Vienna Presbyterian Church
A Disciple-Making Community

Sermon Series: God's Big Story

Going Home By Another Way
Matthew 2:1-12

December 28, 2008
Sunday Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship
Do You Hear What I Hear?

Hymn #22
Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Nicene Creed

Worship Song
Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain:
Go, tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching O’er silent flocks by night,
Behold through-out the heavens There shone a holy light. (Refrain)

The shepherds feared and trembled When lo! above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior’s birth. (Refrain)

Down in a lowly manger The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Anthem
Welcome to Our World

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Message (9:30 & 11:00)

Burt LeJune and Michael Bronson

Work In Progress

REGENT SQUARE

Work In Progress

Please request large-print hymnals from ushers
Assistive listening devices are available in the balcony from the Sound Technician
Baptisms
9:30  Zachary Frank Thompson, child of Scott & Rachel Thompson
     Carter Herbert Lineweaver, child of Matthew & Kerrie Lineweaver
11:00 Bailey Jamison Jeff, child of Jamison & Heather Jeff

Offertory
Light of the World

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture
Matthew 2:1-12
In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.”

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Sermon
Going Home By Another Way
Sermon Series: God’s Big Story

Hymn #28
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Benediction

Postlude

Check out VPC’s New Website!

The VPC Web Team is pleased to introduce our brand new website!

www.viennapres.org

We hope you will visit the website often to learn more about VPC as a disciple-making church, as well as to find opportunities for you and your loved ones to take the next steps in your spiritual journeys. We also invite your prayers that God will use this communication tool to draw others to our community.

Take a look…Enjoy!

Your Prayerful Response to God’s Plan for VPC is Important!

Thanks to all who have submitted their estimate-of-giving pledge cards toward the 2009 Ministry and Missions budget. If you have not yet participated, please prayerfully fill out a pledge card and turn it in. We need everyone’s commitment to help God’s plan for VPC’s Ministry and Missions to move forward. Our planning process depends on how God is moving in the giving of the congregation, so we need to hear from you.

The other prayerful response opportunity is year-end 2008 giving. December has historically been a big giving month at VPC and this year we have the big number of $837,000 needed to make budget. If you have not fulfilled your church giving for this year and plan to do so, please do not wait. God is moving in the life of VPC. It takes the stewardship of your God-given time, talents and financial resources to keep vibrant the Disciple-making Outreach, Worship, Education, Fellowship, Care, and Missions activities of the church.

We have worked for three years to make “Giving Generously” a more spiritual exercise of personal prayer, discernment, communication and congregational response. Please note that in order to be counted as a 2008 gift, contributions must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2008.

Any giving questions, contact Rob McLallen, ext 119.

<table>
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<th>2008 Budgeted Tithes &amp; Offerings</th>
<th>Received Through November</th>
<th>Needed to Make Budget</th>
<th>Month to Date Giving</th>
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VPC Welcomes You!

We are delighted that you are here! The Christmas season can often become a race to the finish…decorations, gifts, baking, wrapping, entertaining…all the good things, but the time and energy spent in getting things just right can be exhausting! Why not try something different?

When we break it all down, we discover that what we really long for is acceptance, even when we don’t measure up; love, without conditions; and forgiveness, even in the face of our mistakes.

We believe in God who says, “Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me – watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly” (Matthew 11:28-30 – “The Message”).

So today, we invite you to enjoy a personal experience of God who accepts you just as you are; loves you unconditionally and offers forgiveness for anything that has gone before.

What We Believe:

VPC Core Beliefs
As a disciple-making community, we believe…

Jesus is Lord
Scripture is our authority
Everyone is called to discipleship

VPC Mission
As a disciple-making community, we will…

Call people to faith
Equip people in discipleship
Send people to love and serve

…both individually and in community

Tips For Navigating The Service:

Worshipping with your Children?

Encourage them to participate!
Kids are welcome to stand on pews to see.
Wiggles are welcome.
Wiggle room, if needed, is available in the lobby
What’s Next?

