



we are connected
The Community Church of Vero Beach

WELCOME

Recognizing the wide welcome offered to all through Jesus Christ, Community Church opens its arms to all.

We strive to offer Christ's wide welcome to all people, regardless of creed, age, race, or sexual identity.

We invite you to join our congregation in worship and in membership, as we allow our lives to be shaped by the loving outreach of Christ.



"Madonna and Child" acrylic by Teryl Viner

CHRISTMAS EVE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER, 24, 2020

SANCTUARY AND LIVE-STREAM SERVICE 7:00 P.M.

SANCTUARY SERVICE 9:00 P.M.

COMING HOME FOR THE SEASON OR NEW TO THE CHURCH? WELCOME.

Covid 19 Protocols Made Simple

1. Wear a mask: required while on the church campus.
2. Follow Floor Signs in the Sanctuary: One way in and one way out. Arrows mark your path.
3. Socially Distance: Please sit on opposite ends of each pew unless you live together.
4. Share Offering: In the offering plates at each entrance to the Sanctuary, on-line or mail in by check.
5. Take Bulletin: Please re-cycle your bulletin at home.

1901 23rd Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960 • 772.562.3633 • info@ccovb.org



Welcome to Christmas

Community Church of Vero Beach

Welcome to Christmas. Whatever has brought you to this place, whatever you have done or failed to do, know this. God is crazy about you and there's nothing you can do about it. We believe that whoever you are or wherever you are on your life's journey, you're welcome here. However you voted, whatever you think, wherever your questions or doubts may lead, God welcomes you here and so do we. For we confirm that through seasons of joy and struggle, God came to be with us in Jesus to remind us that nothing can separate us from the love of God or one another.

As we enter the season of Christmas that begins even now, prepare to settle into 12 days of deep contentment wherever you celebrate. The world will think that Christmas is over, but for Christians, our joy begins. We will recall that against all odds, the power that brought the world into being and keeps the universe pulsing through its course across eternity, entered our world in vulnerable flesh through a child named Jesus. Through that vulnerability, we come to know that the author of all of life enters life itself as a grand experiment in reconciliation, forgiveness and hope. By this Light that is the life of Christ, we see improbable hope fulfilled.

That fulfillment of God's promise to be with us bears little correlation with the circumstances of our daily round. In Christ, every challenge, both bitter and bright, becomes a gift for opening. When improbable hope finds fulfillment through God-with-us in Christ, every day becomes Christmas and every Sunday becomes a mini-Easter.

May God bless you richly now and through this healing and reconciling year to come.

Grace, Mercy, and Peace,

**The Rev. Dr. Anna V. Copeland
Interim Senior Minister
Community Church of Vero Beach**



NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2020

The sermon titled, "Seeing the Future" will be given by Rev. David W. Johnson both in-person and live-streamed in the Sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. Please join us for worship in-person or attend online at ccovb.org or facebook.com/ccovb.org.



A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS



Recounting the historic prophecy and birth of Christ in the words of Holy Scripture and in songs of devotion and praise.
Please rise in body or spirit. Thank you for wearing your mask throughout the service. **Bold text indicates congregational participation.*
Our service is live-streamed via internet, capturing the chancel and congregation, and may appear on social media.
Families are always welcome to worship together during service. Nursery Care is available for children under the age of four.

PRELUDE

"Praeludium" from Suite, Op. 63
Arthur Foote

Christmas Orchestra

CAROL AND PROCESSION OF THE CHRIST LIGHT

"Once in Royal David's City"
arr. Jeffery Van

Valerie dos Santos, soprano
Chancel Choir and Organ

*Solo: Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.*

*Choir: He came down to earth from heaven Who is God and Lord of all.
And his shelter was a stable, And his cradle was a stall.
With the poor oppressed and lowly, Lived on earth our Savior holy.*

*Jesus is our childhood's pattern, Day by day like us he grew;
He was little, weak and helpless, Tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feels for all our sadness, And he shares in all our gladness.*

*And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on To the place where he is gone.*

CHRISTMAS WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Anna V. Copeland

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT AND CHRIST CANDLES

Clergy

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. David W. Johnson

*CAROL

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"
ADESTE FIDELES

Chancel Choir
Orchestra and Organ

*O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!*

*Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!*

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! (Refrain)*

*Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the father, now in flesh appearing! (Refrain)*

