
Vale United Methodist Church



PERSIA:
A PLACE OF RETURN

“Persia: A Place of Return”

December 29, 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.

1st Sunday after Christmas December 29, 2024
“Persia: A Place of Return”

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

One: The journey continues, and the light remains.

Many: We have been changed on this journey.

One: We have journeyed from grand to humble places in search of Good News.

Many: We are a people who believe that Good News resides in every place.

One: The milestones and markers of hope, peace, joy, and love have guided us along the way.

Many: God's light continues to go before us, we are never 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 “**May the peace of Christ be with you!**”*

*Please respond with, “**And also with you!**”*

Hymn “We Three Kings”

UMH 254

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

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



Scripture

Matthew 2:1-12

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 return to their families.*

Sermon “Christmas Readings”

Dorothy Arbiter

Hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

UMH 211

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

*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 “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

UMH 251

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:

10:00

Dorothy Arbiter

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 Christ!

© Copyright 2019 CandelaWorks Music (ASCAP), a division of Jubilate Music Group, LLC.
P.O. Box 3607, Brentwood, TN 37024.
All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA.

The publisher hereby grants non-transferable permission to reprint the material on this page for the purpose of congregational participation. The music must be reproduced with the title and all credits including the copyright notice.

License Information

CCLI

Copyright License 441761

Streaming License 20109494

One License

A-731934

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

2nd Sunday after Christmas, January 5, 2025

Rev. Alyssa Densham

We will celebrate Communion on Jan 12

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 29, 2024 – Jan 5, 2025

Sun, Dec 29

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

Wed, Jan 1

Happy New Year!

Sat, Jan 4

10:30 am Prayer Shawl Ministry

Sun, Jan 5

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

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

Vale Mission and Ministry Opportunities

"Not a Spectator Sport"

Dec 29, 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.

Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed – We are in need of volunteers for the next few Sundays to help provide coffee and snacks for after our 10:00 service. Please sign up on Vale’s website to help out!

Hypothermia Shelter – On January 10 and 11, Vale is once again providing meals for the Hypothermia Shelter at Christ Lutheran Church. We need a few more volunteers to cook and serve meals. Please sign up to help out on Vale’s website!

Youth Group – All youth 6th through 12th grade are invited to gather together on Sunday, January 12th from 4-6pm at Vale. We will study, play and share a meal together. Friends and neighbors are welcome. If you have questions or to rsvp, talk with Miracle directly or email her at valedcym@gmail.com

Rise Against Hunger – With tree sales over, the next step is our Rise Against Hunger packing event! Join us on Feb 2, 2025 to see the huge impact that our community has on world hunger. Sign ups are available on Vale’s website.

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