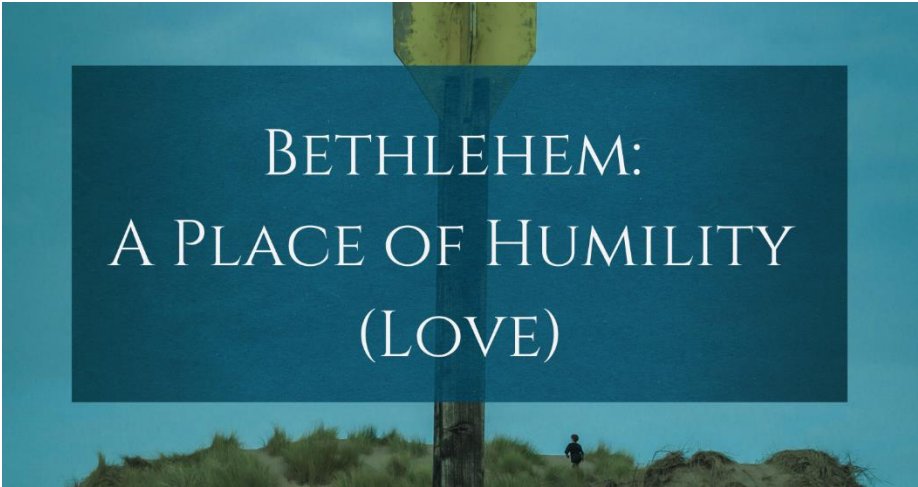

Vale United Methodist Church



BETHLEHEM: A PLACE OF HUMILITY (LOVE)

“Bethlehem: A Place of Humility”

December 22, 2024

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.

GATHERING

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

Prelude

“In Dulci Jubilo” arr. Quigly

Flute Trio

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

One: The journey continues, and this candle will help light our way.

Many: We are on our way to more love.

One: So many are in need of grace, in need of loving acceptance.

Many: We are a people who can bring Good News.

One: Stories of generosity are markers and signs that goodness is the nature of God.

Many: God's light goes before us, we are not alone.

Hymn “Advent Candlelight Carol”

Opening Prayer

The Peace

From your seat, please offer your neighbors the peace of Jesus Christ.

The lay reader will call out “Peace be with you!”

Please respond with, “And also with you!”

Hymn “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

UMH 220

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

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



Scripture

Romans 13:8-11

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:1-14

The reading will end with “A word of God that is still speaking.”

Please respond with “Thanks be to God.”

Children’s Moment

*After the Children’s Moment, children will be dismissed
to their Sunday School class.*

Sermon “Bethlehem: A Place of Humility”

Rev. Jeff Haugh

Hymn “Love Came Down at Christmas” UMH 242

Call for Joys and Concerns

Call to Prayer

UMH 204

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
His name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us,
His name is called Emmanuel.*

Prayers of the People

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

After each petition, there will be a moment of silence closed by

“Lord, in your mercy,” Please respond with,

“Hear our prayer.”

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

Special Music

“Once in Royal David’s City” arr. Quigly

Flute Trio

*Doxology

To the tune of “Away in a Manger”

Praise God for these gifts that we offer today

And bless them for good in the world, we pray.

Praise Jesus, the Christ-Child, our Hope and our Stay,

The Spirit, our Keeper, our Guide on the Way. Amen.

Blessing of the Offerings

Hymn “Angels We Have Heard on High” UMH 238

SENDING FORTH

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

Mission and Ministry Opportunities

* Blessing and Charge

*After the service, please join us in the Fellowship Hall
for refreshments and conversation!*

Hymn

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” UMH 230, v 4

*O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray,
Cast out our fear, and draw us near; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.*

* Postlude

**Please stand in spirit or in posture.*

UMH – United Methodist Hymnal (Blue)

TFWS – The Faith We Sing (Black)

W&S – Worship and Song (Green)

Lay Reader:

8:30 Bette Rutherford

10:00 Kim Sheard

ADVENT CANDLELIGHT CAROL

Verses 4

Choir and Congregation

Ad - vent can - dle burn - ing bright through the night, shine your
light of love tell - ing peo - ple ev - 'ry - where: soon the Sav - ior
comes, soon He will be here! Peo - ple gath - er and pre -
pare in the night with the light, light of love!

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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.

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

1st Sunday after Christmas, December 29, 2024

Pajamas and Stories

Dorothy Arbiter

RECENTLY AT VALE:



Christmas Tree sales are over! A huge thank you to Mike Martin for ensuring this year's sales were a success!