LESSON I	"The Prophecy of the Messiah" <i>Isaiah 9:2, 6-7</i>	Ellis Copeland (7:00 p.m.) Gary Zell (9:00 p.m.)
ANTHEM	"For Unto Us a Child is Born" <i>George Frideric Handel</i> <i>For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.</i>	Chancel Choir Orchestra and Organ
LESSON II	"Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice." <i>Psalms 96:1-4a, 11-13</i>	Rev. David W. Johnson
ANTHEM	"Cantate Domino" <i>Claudio Monteverdi</i> <i>Cantate Domino canticum novum: cantate et benedicite nomini eius. Quia, quia mirabilia fecit.</i>	Chancel Choir Organ <i>Sing unto the Lord a new song, sing and praise his name: For he hath done marvellous things.</i>
LESSON III	"What does the Lord require of you?" <i>Micah 6:6-8</i>	Jan Hoffman (7:00 p.m.) Kay Yurigan (9:00 p.m.)
*CAROL	"O Little Town of Bethlehem" ST. LOUIS <i>O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.</i> <i>For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above, While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth! And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.</i> <i>O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin and enter in, 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!</i>	Chancel Choir Organ
LESSON IV	"The Preparations for the Birth of Jesus" <i>Luke 2:1-7</i>	Rev. Elizabeth B. Johnson
MUSICAL MEDITATION	"Christmas Invocation" <i>Gabriel Verdalle</i>	Deborah Wendt, harp
LESSON V	"Jesus' Birth is Announced to the Shepherds" <i>Luke 2:8-14</i>	Jane Clower (7:00 p.m.) Diana Mrotek (9:00 p.m.)

ANTHEM

"Away in a Manger"

arr. Ola Gjeilo

JoAnn W. Palmer, alto
Chancel Choir and Organ

*Away in a manger, No crib for His bed,
the little Lord Jesus Laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky Looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus Asleep on the hay.*

*The cattle are lowing The poor Baby wakes
But little Lord Jesus No crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus Look down from the sky
And stay by my side, Until morning is nigh.*

*Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children In Thy tender care
And take us to heaven To live with Thee there.*

LESSON VI

"The Shepherds Find the Baby Jesus"

Luke 2:15-20

Marianne Johnson (7:00 p.m.)
David E. Mrotek (9:00 p.m.)

ANTHEM

"Shepherd's Pipe Carol"

arr. John Rutter

Chancel Choir
Organ and Harp

*Going through the hills on a night all starry On the way to Bethlehem,
Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping On the way to Bethlehem.
Refrain: Angels in the sky brought this message nigh: "Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King
Is come to bring us peace on earth And He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem."*

*"Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily On the way to Bethlehem,
Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely On the way to Bethlehem?" (Refrain)*

*"None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely On the way to Bethlehem,
But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies When I get to Bethlehem."
Angels in the sky came down from on high, Hovered over the manger where the babe was lying
Cradled in the arms of his mother Mary, Sleeping now at Bethlehem.*

*"Where is the new King, shepherd boy piping merrily, Is He there at Bethlehem?"
"I will find Him soon by the star shining brightly In the sky o'er Bethlehem." (Refrain)*

*"May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily, Come with you to Bethlehem?
Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle, Is it far to Bethlehem?" (Refrain)*

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

"Breathe"

Rev. Dr. Anna V. Copeland
(Pulpit)

MUSICAL MEDITATION

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

Gilbert Martin

Jill A. Truax, organ

CHRISTMAS PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Anna V. Copeland
(Center)

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen**

*CAROL

"Angels We Have Heard On High"

GLORIA

Chancel Choir

Organ

*Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply Echo back their joyous strains.*

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song. (Refrain)*

*Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing:
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. (Refrain)*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Linda Shipley (7:00 p.m.)

