Vienna Presbyterian Church
A Disciple-Making Community

Sermon Series: iReady

Living on Borrowed Faith
Matthew 25:1-13

December 13, 2009
Prelude
God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen
Katherine Sheridan, piano
arr. Calderone

Welcome

Call to Worship
Angels We Have Heard on High
Celebration Ringers
arr. Kearns

Lighting of the Advent Wreath
Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Hymn
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
arr. Wasson

Verse 1
Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Verse 2
Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne. (Repeat Verse 1)

Prayer of Adoration
David Jordan-Haas

Hymn #46
On This Day Earth Shall Ring

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon
Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins,
and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us
from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you,
confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus
Christ your Son.

Please request large-print hymnals from ushers
Assistive listening devices are available in the balcony from the Sound Technician
Minute for Witness

Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

Offertory
Betelehemu

During the Offertory, please pass the Friendship Pad.

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Children in the Bridges class are dismissed.

Scripture
Matthew 25:1-13
Pages 26/28 NT

Sermon
Living on Borrowed Faith
Sermon Series: iReady

Installation of Youth Deacons
Alena Gilmore, Stephen Jordan and Sophia Sellars

Hymn #31
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Benediction

Postlude

Prayer of Commitment

Lord Jesus, I invite you into my life. I confess that you died for my sins and extend to me the unconditional gift of love and forgiveness. I endeavor from this moment forward to live for you and follow you as Lord. I trust that you will transform me into the person you want me to become. Fill me with your Spirit’s presence so that I may share this faith and love with other people. I offer this prayer with gratitude in Jesus’ name. Amen.
Sunday Worship 9:30 & 11:00

Prelude
Angels We Have Heard on High
Ukrannian Bell Carol

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath
Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Hymn
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
Verse 1
Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
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dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Verse 2
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born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne. (Repeat Verse 1)

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Prayer of Adoration

Anthem
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Glory to God

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon
Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins,
and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us
from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you,
confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus
Christ your Son.

Please request large-print hymnals from ushers.
Assistive listening devices are available in the balcony from the Sound Technician.
Minute for Witness  
Jeff Hunt

**Anthem (9:30)**  
Glory to God  
Sanctuary Choir  
Handel

**Children’s Message (9:30)**  
Daryl Wright

*Children in Bridges and Gateways are dismissed after the message.*

**Baptism (11:00)**  
Luke Andrew James, child of Andrew and Becky James

**Offertory**  
The First Noel  
Exsultate Handbells  
arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

*During the Offertory, please pass the Friendship Pad.*

**Scripture**  
Matthew 25:1-13  
Pages 26/28 NT

**Sermon**  
Living on Borrowed Faith  
Sermon Series: iReady  
Pete James

**Hymn #31**  
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing  
MENDELSSOHN

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Prayer of Commitment*

*Lord Jesus, I invite you into my life. I confess that you died for my sins and extend to me the unconditional gift of love and forgiveness. I endeavor from this moment forward to live for you and follow you as Lord. I trust that you will transform me into the person you want me to become. Fill me with your Spirit’s presence so that I may share this faith and love with other people. I offer this prayer with gratitude in Jesus’ name. Amen.*

Today’s flowers are given by Sherrie and Bill Steinbach, in loving memory of our son on his birthday.
Intercessory Prayers

Grieving: The family of Bennie Clemmer; Anne Crossman (mother); Lisa Fritz (father); Tom King (mother); the family of Dee Liebengood; Ford Moseley (mother); the family of Suha Saliba; Rebekah Shepherd (grandfather); Bob Stoepker (sister); Jennifer Zicht (mother)

Hospitalized: Al Odachowski (former member); Arayanna Darst's friend Rose; Gretchen Majors's co-worker; Gloria Sladek's great grandson; Joanne Talley's friend Janet

Facing Tests or Surgery: Phil Marotto; Jerry Schnell; Phil Kratovil's son-in-law

Homebound: Audrey O'Shea

Ill or Convalescing: Ian Anspaugh (11); Carmody Bornemann; Carole Burgess; Dana Burnett; Herman Carter; George Cronin; Marieke Ertel; Chuck Garland; Rae Harpe; Laura Lee; Tom Lyle; Maria Madrid; Jim McCoy; Laura Nickell (12); Bill Phillips; Jason Reynolds (13); Mark Tracz; Roslyn Venditti; Phyllis Wilcox; Bill Windle; Amber

