

the longest night

A SERVICE OF HOPE, HEALING AND ENCOURAGEMENT

December 21, 7:00PM

Vienna Presbyterian Church
124 Park Street NE
Vienna, VA 22180
www.viennapres.org

“Even the darkness is not dark to You; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to You.” Psalm 139:12

The Longest Night Service

Prelude

David Steiner

As the Deer, arr. Medema

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Hope Lee

*Call to Worship

Rev. Charles Geschiere

Leader: As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

People: My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

Leader: When shall I come and behold the face of God?

People: My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

Leader: Hope in God; for we shall again praise Him.

People: My help and my God (Psalm 42, excerpts)

*Hymn #527

Patrick Sobolik

Near to the Heart of God

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Leader: We light the first candle and remember those we have loved and lost. We pause to recall their names, their faces, their voices. We give thanks to God for them, and for His love that binds us to them in life and death.

People: May God's presence surround us with eternal love.

(Lighting of the first candle)

Leader: We light the second candle and name our losses: the loss of relationships, the loss of employment, the loss of health. We gather up the pain of the past and offer it to God, asking for the gift of peace from His hands.

People: May God's presence restore, refresh, and renew us.
(Lighting of the second candle)

Leader: We light the third candle and recognize ourselves in this season. We pause and recall: the disbelief, the anger, the emptiness, the sadness...family, friends, and all who have stood with us in support.

People: May God's presence show us that dawn defeats night, and that light shines in the darkness.
(Lighting of the third candle)

Leader: We light the fourth candle and call to mind God's promises which nurture our faith and kindle our hope. We affirm that, in Jesus Christ, God shares our life, experiences our pain and suffering, and leads us into new life.

People: May God reveal Christ to us as the Way, the Truth, and the Life.
(Lighting of the fourth candle)

Naming of our Loved Ones in Remembrance

*Hymn #543 *Abide with Me*
During this hymn you are invited, if you choose, to take a flower and place it on the Communion Table in honor and remembrance of your loved one(s).

Scripture Reading Psalm 130; Psalm 139:12

Homily Rev. Connie Jordan-Haas

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Rev. Dr. Lee and Rev. Geschiere
Let All Mortal Flesh and When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

*Hymn #38 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

*Benediction

*Postlude David Steiner
Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing, arr. Hayes

* Please stand if comfortable

In Remembrance

Diane Abel's mother

Gayle McGarvey Feather

Lech Andura

Gina Florence's father

Barbara Elaine Arnold

Barbara Forrest's uncle

Rebecca Bates

Albert "Al" Joseph Grouge

Sylvio Bousquin

Robert (Bob) Heiderer

Faye Brooke

Cassie Jackson's father

Jordan Claire Burt-Lynn

Donna Jakobsson

Gordon Green Campbell II

Ted Jakobsson

Burrus "Buzz" Carnahan

Ruby Jogasury

Sarah Chun's mother

Winnie Jogasury

Doris Bayer Coster

Mark Johnson

William A. Engels

Helen Jones

Mark Farner's mother

Marjorie Kenney

Charlie Farrell

Jayne Kent

In Remembrance

Travis King

Kenneth Ray Moore

Sharon Kinzer

Lucy Nichols' uncle

Thelma Helen Klopp

Rhoda Nickerson

James Leland Kraemer

Nancy Offield's husband

Greg Leggett

Carol Olsen

Robert Leggett

Dr. Roger Petersen

Lisa LeJune's sister Shelly

Hans Peter Pletscher

Amy MacDonald's father

Lisa Marie Poff

Eileen Mandable

Sara Page Quigley

Dianne (Dody) Martin

George Halsey Redden

Jill Martin's sister

Richard Rhodes

Wendy Mathews

Rick Rocktashel

Richard "Dick" Harlan Maurer

Stephanie Roland

Dr. Bryant Edward "Ed" McDonald

Bea Rutledge

In Remembrance

David Brewer Sapp

Connie Stuntz

Kyle M. Sherman

Margaret Takesian

John Singlaub

Rob Torres

Dale Smith

C. N. "Kirk" Wayne Jr.

Donna Forbes Steiner

Cheryl Welsh's aunt

Paul Steiner

James L. V. Yeargins

Robert "Bob" Steinfeldt

Please forgive us if we have misspelled and/or not listed the name of your loved one(s). If you do not see your loved one's name, you are welcome to write her or his name on an index card, and place it on the Communion Table prior to the reading of the names.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27



*A Caring Fellowship
Bringing Christ into Our Diverse Community
Through Discipleship and Service*

Vienna Presbyterian Church | 124 Park Street NE, Vienna, VA 22180 | 703.938.9050 | www.viennapres.org