



Vineville

Baptist Church



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

DECEMBER 15, 2019

10:45 AM

GOD CAME NEAR

PRESENTED BY THE VINEVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH MUSIC MINISTRY

Prelude	<i>The Song of the Angels</i>	Hughes
Welcome		Leigh Halverson
Music for Meditation	<i>Overture to God Came Near</i>	Fettke
Invocation		Melissa Kremer
Lighting of the Candle of Joy		George Pearson
Pastor:	Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;	
People:	Ye who sang creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth.	
Pastor:	Saints before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear;	
People:	Suddenly, the Lord, descending, in His temple shall appear;	
Pastor:	Come and worship! Come and worship!	
People:	Worship Christ, the newborn King!	
Pastor:	And so in anticipation of our Lord's Advent on this Third Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of Joy.	
*Hymn 107	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	ST. LOUIS
Children's Sermon		Russell Honeycutt
The Lord's Prayer		
Offertory	<i>From Heaven Above to Earth I Come</i>	Karg-Elert
Pastoral Prayer		Richard Kremer

God Came Near: The Miracle and Majesty of Christmas
Music composed by Tom Fettke and narration written by Max Lucado

❖Advent Celebration

❖Nothing Is Impossible With God

Mary Kay Smith, soloist

❖On This Holy Night

❖The Night Was Ordinary No More

❖A Child and Yet a King

❖Magi from the East

❖The Christmas Gifts

Kelley Dixson, soloist

❖Light and Life

Mary Kay Smith and Kelley Dixson, duet

Invitation to Discipleship

Richard Kremer

*Hymn of Response 119

His Name Is Called Emmanuel

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Celebrations and Concerns

Richard Kremer

*Benediction

Richard Kremer

*Postlude

Gloria!

Martin

Soprano

Jean Corson
Kelley Dixson
Barbara Hawkins
Sandra Higgison
Peggy Hindsman
Luann McCook
Ann Purser
Mary Kay Smith
Samantha Walker
Gyni Wood

Alto

Cathy Corrigan
Jackie Fry
Linda Johnson
Kathy Kendrick
Melissa Kremer
Alisa Rehberg
Pat Schaible
Jane Self
Lyn Simonton
Paula Sparrow
Norma Thompson
Pam Wacter

Tenor

Dan Caldwell
Emmanuel Enoghayin
Charles Schaible
Cliff Skelton
Benjamin Smith
Matthew Smith
Bob Willingham, Jr.

Bass

Don Kendrick
Harold McAbee
Marc McCook
Joel Peed
Ches Rehberg
Mark Wood

Narrators

Mary Catherine O'Neal
Russell Honeycutt

Violin

Rachael Smith
Julia Wiley

Viola

Jonathan Fleischman

Cello

Kuei-Fan Chen

Bass

Austin Carter

Flute

Jasmine Carter

Oboe

Adrian Gnam

Clarinet

Monty Cole

Trumpet

Dillon Watkins
Richard Purser

Trombone

John Fry, Sr.
Kelly Graves
Wil Platt
James Rehberg

French Horn

Anna Schmitz
Frieda Underwood

Harp

Betsy Fitzgerald

Percussion

Emily Hall
Grayson Mullis
Emma Mullis

Piano

Ann Caldwell

THE PLAY'S THE THING!

“The play’s the thing,” announced William Shakespeare’s Hamlet centuries ago – and it is still true. This coming Wednesday, December 18, at 6:30 pm, The Vineville Baptist Players will present *The Christmas Maker*, a three-act comedy intended for all generations – and participated in by all generations. An older lady famed for her charity work at Christmas, known to everyone as “the Christmas Maker,” enlists four unlikely assistants to help her coax generosity from a tight-fisted scrooge who owns most of the town’s businesses. Meanwhile, even as this older lady petitions God for a replacement who can continue her ministry of beneficence to the needy, her grandson embarks on a plan to “make Christmas” for the Christmas Maker. Plots intertwine throughout the play, but ultimately the Christmas Maker’s adage is proved true: “It will all work out alright.”

Plan to be present Wednesday – and bring a friend. We will have our usual Wednesday evening meal, beginning at 5:30 pm, then plan to be present in the sanctuary early for a night you will not forget.

Of course this morning provides us with another treat, our adult choir’s presentation of the Christmas cantata, *God Came Near*. We thank Angela Blizzard, the choir, and all of our instrumentalists who are combining their talents this morning to provide us with this “sermon in song.” We can enter worship this morning confident that God will bestow a meaningful blessing upon us. We thank all of these musicians for sharing their gifts with us.

Speaking of sharing our gifts, you should have received a pledge card in the mail this week. I remind you that during the service next Sunday we will afford time for you to bring your pledge card to the altar as a sign of your willingness to invest in the Kingdom of God and in the ministry of Vineville Baptist Church. This communal expression of our willingness to engage in stewardship provides a powerful testimony of our collective gratitude unto God for the blessings we enjoy. What more appropriate way to celebrate the Sunday of Love on the Fourth Sunday of Advent than to bring our own expressions of love to God’s table?