Family and Friends: Larry Breuer's father; Ed Brogan's mother (Hospice); Ruthanne Buterbaugh's cousin; William Buterbaugh's sister; Melinda Carter's friend Brent; Danielle Clay's grandfather-in-law; Pamela Crippen's mother; Ted Davies's cousin; Donna DeLanoy's mother; John Gibb's mother; Melissa Jensen's neighbor Wendy; Michelle Jones's husband; Linda Kemple's stepmother and cousin; Linda Lyon's son-in-law; Debbie McBrien's mother; Vicky McLain's cousin and her friend Marcia; Rodger Rak's father (former member Daniel Rak); Ginni Richard's mother (Hospice); Mary Ann Singlaub's mother

Other: Alex Boyce; Kirsten Cleary; Greg Coats; Sithole Khe

Missions/Missionaries of the week: Richard and Joan Fossum, Mustard Seed Project, Africa (International); Union Theological Seminary & Presbyterian School of Christian Education, Richmond, VA (National); ESOL Program at VPC (Local)

Congratulations to: Mark and Jennifer Kenney on the birth of their twins, Ethan John Kenney and Ryan Phillip Kenney, on Nov. 24.


Lord, we are grateful for all that you have done, are doing and will do in the life of VPC. We ask your continued blessing as we seek to do your will through the commitment of our financial resources to your kingdom. Amen.

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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, x 301; or

E-MAIL david.jordan-haas@viennapres.org; or enter a prayer request via the website, www.viennapres.org.

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 up to four weeks but can certainly be extended upon request.

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**UNIFIED GIVING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YTD Budget: $ 2,828,897</th>
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<tr>
<td>YTD Actual: 2,719,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/Deficit: (109,593)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needed by Year End: $ 841,396</td>
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**CAPITAL GIVING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YTD Budget: $ 670,000</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YTD Actual: 414,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/Deficit: (255,802)</td>
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</table>

Giving totals as of 11/30/2009 (updated monthly)
Glorious Sounds of Christmas Concert
Sunday, Dec. 20, 4 & 7 pm

Our choirs, orchestra, brass and strings—over 165 musicians in all—will present a delightful traditional Christmas program, including an opportunity for you and your guests to sing well-loved Christmas carols. Escape the hustle and bustle of the Christmas rush and come see why overwhelming demand has required that we present two performances. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite family, friends and neighbors to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Christmas Eve
Thursday, Dec. 24

4 & 5:15 pm
Suitable for children through 4th grade
Live Nativity
Childcare is provided

7 pm
Candlelight Service with Sanctuary Choir
Childcare is provided

8:45 pm
Candlelight Service with Sanctuary Choir
No childcare available

10:30 pm
Candlelight Communion Service with Youth Choir
No childcare available
You Won’t Want To Miss…

Children’s Christmas Concert
TODAY at 4 pm

Our choir kids, tiny through elementary-aged, will present special family-friendly Christmas music. This is a special treat. Please plan to attend the concert in the sanctuary at 4 pm; a reception will follow in the Great Hall.

New CenterPoint Classes

CenterPoint is an adult Christian education program offering classes and forums for persons at all stages of their faith journeys.

Classes typically meet for five sessions. The instructors are drawn from VPC staff, regional pastors, seminary faculty and community professionals. Basic discipleship classes are free; a $25 fee is charged for all other classes.

Childcare is available by making a reservation at 703.938.9050 ext. 351 no later than 48 hours prior to the class. For details, visit: www.viennapres.org/centerpoint.

Upcoming classes include:

WHO IS JESUS?
Sundays at 5:30 pm, Jan. 10-Mar. 21

The course is introductory in nature and accommodating to those unfamiliar with church settings, Christianity or the Bible. Register at www.viennapres.org/centerpoint.

INVITATION TO A JOURNEY
Sundays at 5:30 pm, Jan. 10-Feb. 7

A journey is a wonderful metaphor for our life in Christ. This class will serve as a road map and travel guide for those who want to explore the journey of our life in Christ. Register at www.viennapres.org/centerpoint.

CHRISTIANITY IN THE WEST—A POST-CHRISTIAN FUTURE?
Tuesdays at 7:30 pm, Jan. 12–Feb. 9

Today, much of Europe is deeply secular, barely remembering the faith that was the central identity of Europeans for so long. By examining how Central Europeans have wrestled with the relationship between their Christian faith and their culture, we will gain a better understanding of our own relationship between faith and culture. A $25 fee applies to this course. Register at www.viennapres.org/centerpoint.

PERSPECTIVES ON THE WORLD CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT
Tuesdays at 7:30 pm, Jan. 12–May 11

This course provides new insights and a better understanding of God’s ultimate purpose in the world. Register at www.perspectives.org (discount through Dec. 15).
Announcements

VPC CORDIALLY WELCOMES OUR VISITORS AND GUESTS.
We are delighted you are here! Please stop by the Welcome Table in the narthex for a special gift, then join us for coffee between services in the Great Hall. We hope you will visit with us again.
For more information about these events and announcements, plus much more, visit www.viennapres.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

High School Students: Come to Tonight’s White Elephant Christmas Party in the Underground, 6:30-8:30 pm. This is your chance to give away the strangest things. Be creative! Enjoy the fun!