If you are a guest or a seeker today, we would love to have you return next week and in the months to come. At first blush, VPC may seem very large, but there are many smaller communities within; perhaps one that is just right for you! And, of course, we are thrilled to be in worship and celebrate with our community of regular attenders as well!

God is at work here at VPC! Look over these opportunities and consider whether God is calling you…to a relationship with Him, to be in Christian community and to love and serve.

Going Deeper

**Sunday School Classes** from Nursery to Adult -- Every Sunday morning. Complete information is available on our website, [www.viennapres.org](http://www.viennapres.org). All classes are open to new attendees.


**CenterPoint** will offer three five-week courses in personal communication skills, a Biblical perspective on human sexuality, and getting to know Jesus in a more personal way beginning January 11th and 13th. For more information, visit [www.viennapres.org/centerpoint](http://www.viennapres.org/centerpoint).

**Young Adult Bible Study** (22-34) begins a new session on January 7th, and we’ll gather for our monthly luncheon on Sunday, January 4th, in the Great Hall after the 11 am worship service. Contact Kelly at kelly.gould@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050 x112.

**Grapevine Books** has a wide array of Bibles, Bible studies, and books that encourage disciples and seekers of all ages to make connections between faith and daily life. The bookstore reopens on Sunday, January 4th. Visit [www.viennapres.org/grapevine](http://www.viennapres.org/grapevine) for hours of operation and more information.

**Interested in joining VPC?** For information about the New Members’ Seminar that begins Sunday, January 31st. Contact Linda at linda.kemple@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050.

Opportunities for Community

**Men’s “Great Supper”** will happen on Wednesday, January 30th. Meet the men of VPC, hear a great speaker and have a delicious dinner. Contact Phil Kratovil at phil.kratovil@viennapres.org.

**Youth Groups for Grades 3 through High School:**
- **Kids Nation 34** (Grades 3&4) – Meet Friday, January 9th, 7-8:30 pm
- **Club 56** (Grades 5&6) – Meet Fridays, January 16th and 30th, 7-9 pm
  More information at [www.viennapres.org/children](http://www.viennapres.org/children)
- **Middle School** (Grades 7&8) – Meet every Friday starting January 9th, 6:45-9 pm
- **High School** (Grades 9-12) – Meet Sundays, January 11th and 18th, 5:30-7:30 pm
  More information at [www.vpcstudents.org](http://www.vpcstudents.org)

Please visit [www.viennapres.org](http://www.viennapres.org) to learn more about this joyful, contagious Christ-centered community!
Intercessory Prayers

Grieving: Bob Albus (mother); Mary Heppner (mother); the family of Midge Staver

Hospitalized: Charlotte Prunty (2); Clint Bennett's father; Marion Billington's stepmother; Helen Franchois's mother; Paula Lohrmann's cousin-in-law; Emily Mandell

Facing Tests or Surgery: Rae Harpe; C.A.M. Wagner (needs bone marrow donor); Barbara Denmon's friend Barbara; Kathryn Gilchrist's brother

Homebound: Mary Berry

Ill or Convalescing: Cecilia Baldwin; Cecily Bornemann; Marjorie Boyd; Christine Calabrese; Ellie Cammer; Mary Carter; Sam Crawford; Marge Cremer; Sami Engle; Kasen Ertel; Thelma Haslam; Dick Hutcheson; Larry Kennedy; Charles Killion; Pat Palmer; Bill Phillips; Jerry Schnell; Eric Stephens; Courtney Sweeten; Kathy Van Meter; Hilary Viscount; Jane Vitray; June Vogan; Bill Windle

