



Welcome to a church where everyone matters
and everyone belongs.

Prelude Welcome

*"Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born."*

Advent Candle

Leader: This season of preparation is half done, and today we
light the third candle of our wreath. It is pink to remind us

that there is so much about which we should rejoice.

Women: **In the midst of all the parties and merriment, we are a**

**people seeking true joy in the arms of the One who
comes to bring it. Even as night continues to
lengthen, we sense the coming of light that will
brighten our days.**

Men: **We rejoice in the Anointed One who came and who
comes. With joy-filled hearts, we join the energy of
our life to the life whose birth we anticipate, so we
light this third candle and name it Joy.**

(candle is lit)

Light of Christ

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen.**

Call to Worship/Prayer

Leader: People of God: be glad! Your God delights in you.

**People: God gives us joy for sadness and turns the dark to
light.**

Leader: Be strong in hope therefore; for your God comes to save.

People: We are God's children.

**All: Lord, make us one in the love of Christ today and
forever.**

Leader: Let us pray ...

**Holy God of Joy, we rejoice in the reality of who you are. We
live within the joy of your love for us. Our contentment comes
and goes. Our happiness ebbs and flows. But our joy is deeply
rooted in our identity as your adored children. And we give
you thanks. Amen.**

***Opening Hymn** #143 "Joy to the World"

Sharing of Joys and Concerns/Morning Prayer

Call to Offering

Offertory "Joseph's Lullaby" Kevin Keil

Junior Choir - Althea Madigan, Director

***Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures
here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son
and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

With these gifts, dear God, accept the praise and thanksgiving of
our hearts, which rejoice in your goodness and love. Let these gifts
point to your presence in the world, and further your hope for the
world through Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us. Amen.

"All About That Baby"

Children's Musical

***Closing Hymn** #442 "We Are Walking"

(walking, dancing, singing)

***Benediction**

Postlude "Good Christians All Rejoice" arr. Sergisson

***All who are able are invited to stand.**

**Please join us downstairs after the service
for coffee and refreshments in Fellowship Hall.**

Today's Preludes

James Burr, Organist

"Christmas Time Is Here" Guaraldi
"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" Whitworth/Willis
"A Medley of Children's Christmas Music"

Debi Hockenberry, Director of Christian Education

Reminder...Sunday School ends at 11:15 AM.

In Our Ongoing Prayers

Bill and Holly Boutwell on the death of his sister, Meg; Shirley Bryant; Geoffrey Stone, Emily Westerberg's father, on the death of his brother Tom; Gerry Dyar's family and the Mooers family on the death of Gerry's half-brother Bob Mooers; Elizabeth Fry, Joanne Myer's mother; Janina Majkowski, Cheryl Turner's grandmother; James Purnell; Linda Dayton; Sara Levy; Julie, friend of the Turner family; Geraldine Strong; Tim Madigan; Lorraine Grork, Pam Lyons' friend; Pat Lazeren; Shirley McElroy; Helen Dyar; Dean Hockenberry; Helen Dahling; Dave Hollister; Ryan Meneses; Joyce Smith; John Arthur; Brian, 11 years old, fighting cancer; Daniel Burnett-Pollack; Debbie Chase; Dick Myer; Margaret Klukas; Paul Westerberg; people struggling with mental illness, and their families; the people of Syria; Heidi Howie; Mason Bower; Michael Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Cooper Doyle *New additions in bold print*

Today's Activities

Christmas Cookie Sale during Coffee Hour: For just \$6, fill a box with Christmas cookies! Sponsored by Women's Fellowship.

Christmas Giving Tree: Today is the last day to choose a tag from the tree in the back of the Sanctuary. Gift cards (for older children) can be purchased from the Scrip-Your-All table during Coffee Hour. Please place your new, unwrapped gift (or gift card) under the tree by next Sunday, December 18 (**Note:** If in clement weather cancels the church service, gifts will be collected in the church breezeway between 8-10 AM on Monday, December 19.). Any questions, please contact Sue Moreau at susan.j.moreau@gmail.com or 860-268-8801.

