
Vale United Methodist Church



“Being Present with Light”

December 24, 2023

11528 Vale Road • Oakton, Virginia 22124

www.ValeChurch.org

In Person Worship at 10:00 a.m.

Virtual Worship at 8:30 a.m.

[Facebook.com/groups/valechurch](https://www.facebook.com/groups/valechurch)



United in faith, we seek to...

Align our lives with the way of Jesus Christ.

Invite others to journey with us.

Move beyond our walls to create a more just and loving world.

“Being Present with Light”

**WE CELEBRATE OUR PRESENCE TOGETHER:
GATHERING**

We gather as the people of God to be formed by God's grace.

Prelude

Welcome

Advent Wreath Lighting

One: We have unwrapped a present on each Sunday of Advent with great anticipation for the gifts that God reveals

Many: **We open our hearts as we open the gift!**

One: The gift of hope is an essential survival tool because it reminds us that the hard times do not have the last word. The gift of Christ's peace reminds us that we can have peace even in the midst of non-peaceful situations. The gift of joy is not the equivalent of happiness, but rather the deep call to delight in the small things. The gift of love is the clarion call to us as Jesus' disciples. The more love we put into the world, the better the world will be. And tonight we celebrate the presence of the Light among us. I invite you to stand as you are comfortable to sing together.

What Can I Give Him?
Chancel Choir & Congregation

*What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;
Yet what can I give Him? I will give my heart.*

Prayer of Presence

Many: Holy Living God, you are our Light. Let this light grow in our lives each day, so we can be a Present of Light to others. Unwrap and open our hearts. May it be so. Amen.

***Hymn “Joy to the World”**

UMH 246

The Peace

*From your seat, please offer your neighbors the peace of Jesus Christ.
The liturgist will call out “**May the peace of Christ be with you!**”
Please respond with, “**And also with you!**”*

**THE WORD PRESENT AMONG US:
PROCLAIMING**

We hear God’s word proclaimed. We act in response.



Hymn “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

UMH 251

First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-8

Special Music

“A Carol Celebration” arr. Fettke

Vale Chancel Choir and Congregation

A CAROL CELEBRATION

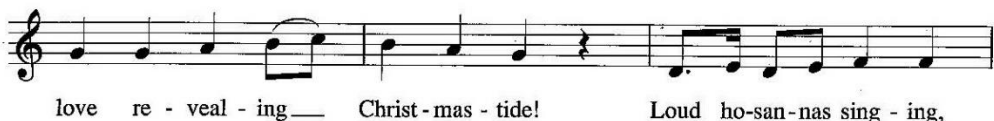
for congregation/audience

TRADITIONAL CAROLS
Arranged by TOM FETTKE

Verse 1: Rejoice, it is Christmastime! Rejoice, it is Christmastime!
(Choir only) Come lift your voice with jubilation.
Now it is time to sing, O now it is time to sing a joyous carol celebration. *(repeat)*

Verse 2: O thou joyful, O thou wonderful, peace revealing Christmastide!
(Choir only) Darkness disappearing, God's own light now nearing;
Peace and joy to all betide.

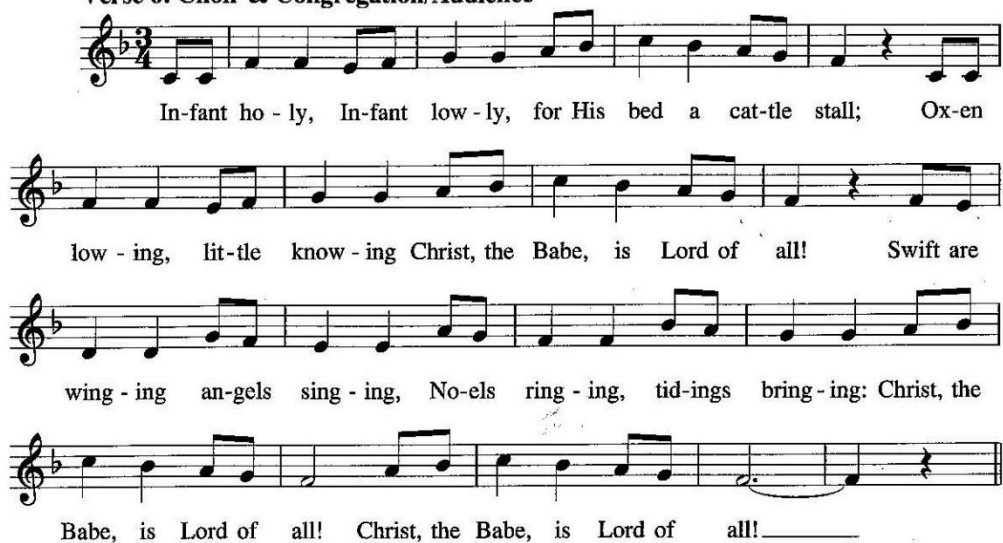
Verse 3: Choir & Congregation/Audience



Verse 4: Sing we now of Christmas. Noel sing we here!
(Choir only) Listen to our praises to the Babe so dear.
Sing we Noel, the King is born. Noel!
The King is born, the King is born, the King is born. Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas. Noel sing we here!
Listen to our praises to the Babe so dear, to the Babe so dear.