Give a Goat, Pig, Duck and/or Scholarship to a Haitian child. This is a great alternative Christmas gift. Visit Community Coalition for Haiti (CCH) tables today and Dec. 20, after services, at the entrance to the Great Hall.

Middle School Christmas Movie/Game/Pillow Fight Night: Dec. 18, 7-10 pm in the Underground. Bring friends!

Sacraments Classes for children in 3rd grade and up begin Jan. 17. Please see the website for more information, and register your child via www.viennapres.org/registrernow.
Questions: clare.maynard@viennapres.org

Apprentices 11:00 Adult Sunday School class cordially invites you to join a study of Philip Yancey’s What’s So Amazing About Grace, beginning Jan. 3. Stop by Grapevine Books to order the book and participant’s guide.

New Member Classes: Sundays, Jan. 10 and 17 (11 am-noon) and Jan. 24 (11 am-1:30 pm, lunch included). RSVP to Linda Kemple at 703.938.9050, and to arrange childcare (ages 6 and under).

Marriage Prep Classes will be held Sundays in January, 11 am-noon, plus two Saturday mornings (Jan. 23 and a date TBA). These free sessions are required for those being married by our pastors but open to others, also. Linda Kemple, 703.938.9050; enroll ASAP at www.viennapres.org under Marriage Preparation. Next seminar: April 2010.

U.S. Army Chorus Concert: Jan. 16, 7:30 pm in the sanctuary. This popular event is free and open to the public. Watch for details!

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 2010 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 2009 giving. December has historically been a big giving month at VPC, and this year we have the big number of $841,000 needed to make budget. If you have not fulfilled your church giving for this year and plan to do so, please do not wait. 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 four years to make “Giving Generously” a more spiritual exercise of personal prayer, discernment, communication and congregational response.
For any giving questions, contact Rob McLallen at ext 119.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2009 Budgeted</th>
<th>Received Through</th>
<th>Needed to Make</th>
<th>Month to Date</th>
<th>Remaining to Goal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tithes &amp; Offerings</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Giving</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3,560,700</td>
<td>$2,719,304</td>
<td>$841,396</td>
<td>$77,822</td>
<td>$763,574</td>
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</table>
Announcements

STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

New CenterPoint Classes: See page 8.

Apprentices Class: See announcement on page 9.

Current Sunday Morning Adult Education Classes are listed on page 12.

More Opportunities: www.viennapres.org/study

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

High School Program Leader: VPC is seeking an individual with a commitment to leading high school students as they grow as followers of Jesus Christ. See www.viennapres.org/about_us/staff/openings/ for a full job description. Please direct all resumés and questions to Barry Hill, Director of Student Ministries, barry.hill@viennapres.org.

Are You in Job Transition? Bridgepoint Transitions support and networking group meets Wednesdays, 9-10:30 am in Rooms 203/204, for a time of spiritual encouragement, networking and job-seeking tips. Invite a friend who’s in job transition or come yourself to serve as a resource and encourager. Phil Kratovil, phil.kratovil@viennapres.org

From Grapevine Books:
- We invite you to shop for the 2009 VPC Christmas card (at left), Advent wreaths, candles, calendars and unique gifts.
- In addition to our regular Tues/Thurs/Sun hours, Grapevine will be open Dec. 20, 5:30-8 pm (Glorious Sounds concerts are at 4 and 7 pm).

From LARC Adult Library (2nd Floor):
- Used Books for Sale: Carts in front of the library have many almost-new books for sale. Find a wide range of subjects, not just religious, for you and also as Christmas gifts. Hardcover: $2. Paperbacks: $1.
- Library Donations: We welcome all types of gently-used books for the sale carts (religious books will be screened for the library). Proceeds go directly to the library. Bring your donations to the library door and, if you’d like a receipt, put your name in the box.
Sacred Rhythms Retreat for Men and Women:
Mar. 12-13, 2010. Do you desire deeper levels of change and transformation in your life? Are you longing for a way of life that works, but don’t know how to make it happen? Led by author Ruth Haley Barton (pictured below), this congregational retreat at VPC is designed to help you experience the spiritual practices that lead to deeper levels of spiritual transformation.

Early Registration
Discount ends Dec. 31.

For details on the retreat schedule and registration procedure, please visit www.viennapres.org/sacredrhythms.

CARE MINISTRIES
Details on the following ministries may be found at: www.viennapres.org/ministries/careprayer.