Family and Friends: Julia Billington's brother; Jeanne Bingham's aunt; Bob & Joanne Bower's friend Ralph; Bill Christopher's brother; Jan Crierie's stepmother; Beth Crowder's brother; Arayanna Darst's friends Joshua (5), Dave, Doug & Margaret Hodge, Scott, Howard, and the Jones family; Bill Downer's father; Karen Dunlop's sister; Nancy Ensey's friend Cyndy; Kathryn Gilchrist's cousin; Sarah-Joy Hunter's father; Linda Kemple's cousin, and her friend Karen; May Kepler's stepmother; Ruth Klug's mother; Ron Kuykendall's sister; Beatriz Lafuente's father; Stella Lansing's mother; Amy Larsen's student Santi (8); Kathy Leggett's brother; Lindsey Loving's uncle; Allen & Suzie Martin's grandson Wyatt (8) and Suzie's friend Marcia; Jenn Mattson's uncle; Vicky McLaine's cousin-in-law Annie; Paige Meade's friends Abagale and Michael; Chip Monie's mother; Kerry Nikolich's mother; Lois Poland's mother; Becky Rutkiewic's friend Ellie; Susan Scott's daughter; Dineke Shirley's brother; Mary Ann Singlaub's mother and stepmother; Dave Smith's sister; JC Stover's friends Joe & Nancy, Shannon, Bouvanh; Bev Stream's friends Bonnie and Louise; Tom Sutton's sister; Dottie Swink's son John; Joyce Hickson-Szten's & Emil Szten's daughter; Leslie Vereide's stepfather; Pamela Vining's friends Dianna and Linda; Malinda & Kurt Virkaitis's friend Mary; Lori Wisencek's friend John; Kerry Wilkerson's mother-in-law; Mary Wisenbaugh's friend Sherry

Other: Andrea & Jeremy Ables; Greta Anderson; Kristin Brown; Greg Coats; David Li; Bev Stream's goddaughter; Leslie Vereide's mother

Congratulations to: Scott & Justine Albus on the birth of Tyler Alan Albus on November 24th. The proud grandparents are Bob & Linda Albus. We also congratulate Cathryn Benningfield & Ryan Robbins who were married at VPC on December 19th.

A note of thanks: from Jim Larson on behalf of CHO thanking those who donated and volunteered their assistance at CHO’s annual Christmas Gift Distribution on December 12 & 13. Many local families were aided by this event.


Non-Military, also “In Harm’s Way”: Mark Bochetti

Need Prayer for Yourself or Someone You Love?

USE the cards in the Friendship Pad in your pew, or at the rear of the church, and place them in the collection plate or the wooden box in the lobby/narthex; or

CALL the church office at 703.938.9050, ext. 301; or

SEND an email to david.jordan-haas@viennapres.org or enter a prayer request via the 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 be made for two weeks but can certainly be extended upon request.
We Are Here For You!

Have questions? Need prayer? We’d love to speak with you about your interest in learning, need for support, or desire to serve other…anything at all!

Pastors
Peter James
Glenda Simpkins Hoffman
David Jordan-Haas

Teaching Pastor
E. Stanley Ott

Parish Associate Pastor
Chris Hammond

Music Director
L. Thomas Vining
Youth Music Director
J. Kerry Wilkerson
Organist
Terry Sisk

Children’s Ministries Director
Clare Maynard
Asst. Children’s Ministries Director
Daryl Wright
Weekday Preschool Director
Bonnie Downs
Childcare Coordinator
Elaine Wright

Student Ministries Director
Barry Hill
Middle School
Kim Snyder
High School
Elizabeth Foskey
College
Kayla Gray

Young Adult Ministries
Kelly Gould

Missions
Sheila Breuer
Outreach
Phil Kratovil

People Connections and Communication
Barb Jones
Care Liaison
Lee Taylor
Prayer Liaison
Linda Kemple

Finance Director (Interim)
Rob McLallen

Executive Director
Dick Eagan

Office Hours
Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 5:30 pm
Website
www.viennapres.org
(Members & Friends: username: faithful; password: christian)
Newsletter
newsletter@viennapres.org
Worship Bulletin
bulletin@viennapres.org

Sermons are available anytime at www.viennapres.org, under Worship.

Vienna Presbyterian Church
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Vienna, VA 22180
703.938.9050