John Langfitt (9:00 p.m.)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"O Holy Night"

arr. Marie Stulz

Rachel E. Carter, soprano

Orchestra

*O holy night! The stars are brightly shining;
it is the night of the dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared, and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night divine, O night, O night divine!*

*Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of star sweetly gleaming,
Here come the Wise Men from Orient Land
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger
In all our trials born to be our friend.
He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend,
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend.*

*Truly He taught us to love one another;
his law is love and his gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
and in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we;
let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord; O praise His name forever!
His power and glory evermore proclaim,
His power and glory evermore proclaim!*

LESSON VII
(Center)

"In the Beginning was the Word..."

John 1:1-14

Rev. Joshua J. Longbottom

The lighted Christ Candle will be brought to the center of the Church. Its light will be passed to each person, in every pew, until the Light of the World has been spread among us, and all the candles are lit.

Please only tilt unlit candles to prevent dripping hot wax on yourself or others.

ANTHEM/CAROL (SEATED)

"Night of Silence/Silent Night"
arr. John Ferguson

Chancel Choir
Orchestra

*Cold are the people, winter of life, we tremble in shadows this cold endless night,
Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping, flowers that will echo the sunrise,
Fire of hope is our only warmth, weary, its flame will be dying soon.*

*Voice in the distance, call in the night, on wind you enfold us, you speak of the light,
Gentle on the ear you whisper softly, rumors of a dawn so embracing,
Breathless love awaits darkened souls, soon will we know of the morning.*

"Silent Night" (seated)

*Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."*

*Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.*

(Please raise your candles for the last verse.)

*Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.*

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Rev. Dr. Anna V. Copeland

Please extinguish your candles.

*CAROL

"Joy to the World"
ANTIOCH

Chancel Choir
Orchestra and Organ

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
Let every heart, prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*He rules the world, with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove;
The glories of His righteousness, and wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.*

POSTLUDE

"Praeludium" from Holberg Suite, Op. 40
Edvard Grieg

Christmas Orchestra

IN WORSHIP THIS EVENING...

SOPRANO SOLOIST:

Rachel E. Carter

ALTO SOLOIST:

JoAnn W. Palmer

SOPRANO SOLOIST:

Valerie dos Santos

CHRISTMAS CHOIR:**Soprano:**

Rachel E. Carter
Elizabeth Johnston
Valerie dos Santos
Mariel dos Santos
Joani Slawson
Heather Stapleton

Alto:

Laurie Beyer Braaksma
Beth Cleary
April Hargett
JoAnn Palmer

Tenor:

Linda Jackson
Richard Lenington
Walter Terry Patrick
Ezekiel dos Santos

Bass:

Randall Braaksma
Matt Cleary
David Johnston
Fred Nordstrom
Joshua Pinnock

CHRISTMAS ORCHESTRA**Concertmaster:**

Sandy Buscemi

Section Violin 2:

Natalie Kitts

Principal Cello:

Adriana Stenvik

Timpani:

Brian Slawson

Section Violin 1:

Liz Kitts
Stewart Kitts

Principal Viola:

Carl Kerner

Section Cello:

Michael Sedloff

Percussion:

Mark Goldberg

Principle Violin 2:

Sasha Korczynski

Section Viola:

Lisa Loucks

Bass:

James Stroup

Harp:

Deborah Wendt

Director of Music and Fine Arts, Conductor

Andrew R. Galuska

Associate Director of Music, Organist

Jill A. Truax

DEACONS**7:00 p.m.**

Ellis Copeland
Jan Hoffman
Jane Clower
Marianne Johnson
Linda Shipley

9:00 p.m.

Gary Zell
Kay Yurigan
Diana Mrotek
David E. Mrotek
John Langfitt

CLERGY

Rev. Dr. Anna V. Copeland

Rev. David W. Johnson

Rev. Elizabeth B. Johnson

Rev. Joshua J. Longbottom

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE DEDICATED TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND GIVEN...

by the Walker Family in memory of the Walker, Camp, and Kunhardt Families.

STAFF:

Charlene Applegate
Shawna Carawan
Ron Cook
Nick DeRosa
Matt Fulcher

Rick Heller
Skye Heller
Dan Lamson
Hunter Long

David Mundy
Lia Peters
Susan Rachor
Suzanne Rice

Kathryn Self
Tom Snellgrove
Stephanie Squires
Carolyn Steere
Stephanie Toomey

IRSA ADMINISTRATOR

Staci Rosbury

GIVEN BY...

