

# Boulevard United Methodist Church



This has to be the censored version! What parents would journey a whole day without noting that their child was missing? What 12-year-old from a loving home would calmly detach from his parents, enter the portals of probably the most daunting building in the city, and be found three days later in solemn debate with theologians of note? What Jewish momma, finding her missing child after three days, would simply be "astonished"?

Peter Storey

December 27, 2015

On the Cover: "Jesus Among the Doctors", in art history, title for Luke 2:41-52.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world (Matthew 28).

321 N Boulevard  
Richmond, Virginia 23220  
[www.boulevardumc.org](http://www.boulevardumc.org)

## Order of Worship for the First Sunday After Christmas Day

(UMH) - The United Methodist Hymnal  
(TFWS) - The Faith We Sing

\* Please stand, as able.

### Gathering

Introit *Go Tell it on the Mountain*

Greeting

\*Call to Worship

\*Hymn *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* UMH 229

Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns  
Pastoral Prayer  
Interlude

### Proclamation and Response

First Reading *Colossians 3:12-21*

Time with Children

Gospel Reading *Luke 2:41-52*

\*Hymn *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem 1-3* UMH 179

Sermon Rev. Rachel G. May

Offering Tithes and Gifts

Offertory *Welcome, Jesus*

\*Doxology (94 UMH)

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

### Sending Forth

\*Hymn *Precious Name* UMH 536

\*Dismissal with Blessing

## NURTURE

*caring for one another, for our space, and for our growth as disciples*

### {Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for David McConnell, Jamie and Lanier May, June Robinson, Joe Morgan and family, Jane Frisa and incarcerated residents of metropolitan Richmond. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate or the church's e-mail address.

IN EACH OF THE THREE YEARS of the lectionary cycle, the First Sunday after Christmas Day includes a reading that recounts events later than the birth of Jesus. This year, Year C, it is the story of the family pilgrimage to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover in the year Jesus turned twelve. Next Sunday's texts:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13  
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14  
Ephesians 3:1-12  
Matthew 2:1-12

NEXT MONDAY MORNING PRAYER: January 4. Join in prayer and lunch thereafter, if you'd like, at Westminster Canterbury (1600 Westbrook Ave.). We gather at 11:30 in the 6<sup>th</sup> floor common room.

## OUTREACH

*participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy*

### {Outward}

A CIRCLES USA INFORMATIONAL MEETING is scheduled for January 20 at St. John's Church (2401 East Broad). The Circles Mission is to Inspire and equip families and communities to resolve poverty and thrive. A group of local citizens is inviting others, including persons from faith communities, to explore the possibility of a Circles Chapter in Richmond. Why? Because the Circles model has had more impact in North America than other initiatives designed to empower families and communities. 7:00 pm. It's a Wednesday. Speak with Rachel if you are willing to go for us.

### Colossians 3:12-21

<sup>12</sup>As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### Luke 2:41-52

<sup>41</sup>Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. <sup>43</sup>When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." <sup>49</sup>He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he said to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.