Joseph's Lullaby

by Kevin Keil

Mary, sleeping babe at her side.
Who can know my wonder, my pride?

Friend and companion, beautiful wife,
You heard God's word spoken and brought it to life.

Little dreamer, open your eyes,
Let me look deeply inside,

To gaze on your wonder undimmed by despair
To watch you discover God's work ev'rywhere.

Dream your dreams of Angels and light.
I'll be there throughout the long night.

A man needs deep silence to feel such deep joy,
you're God's promised coming, but my little boy.

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This Week's Activities

Ways & Means: Monday, December 12, 7 PM, Kellogg Hall

January CARILLON Deadline

Tuesday, December 13

Men's Breakfast Group: Tuesday, December 13, 6:30 AM at Vernon Diner

Prayer Shawl: Tuesday, December 13, 1 PM, Kellogg Hall

Trustees: Tuesday, December 13, 6:30 PM, Jesus Junkies classroom

Deacons: Tuesday, December 13, 7 PM, Kellogg Hall

Sanc. Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, December 15, 7:30 PM, Kellogg Hall

Grief Support Group: Friday, December 16, 10:30 AM, Kellogg Hall

Teddy Bear Ministry: Teddy Bears are sitting in the pews for you to take and give or send to someone in need of a bit of caring love. In order to keep this ministry going, we are asking for monetary donations to the Women's Fellowship Teddy Bear Ministry Fund or you may buy a bear (10"-12") and leave it in the Church Office. Contact Joanne Myer at 860-872-9222 or jmyer0146@yahoo.com if you have questions.

Child Care is available for church activities when notice is given 3 days prior to the event. Call Child Care Coordinator, Jen Jensen, 860-836-5824.

Church Office

860-875-7580

Email

church.secretary@firstchurchofvernon.org

Website

www.firstchurchofvernon.org

"ALL ABOUT THAT BABY"

Scene 1

Morning in Bethlehem

"Waiting for a Miracle" with "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Scene 2

Sheep Trip

"Sheep Stuff"

Scene 3

Town

"Messiah"

Scene 4

Shepherds in a Field

"All About That Baby"

Scene 5

Field

"Star in the Sky" with "We Three Kings"

Scene 6

Plan B

"That Holy Night" with "O Holy Night"

Scene 7

A Babe in a Stable

"He Shall Reign Forevermore"

Scene 8

Finale

"Hope for a Broken World" with "Sheep Stuff" and
"All About That Baby"

CAST

Nathaniel	Paul Westerberg
Joanna	Sarah Turner
Simone	Lillian Westerberg
Older Nathaniel	Lana Houlberg
Max	Cole Jackson
Beatrice	Avery Prewo
Michael	Nick Giordano
Ahab	Luke Jensen
CeCe	Joclyn Leary
JoJo	Aurianna Palmer
Judah	Joseph Bradford
Wise Man 1	Dalton Houlberg
Wise Man 2	Riley Summers
Wise Man 3	Seth Jensen
Joseph	Jameson Leary
Mary	Julianne Bradford
Angels	Brandon Wrona, Brady Wrona, Michael Turner
Townspeople	Cam Doyle, Christopher Jackson, Ryan Jamieson, Garrett Jensen, Carlito King, Becket Morse, Robert Parrott, Addison Uldrikis
Lambs	Hayden Cima, Jacob Bilodeau, Olivia Bilodeau, Taylor Cariboni, Peyton Jamieson, Dominick Lisowski, Colin Olmstead, Shawn Parrott, Hudson Prewo, Robbie Summers, Jayla Welz, Kiley Uldrikis
Co-Directors	Leanne Connolly, Debi Hockenberry
Tech Crew	Alex Fowler, Emily Hampton, Rachael Jackson, Steve Westerberg
Our very patient Teachers	Karen Bradford, Val Ellis, Kate Fowler, Deb Hampton, Christa Hockenberry, Greg Mias, Millie Oliphant, Holly Olmstead

***Have a very Merry Christmas and remember,
it's All About That Baby!!!***