I want to look back a moment in gratitude for everyone who helped making Hanging of the Green such a special Sunday. The combined efforts of all the choirs and decorators produced a moving celebratory morning of worship. Thanks especially to Roslyn Platt for superintending our creative chaos. A visitor who was passing through Macon and had stopped to worship with us told me, “I have never participated in a Hanging of the Green before, but I found it thrilling.” So, too, did I. I thank everyone for making it so. And thanks to Melissa and all of her cooks, servers and cleaners for providing us with a delicious breakfast to start the day.

Remember that the Christmas play this Wednesday marks our last Wednesday service until Wednesday, January 8. Of course, we are on our one-worship schedule for the next two Sundays, and we will be having Sunday School on the Sunday of December 29th. The *Candles, Carols, and Communion* service will be at 5 pm the evening of the 24th. Come and bring a friend.

Three final reminders: 1) we have made more Advent devotional booklets available to you this morning; 2) the final XYZ meeting of 2019 will be this Thursday at noon; and 3) if you aren’t able to present your pledge card next Sunday, please be sure send it to Peggy Jones as soon as possible.

A word from your pastor,
Dr. Richard Kremer

YOUTH

Today: Dress rehearsal for play at 4:00 pm. Rehearsals on Monday and Tuesday will be at 6:00 pm.

Wednesday: Youth will participate in or attend *The Christmas Maker* play with the rest of the congregation following dinner.

Progressive Dinner: On Saturday, December 21st, youth will meet at 5:00 pm at the church for our annual Christmas dinner, travelling to three different homes for celebration. Please bring a \$5 wrapped gift to share at the end of our evening. We may try to sing a carol or two as well!

ADVENT BOOKLETS

Advent booklets are available today if you have not received one.

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

There are opportunities to serve in 8:30 and 10:45 worship services, 9:30 Sunday School, and Wednesday nights with babies through kindergarten. Please contact Leigh Halverson for more information.

PLEDGE CARDS

A reminder that pledge cards will be collected next Sunday during the worship service. Please contact Peggy Jones if you did not receive a pledge card.



The Christmas Maker

A Three-Act Comedy at
Vineville Baptist Church
Wednesday, December 18 6:30 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 18

The Christmas Maker
Three-Act Comedy Play

December 24

Christmas Eve Service 5:00 pm

THIS WEEK AT VINEVILLE

Sunday, December 15

8:30 AM No Early Service
9:15 AM Media Library
9:35 AM Bible Study
10:45 AM *God Came Near*
4:00 PM Play Rehearsal All Ages

Monday, December 16

6:00 PM Play Rehearsal All Ages

Tuesday, December 17

6:00 PM Play Rehearsal All Ages

Wednesday, December 18

9:00 AM Media Library
5:30 PM Vineville Brass
5:30 PM Family Supper
6:30 PM *The Christmas Maker*

Thursday, December 19

12:00 AM XYZ Meeting

Friday, December 20

No Activities

Saturday, December 21

5:00 PM Youth Progressive Dinner

Sunday, December 22

8:30 AM No Early Service
9:15 AM Media Library
9:35 AM Bible Study
10:45 AM Worship

There will be no adult choir rehearsal on
December 18, 25, and January 1.

A CONVENIENT OPTION FOR GIVING



The QR code can be scanned with your smartphone and it will direct you to the VBC giving website.

DEACON OF THE WEEK

The Deacon of the Week is Michael O'Neal. Next week is Pam Wacter.

LIVE STREAMING

If you are unable to attend our worship services, you can stream them live from our website: www.vbcmacon.org.

REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 8

ATTENDANCE

Bible Study	214
8:30 Worship	---
10:45 Worship	245

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Offering	\$16,893
Following Christ 2 (YTD)	\$13,736
YTD Budget Contributions	\$749,524

OUR STAFF

Richard Kremer	Pastor
Angela Blizzard	Minister of Music & Youth
Leigh Halverson	Minister to Family & Education
Peggy Jones	Financial Administrator
Jody Thornton	Administrative Assistant
Ginny Ferguson	Receptionist
Sandra Head	Music Ministry Coordinator
Tonia Boyd	Weekday Morning School
Kathy McCray	Higher Life

OUR LAY LEADERSHIP

Church Council	Todd Smith	474-6333
Deacon Ministry	Kathy Kendrick	256-3468
Grief Ministry	Nell Jones	960-6195
Homebound	Ann Purser	477-7549
Media Center	Kay Defore	476-9986
Men's Ministry	Todd Smith	474-6333
Missions	Jim Jones	757-8411
Senior Adults-XYZ	Jackie Odom	746-1716
Sunday School	Jeane Easom	719-1289