



December 22, 2019

9:30 am & 11:00 am—Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome to Vanderbilt! We rejoice that you are here to worship God with us. Nursery care is available for children in kindergarten and under. Worship bags and sermon notes are also available in the Narthex for children to use during the Worship service. Please ask an usher if assistance is needed. If you would like to share a joy or concern, please write it on a yellow card. We will collect these cards with the offering. As a courtesy to others, please remember to turn off cell phones during the service. Large print hymnals are available upon request. See an usher.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prayer of Preparation

Righteous God, let your promise of Emmanuel be a sign to us of salvation near at hand. Restore us to that quality of life which has been your intention for humanity since the beginning of time, that we may be saints who serve for the sake of all your hurting children. Amen.

Prelude: "Noel with Variations"

Claude Louis Balbastre

The Tolling of the Bells

Welcome:

Please take a minute to sign the green friendship pads found in each pew. Then note the names of those seated near you, so you can greet each other by name. The asterisk (*) in the bulletin indicates that the congregation is asked to stand as able. We use responsive or unison readings and prayers at different times. The leader will read the words in *italics*. The congregation reads the words in **bold print**.

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

***Call to Worship** *(Responsive)*

Come away from times of weariness.

Dare to accept the energy God offers you.

Let your goodness flow through us.

Reveal to us what is truly important.

Come away from all your distractions.

Dare to let God show you the larger picture.

Lead us to think of others in new ways.

Let us find grace and peace in Emmanuel.

Let us worship God.

***Opening Hymn: # 23 "Angels We Have Heard On High"**

GLORIA

Advent Candle Litany *(Responsive)*

The Mikes Family (9:30)

Returning 2019 High School Graduates (11:00)

Isaiah wrote: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given: and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Jesus was born into a time of turmoil, but God promises that someday the fighting will end. Warriors will "beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks."

Nations will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. The peacemakers will be blessed indeed.

We light these candles longing for God's peace for ourselves, our families, our nation, and for the whole world.

In the name of the One who brings God's peace to the world.

Let us pray:

God of Advent, we eagerly await the birth of the Prince of Peace. We long for Jesus' coming again when swords will become plowshares. Teach us to be peacemakers in our own relationships, our own families and workplaces, and in the world. Help us to be blessed as peacemakers in your name.

In the name of the One who brings God's peace to the world. Amen.

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (Sing as the candles are lit.)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

Oh God, you have called us to be apostles of your grace, but we have been judgmental instead of gracious. We condemn in others what is also, all too often, within us. We refuse to listen to others' pain or to understand the source of their

tears. It is easier to dismiss the feelings of others than to offer true empathy. We would rather reject than encounter them. Yet you come to us, Emmanuel, and we wish to repent. You reach out to us, and our hearts melt. We want to embrace this offer of new life.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***Gloria Patri # 579**

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!

***Passing of the Peace**

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment *(9:30 am only)*

The Rev. Robert J.

Marrow

We welcome and celebrate the presence of children in worship. After the "Children's Moment," 3-year-olds through Middle Schoolers are invited to the 9:45am Sunday School.

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

(Pew Bible page 636 OT)

L: The Word of the Lord.

A: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

(Pew Bible page 1 NT)

L: The Word of the Lord.

A: Thanks be to God.

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

"God With Us"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***Affirmation of Faith** *(Unison)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Hymn # 37** "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

W ZLOBIE LEZY

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Music: "In the Bleak Midwinter"

arr. Robert Lau

***Doxology # 592**

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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.

SENDING FORTH

***Hymn # 40** "Joy to the World"

ANTIOCH

***Commission and Blessing**

The word of the prophet is finding fulfillment.

Rejected ones carry the promise of salvation.

Surely God's face shines on us to strengthen us.

God equips us to do what is good.

Alleluia!

Amen!

