Teller Ministry has opportunities for
volunteers. Are you detail-oriented,
available for a few hours one or two Sunday
mornings a month and interested in being a part
of this small group? Contact Kathie Rawson at
kathie.rawson@viennapres.org or
703.993.9050.

Needed: One adult male to co-lead a Middle
School boys’ small group beginning in Jan. Also
needed one adult female to co-lead a Middle
School girls’ small group beginning in Jan.
ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES:

9:30 am:

**Beyond Basics:** Alexandra MacCracken and Julia Billington will lend us their musical talents and we all will joyfully sing the old Christmas carols. Room 203/204. Coordinator: Kate Lund.

**Friendship Class:** For developmentally-challenged adults, Room 108C. Teachers: Emmy Parker & Beth Gourley.

**Lightseekers East:** An in-depth discussion of this morning’s scripture text. Attendance at 8 am worship service is not required. Room 211. Coordinator: Judy Chelson.

**Lightseekers West:** An in-depth discussion of this morning’s scripture text. Attendance at 8 am worship service is not required, Parlor. Facilitator: Carla Schnell

**Lightseekers Underground (20s & 30s):** An in-depth discussion of this morning’s scripture. Attendance at 8 am worship service is not required, L4. Facilitators: Shannon and John Jordan

**Searchers in the Word -** In-depth study of the pastoral letters of Paul: I and II Timothy. The class meets at 9:30 am in Dick Eagan’s office, with a study guide. We share in leading the class study, using commentaries. Coordinator: Sharon Sigler

**Partners with Christ:** “12 Christian Beliefs That Can Drive You Crazy; Relief From False Assumptions,” by Henry Cloud and John Townsend. Books are available at Grapevine. Come join us! Room 205. Facilitator: Martha Strauss.

11:00 am:

**Berean:** We are studying Revelation - the only book of the Bible which promises the reader a blessing. Text is the Bible - bring your own. Room 203/204. Coordinators: Duane & Esther Harder.

Lightseekers: Will not meet today.

**ESOL Bible Study:** Room, 317. Facilitators: Brett & Dee Fallavollita.