Christian Cancer Companions (CCC) support newly-diagnosed cancer patients. Trained volunteers call or visit individuals in that time between initial diagnosis and entering the care of experienced healthcare staff. Rita Lockwood, 703.573.6168 or luckylister32@verizon.net

GriefShare is a special seminar and support group for people grieving the death of someone close. The next cycle of meetings will begin in late January. Inajo Cox, 703.624.1747, and Bill and Sherrie Steinbach, 703.938.3106

NewSpring: Hope for the Sexually Abused educates and informs our community about sexual abuse and offers resources for hope and healing. david.jordan-haas@viennapres.org or ext. 116

Passages provides support to those experiencing the pain of marital separation or divorce. Meetings are held Tuesdays, 7 pm in Rooms 203/204. passages@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050

Stephen Ministers offer confidential, one-on-one care for people going through crises. They can offer a listening ear in a distinctively Christian way to people with all types of spiritual and emotional needs. lee.taylor@viennapres.org or ext. 103

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES
Become Part of the Sunday Morning Worship Team. We need volunteers to set up and operate the worship projectors on Sunday mornings, all services! (Early birds set-up 7:20 am and worship services as scheduled). Barb Jones, ext. 111

The Childcare Ministry wants to make the childcare wing a happy, warm, and inviting place to be! We would like to have a mural painted in the hallway in the childcare wing. Are you an artist who is interested in sharing your gifts with the families and children in our care? To hear more, please contact elaine.wright@viennapres.org or ext. 159.

Do You Have the Ability to organize people and events? We are seeking a volunteer to help with our New Members’ Team, which puts together New Member Seminars each year. There is a team in place but the current leader is ready to retire! Please contact Barb Jones at barb.jones@viennapres.org to learn more.

CHO/Northeast Vienna Citizens Association’s Food Drive continues through December. Please donate nonperishable groceries to local families in need. Especially welcome are diapers, laundry detergents, powdered milk, Velveeta, canned or dried fruits, and canned meats. Collection box is located near VPC’s 2nd floor office.

More Opportunities: www.viennapres.org/serve

Early Registration
Discount ends Dec. 31.

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Sunday Mornings at VPC

Children’s Room Assignments
8 am Bridges Class meets in Room 320

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Childcare: 8, 9:30 and 11 am</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>207</td>
<td>Lambs (Birthdates: Newborn–10/01/08)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>208</td>
<td>Bunnies (Birthdates: 10/01/07–09/30/08)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>209</td>
<td>Lion Cubs (Birthdates: 10/01/06–09/30/07)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Age/Grade (9:30 am)</th>
<th>Age/Grade (11 am)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>3s (age 3 on/before 9/30/09)</td>
<td>3s (age 3 on/before 9/30/09)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td>4s/Pre-K (age 4 by 9/30/09)</td>
<td>4s/Pre-K (age 4 by 9/30/09)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>117</td>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>312/313</td>
<td>1st Grade</td>
<td>2nd Grade (Room 313)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320</td>
<td>Bridges to Worship (4s-1st Grade)</td>
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<tr>
<td>317</td>
<td>2nd Grade</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>324</td>
<td>3rd Grade</td>
<td>3rd &amp; 4th Grades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322/323</td>
<td>4th Grade</td>
<td>Kindergarten &amp; 1st Grades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321</td>
<td>Gateways to Worship (2nd-4th Grades)</td>
<td>5th &amp; 6th Grades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>311</td>
<td>Friendship Club</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>308/309</td>
<td>5th &amp; 6th Grade Boys</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>310</td>
<td>5th &amp; 6th Grade Girls</td>
<td>Kindergarten &amp; 1st Grades (in addition to Room 322)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Ministries (Middle School/High School—Lower Level)
9-9:25 am: Breakfast; 9:30-10:30: Sunday School

Adult Education Classes

9:30 am

Friendship Class: For adults with intellectual disabilities. Room 108C. Teachers: Emmy Parker, Helen Neely & Beth Gourley

Lightseekers: In-depth discussion of this morning’s scripture text. Attendance at 8 am service not required. Parlor. Facilitator: Judy Chelson

Searchers in the Word: In-depth study of Jesus’ ministry in the Gospel of Mark, an action-filled narrative for practical living. The Bible is the main text, plus written and audio commentaries. Conference Room. Leader: Marion Billington


11:00 am
Berean: “Psalms—It is Not Just Poetry.” A look at the Psalms through the lens of prophecy, inspiration, thanksgiving, grief and wisdom. Drop-ins welcome! Rooms 203/204. Coordinators: Esther and Duane Harder


ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Bible Study: Open to adults (Intermediate or Advanced speakers of English) who wish to gain a better understanding of God’s Word, to build community and to improve English skills. Room 317. Leaders: Shun and Doris Ling