This Week at Vale: Dec 22 – 29, 2024

Sun, Dec 22

- 8:30 am Worship Service (Virtual)
- 9:00 am Adult Sunday School
- 10:00 am Worship Service (In-Person)
- 10:15 am Children's Sunday School
- 11:00 am Children's Choir
- 4:00 pm Christmas Nativity Play***

Tues, Dec 24

- 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service

Wed, Dec 25

Merry Christmas!

Sun, Dec 29

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

*The church office will be closed Mon, Dec 23
through Thurs, Jan 2*

* see announcement for details

Vale Mission and Ministry Opportunities

"Not a Spectator Sport"

Dec 22, 2024

WELCOME FRIENDS! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

Whether you are new to the area or a long-time resident, we warmly welcome you to our community of faith at Vale Church!

We look forward to meeting you in person—and hope to see you with us again soon!

Video Recording Notice – We occasionally record and publish our worship services. If you do not wish for your image to be shown, please alert the pastor or the church office.



Vale UMC is proud to be recognized as a Safe Haven congregation. If you suspect signs of human trafficking, please call 888-373-7888 or text 233733.

Enjoy today's message? – Services can also be found on YouTube and Facebook by searching for "Vale United Methodist Church". If you would like a DVD, please let us know.

Church updates – Did you know Vale sends out via email a weekly *Shout* and a monthly *Voice* with church updates? If you are **not** receiving our emails and would like to, please let the Vale office know.

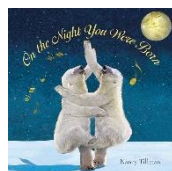
Do you want to support Vale's ministries? Did you know that you can give to Vale online? We use the respected vendor Push Pay. You don't have to set up an account and you can designate your offering for a particular mission, program or for the general church funding. Go to <http://pushpay.com/g/valechurch> and see how easy it is. The information is confidential and secure.

If you have any questions or run into any difficulty using Push Pay, please contact our Financial Secretary, Tom Feeney, at FinSec@ValeChurch.org



Year End Staff Recognition – It is a tradition at Vale UMC to recognize each of our staff at year end with a monetary gift. This gift is our way of saying “THANK YOU” for their efforts in supporting our Vale community through their gifts and graces. Please prayerfully consider contributing to this fund as our staff have all gone above and beyond in keeping the light of Christ alive at Vale. Contributions may be made via Push Pay or via check. If paying by check please write Staff Year End Gift in the memo section of your check and place it in one of the collection plates or the box on the welcome table. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Bette Rutherford, Staff Parish Chair, at 703-620-2448.

Christmas Nativity – TODAY Dec 22 at 4pm, Vale & Community of Faith will come together for a Christmas Nativity Play. We are looking for all ages to participate and offer their gifts as we tell the story of when Jesus was born. We hope to see you there!



Pajamas and Stories – On Dec 29, we will have our Pajamas and Stories service, led by Dorothy Arbitr. This is a relaxed, informal service where you are welcome to come as you are, pajamas and all! There will be no Children’s Sunday School, as the service is for all ages.

Holiday Worship Schedule:

Sun, Dec 22

- 8:30 am Worship Service (Virtual)
- 10:00 am Worship Service (In-Person)
- 10:15 am Children’s Sunday School
- 4:00 pm Children’s Nativity

Tues, Dec 24

- 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service

Sun, Dec 29

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

*The church office will be closed Mon, Dec 23
through Thurs, Jan 2*

2024 VALE CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Bob Lacy, Chair

Dorothy Arbiter, Lay Leader • Stan Ellis, Finance
Bette Rutherford, SPRC • Eric Koefoot, Trustees Chair
Linda Chrosniak, Missions Committee
Andrea Chapas • Debbie German

Karen Leniart, United Methodist Women, President
Tom Feeney, Financial Secretary
Judy Jobbitt, Assistant Financial Secretary

VALE CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Haugh, Pastor
Cell: 571-459-1181 / Pastor@ValeChurch.org

Loris Michaelis, Office Administrator
703-620-2594 / Office@ValeChurch.org

Miracle Ryder, Director of Children and Youth Ministries
703-620-2594 / ValeDCYM@gmail.com

Diane Willard, Director of Vale Preschool
703-620-2594 / Preschool@ValeChurch.org

Jan Smith, Music Director
703-620-2594 / Music@ValeChurch.org

Norm Dietz, Accompanist/Organist

Vicky Alonzo, Nursery Caregiver
Olesya Ellis, Nursery Caregiver

Edilman Robles, Custodian