Verse 5: Rejoice, it is Christmastime! Rejoice, it is Christmastime!
(Choir only) Let's celebrate the birth of Jesus.
Come now and worship Him, O come now and worship Him,
Emmanuel, our "God is with us."

Verse 6: Choir & Congregation/Audience



In-fant ho - ly, In-fant low - ly, for His bed a cat-tle stall; Ox-en
low - ing, lit-tle know - ing Christ, the Babe, is Lord of all! Swift are
wing - ing an-gels sing - ing, No-els ring - ing, tid-ings bring - ing: Christ, the
Babe, is Lord of all! Christ, the Babe, is Lord of all! _____

Verse 7: O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him;
(Choir only) O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.

Verse 8: Choir & Congregation/Audience



O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O
come ye, O come_ ye to Beth - le - hem! Come and be -
hold Him, born the King of an - gels! O come, let us a -
dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a -
dore Him, _____ Christ, _____ the Lord. _____

Postlude: Rejoice, it is Christmastime! Rejoice, it is Christmastime! Rejoice! Rejoice!
(Choir only)

Second Reading

Luke 2:1-20

Special Music

“Mary, Did You Know?” arr. Larson

Todd Deppe, Jan Smith, duet

Children’s Moment (7:00 Service)

After the Children’s Moment, children will be dismissed to return to their families.

Sermon “Being Present with Light” Rev. Haugh

Special Music

“Christmastime” arr. Larson

Vale Chancel Choir

FULLY PRESENT IN THE MOMENT: PRAYING

We practice being present in the moment with God through prayer.

Call for Joys and Concerns

Call to Prayer

UMH 219

“What Child Is This”

*This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.*

Prayers of the People

You may send prayer requests to PrayerRequests@ValeChurch.org.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

God's Tithes and Our Offerings

***Doxology**

UMH 245

“The First Noel”
*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.*

***Blessing of the Offerings**

THANKSGIVING & COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

UMH 15

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

In the United Methodist tradition, all who seek to lead a Christian life, together with their children, are welcome to receive communion. Gluten-free elements are available upon request.

Communion Prayer

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRESENT TO THE WORLD: SENDING

Transformed by God's presence, we go into the world to serve.

“We Shall Light a Thousand Candles” by Rasbach Vale Chancel Choir

***Spreading the Light**

We pass the light of the Christ Candle. Please hold lit candles upright to avoid spilling wax, while unlit ones are tilted to meet them.

***Hymn “Silent Night”**

UMH 239

*** Blessing and Charge**

*** Postlude**

**Please stand in spirit or in posture.*

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

New Year's Eve, December 31, 2023

“Pajamas and Stories”

Dorothy Arbiter

UMH - *United Methodist Hymnal* (Blue)

TFWS - *The Faith We Sing* (Black)

W&S - *Worship and Song* (Green)

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Our Advent worship series comes from Worship Design Studio.

Sermon Notes and Illustrations

This is a page for you to take notes on the sermon or for our children and youth to illustrate what they've heard in the story today.

This Week at Vale: Dec 24 – Dec 31, 2023

Sun, Dec 24

10:00 am Lessons and Carols (In-Person)

7:00 pm Candlelight and Communion (In-Person)

9:00 pm Candlelight and Communion (In-Person)

9:00 pm Candlelight and Communion (Streamed)

Sun, Dec 31

10:00 am Pajamas and Stories (In-Person)

**The church office will be closed from Dec 22
until Jan 2, 2024**

2023 VALE CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Tom Feeney, Chair • Bob Lacy, Vice Chair • Susan Leigh, Secretary
Wayne Applewhite, Lay Leader • Bill Rigger, Finance
Bill Barnhart, Financial Secretary • Stan Ellis, Treasurer
Bette Rutherford, SPRC • Eric Koefoot, Trustees Chair
Stephanie Marshall, Witness Ministry
Linda Chrosniak, Outreach Ministry
Dorothy Arbiter, Lay Member of Annual Conference
Karen Leniart, United Methodist Women, President

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Norm Dietz, Accompanist/Organist

Vicky Alonzo, Nursery Caregiver
Olesya Ellis, Nursery Caregiver

Edilman Robles, Custodian