

A Service of Lessons & Carols

December 25, 2011 ~ 10:00am

NARRATORS *Dotty Rashba, Rev. Jeff Bennett*

PRELUDE *Danny Booth*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *Bev Schaffield*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH *The Sheppe Family*

Narrator: O God, we are assured of your presence with us.
People: Help us to trade our doubts for your assurance.
Narrator: Help us to trust your plan for our lives;
People: We celebrate Emmanuel - God with us. Amen.

*HYMN 220 (vv. 1, 2)
“Angels From the Realms of Glory”

LESSON ONE
Christ’s Coming Foretold by Isaiah
Isaiah 11:1-3, 9:6-7, 40:5

NARRATION

HYMN 216 (v. 1)
“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

Narrator: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
People: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given.
Narrator: And the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called
People: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Ever-lasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Narrator: Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end.

Narrator: You will know who he is because you will find him dressed in cloths and lying on a bed of hay.” Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of angels praising God and saying,

People: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased!”

HYMN *“Angels We Have Heard on High”* 238 (vv. 1, 4)

LESSON SIX
Jesus Fulfills The Prophecy
Luke 4:16-21

Narrator: When Jesus began to preach, he was about thirty year old. He went to the meeting place on the Sabbath. When he stood up to read from the Scriptures he was given the book of Isaiah the prophet. He opened it and read,

People: “The Lord’s Spirit has come to me, because he has chosen me to tell the good news to the poor. The Lord has sent me to announce freedom for prisoners, to give sight to the blind, and to free everyone who suffers, and to say, This is the year the Lord has chosen.”

Narrator: Jesus closed the book and sat down. Everyone in the meeting place looked straight at Jesus. Then Jesus said to them, “What you have just heard me read has come true today.”

LESSON SEVEN
We Are Called To Live the Message
Ephesians 4:23-24, 5:1-2

Narrator: Be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind - having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude; and put on the new nature created in God’s image, in true righteousness and holiness.

People: Therefore, be imitators of God - copy Him and follow His example - and walk in love, esteeming and delighting in one another, as Christ loves us.

Following Children's Time kids through 5th grade are invited to return to their seats for the rest of *Lessons & Carols*.

Sunday morning snacks are provided by the Kilpatrick family. Thank you!

At the back of the sanctuary you'll find **The Giving Tree**, adorned with **Publix gift cards**. You are invited to take a card from the tree and have Publix "charge it up" in an amount of \$15, \$20, or \$25. Place it in the offering plate the following Sunday and we'll get the cards to BEAM (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry) where staffers will distribute them to those in need of diapers, formula and food items not available in the BEAM pantry. (Please don't put more than \$25 on a single card; a gift of multiple cards is preferred.) Forget to get a card from the tree? Any grocery gift card will do!

To ensure your 2011 contributions are credited to your giving record, your gift should arrive at the church office no later than noon on Friday, December 30. This assures that it will be deposited and credit will be given for 2011. Consider blessing your church with a **year-end gift**.

Gifts designated **Building Fund** are being held for **future building/property acquisition**. If you'd like to help with the building we already have, please give to the **General Fund**. That's the source of funding for our mortgage payments. (If we fall short in 2012, monies held in reserve from the *Building on Faith* capital campaign will be used to make up the shortfall on the principal portion of the mortgage payments.)

Anyone who currently does not have **offering envelopes** but would like them for 2012, please sign up on the clipboard on the table at the rear of the sanctuary or you can e-mail our accountant Jim Larsen at jim.larsen@pv-umc.org. If you have been receiving envelopes but do not wish to use them, we would like to know that too.

The New Year is just around the corner and **Sunday morning snacks** are needed for January. Please check the calendar in the hallway near the nursery. A small group can sponsor a Sunday or a group of neighbors or an extended family or just a group of friends. And while you're there, check the calendar for providing flowers for the alter. That calendar is filling up quickly as people select dates throughout the year that are special to them.

Shepherds are needed to man the information table for the **9:30 *Alive!*** service. It's easy and fun, just greet newcomers or other visitors and tell them what's happening at Ponte Vedra UMC. You can sign up for a specific Sunday each month or for a one-time trial. Handouts are provided on the table. If you are interested, contact Dixie Thalmueller, dixie.thalmueller@pv-umc.org.

Interested in joining PVUMC? Or just learning more about the church? Pastor Jeff will lead a new member orientation on Sunday, January 22 from 3:00 to 5:00pm. Please let our administrative assistant Susan Bowler know if you're coming (susan.bowler@pv-umc.org, 280-5141). With advance notice we can arrange for childcare for children younger than Kindergarten.

Pastor Jeff and his family will be enjoying the best the Midwest has to offer as they enjoy time with Jeff's family in Toledo, Ohio. Jeff will be back in the office on Tuesday, January 3. In the event of a pastoral emergency contact member **Bev Schaffield** at 221-7262 or 704-7246.

Next Sunday we return to our regular Sunday morning schedule with **9:30 *Alive!*** and **11:00 Traditions** worship services. The Reverend Donna Bowen will bring us the message **Holy Moments and Thin Spaces**; her text will be Ecclesiastes 3:1-13.



Narrator: Christmas is both a fact and a faith. It is a song out of the heart of God for a hungry world. It means much that we can hear it, despite fears and troubles, forever singing above the din of strife; and, hearing it, take up its strain in the busy world of today. At last it will be fulfilled that the world will fill up with persons of goodwill who keep step with God's music and live by his law, people who know that we are made for love because God is love, and that love and joy must blend in the final note of the great world song.

HYMN 204

"Emmanuel"

NARRATION

*HYMN 246

"Joy To The World"

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Welcome! To our guests today we extend a warm welcome and pray that God will meet you in today's service and send you forth with His peace and joy.

For our regular worshipers we pray that your continuing presence here will equip you to serve God faithfully and effectively.



76 S Roscoe Blvd
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
904-280-5141

www.pv-umc.org
Office Hours: 10:00am - 2:00pm
Tuesday - Friday
Closed Mondays

CHURCH STAFF

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Pastor | Jeff Bennett |
| Youth Minister | Kelly Minter |
| Children's Minister | Anne Torgerson |
| Contemporary Music | Scott Tinsley |
| Traditional Music | Elisabeth Callahan |
| Nursery Coordinator | Kim Knopp |
| Admin. Assistant | Susan Bowler |
| Accountant | Jim Larsen |
| Custodian | James Wooton |



Lessons & Carols

December 25, 2011

10:00 a.m.