Donna Andres
in memory of
Dale Andres

Hamilton G. and Celeta Arden, Jr.
in memory of
Hamilton G. & Alice Arden, Sr.; Warren & Lucille Haffield; and Emma R. Haffield (founding member)

Bill Bell
in memory of
Joyce R. Bell

Bud and Brenda Biggin
in memory of
Wilbur and Rowena Biggin, Sr.

Travis and Robin Blanton
in memory of
Bruce Blanton and Peggy Jean Hallam

Dorothy Chaffee
in memory of
Henry Chaffee

Jane and Steve Coley
in memory of
Our Parents

Joann and Gerry Duhaime
in memory of
Rudy Family and Dot Zimmerman

Michael Erdman
in memory of
Judy Flynn Palmer

Deborah L. Eschenbacher
in memory of
Robert and Vivian Schmidt

Deb Faries, Pat and Adrian
in memory of
Clarence "Red" Faries

Richard P. Fisk
in memory of
Elizabeth Fisk, wife, mother and grandmother

GIVEN BY...

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Grzymkowski
in memory of
Michael Grzymkowski

John and Helen Higgs
in memory of
Our Parents

Elizabeth Bunting Johnson
in memory of
her father, Rev. Thomas Wade Bunting

Bill and Marianne Johnson
in memory of
Soren Wysockey Johnson

Judy and Lou Lafage
in memory of
Dinny Lafage, Dick Caldwell, and Richard Clark Caldwell, Jr.

Val and Stuart Larcombe
in memory of
Betty Goodwin, Enid Larcombe, Elsie McConnell, Annabelle Danley, and Nona Bradley

Bradley Lorimier
in memory of
his wife, Mary Jo

George and Allison Matsik
in memory of
George A. Matsik, Sr., Janet W. Matsik, Bob J. White and Howard F. Langley, Jr.

Betsy McKean
in memory of
Harley McKean

Bill Northfield and Family
in memory of
Sandra S. Northfield

Joan Ohl
in memory of
Rev. Dr. Ronald Ohl, Charlie and Celli; Sam and Dorothy Eschenbach; Howard and Ella Ohl; and Michael E. Ruddy

Marilyn Palmer
in memory of
Wayne Palmer

GIVEN BY...

Marion Petersen
in memory of
Peter Petersen, husband and father

Ruth Perdue
in memory of
all my Dear Family

Karen A. Reams-Haeger
in memory of
her husband William "Jim" Haeger

Debra Richwien
in memory of
John M. Gould

Betsy and David Sams
in memory of
their parents David and Dorothy Sams, and Elizabeth and Paul Bates

Donna Schipke, Dexter and grandchildren
in memory of
Gordon Pyper

Louise and Bill Schmitt
in memory of
Florence and Lawrence Schmitt, and Mary and Louis Lessard

Sarah Sinclair
in memory of
Tom Sinclair, Betty and Rufus Sinclair, and Wilhelmina and Cotton Moody

Ba Stone
in memory of
David M. Stone

Rebecca Ryska-Thompson
in memory of
Loved Ones

Leslie Tilley
in memory of
Arthur William Tilley

Scott and Terry Turner
in memory of
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Joines and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Turner

Rita Widenhofer
in memory of
Ed and Mildred Trautman

Holly Wilson
in memory of
Kate and Dick Wilson

Gary and Beverly Zell
in memory of
Our Parents

AND GIVEN BY...

Anonymous
in honor of
The Staff of Community Church of Vero Beach

Bud and Brenda Biggin
in honor of
Lee and Bonnie Sanzenbacher

Beth and Matt Cleary
in honor of
our children: Nolan, Meghann, and Sara

Michael Erdman
in honor of
Michael Erdman

Steve Higgins
in honor of
Char Higgins

Steve Higgins
in honor of
Rev. Dr. Anna V. Copeland and the Community Church Staff

Bradley Lorimier
in honor of
his daughters Kim and Jenn, and his love, Joan

Joan Ohl
in honor of
Bradley (Brad) G. Lorimier, for his love and wonderful community and philanthropy work

Kate and Dick Wilson
in honor of
Ted and Lee Gordon