***Congregational Response:**

"Let There Be Peace on Earth" (Copyright 1955 by Jan-Lee Music. Renewed 1983 Used by permission)

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on earth the peace that was meant to be. With God as our Father, children all are we; Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me let this be the moment now. With every step I take let this be my solemn vow. To take each moment and live each moment in peace, eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Postlude: "Adeste Fideles"

arr. G. Young

Worshippers are invited to remain seated and listen to the Postlude or exit quietly to the Narthex and Fellowship Hall to greet and converse with one another.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, *Pastor*

Lou Thompson, *Liturgist*

Dr. James Cochran, Director of Music, *playing the **Richard and Patricia Fors Organ** to the Glory of God and in honor of James Cochran, organist.*

The Chancel Choir

Ushers:

9:30am: George Morton, Dianne Westerlund, Carol Schwiers, Barbara Hurst, Jerry Warnken, Peggy Landon and Tom Hurley

11am: Sue and Bill Van Fossen, Nancy Malecek, Debbie Dawley and Dixie Bibb

**The flowers on the Chancel have been donated by Ron Sieling & Joan Elliott for
Our Lord and Savior—Jesus Christ
and in Loving Memory of my husband, Larry Cookson, from Sonja Cookson & children.**

Scripture Passages for next week: December 29, 2019

First Sunday of Christmas

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 63:7-9

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:13-23

VPC NEWS

TODAY'S FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Vanderbilt offers two fellowship opportunities following worship so people can relax, mingle, and catch up with friends new and old. Each opportunity is sponsored by either a group/ministry team or family from the congregation – they provide some snacks.

Fellowship Hall: Thank you to the Membership & Involvement Team for sponsoring today's treats in Fellowship Hall. The Parish Life Ministry Team provides setup, decorations and beverages, which are typically coffee (regular and decaf), hot tea and water. This week's featured ministry is the Membership & Involvement Team. Be sure to visit the Featured Ministry of the Week table in Fellowship Hall. See how you can become involved.

Youth Center (west end of our building): Thank you to The Peterson/DeBaun Family for sponsoring today's goodies in the Youth Center. Families with young children especially enjoy this time together in the relaxed atmosphere of the Youth Center.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

Sunday, January 5—11am in Harp Hall—Malignant Melanoma and the Harmful Effects of Ultraviolet Radiation. This educational presentation will be focused on recognizing the signs and symptoms of melanoma, a form of skin cancer, as well as the role UV radiation plays in causing harmful skin conditions. Presented by Rachel Marrow, PA-S

WHOLISTIC HEALTH PROGRAM

Friday, January 10—10am in Harp Hall.—Emotional Challenges for Seniors—Coffee and Conversation—

Join us for an engaging discussion about our emotional challenges as we journey the 2nd half of life. Moderator: Victoria Elkins, MSW. Ms. Elkins has expertise in addiction; depression; anxiety and dialectical behavioral therapy. Please register for this program in Fellowship Hall between services.

STEWARDSHIP SEASON

With the beginning of a new year right around the corner, so also is another Stewardship Season. Sunday, January 19, 2020 is the date for the Kickoff of our Stewardship campaign. Please prayerfully consider your offerings to the church for the upcoming year. Dedication Sunday is February 9th!

WHITE GIVING ENVELOPES

The white giving envelopes for 2020 have been ordered, however, the order is delayed. As soon as they arrive, we will let you know. Thank you for your understanding.

MISIÓN PENIEL

Misión Peniel, located in Immokalee, is funded by our Peace River Presbytery to address the isolation and injustice among the migrant farm workers in Immoklaee, Florida and provide support to through spiritual and material care. Each Friday volunteers from churches in Peace River Presbytery serve at Misión Peniel to provide a hot meal, distribute nonperishable foods, supplies, and clothing to the people of the community. VPC is an active participant in this mission! Please join us on January 3, 2020 to serve at Misión Peniel! For more information or to volunteer please contact Pete Rodino at pvrodino@aol.com or visit the Misión Peniel website www.misionpeniel.com. To make a donation please make out your check to VPC and put Misión Peniel in the memo line. Thank you!

Financial Update—Operating Fund

	November	Year to Date	Budget Year to Date
Operating Income	\$73,544	\$1,138,472	\$1,132,300
Operating Expenses	\$87,507	\$1,077,387	\$1,132,300

Deo Gloria Mortgage Balance at November 2019: \$1,781,575.45

Prayer Concerns

Please continue to hold in prayer our members and friends facing illness, injury and hardship. If you have any joys and/or concerns, let us know as they are lifted up daily through our intercessory prayer ministry. If you are hospitalized, please let the facility know you are a member or a friend of the Vander-

Abigail	Jim Hart	Stephanie	to be buried with her husband's remains. Please keep the Barkley Family in your thoughts and prayers.
Rich Annunziata	Family of Brenda Hiller	Rosalie Switzen	
Tom Badiner	Sandra Johnson	Family of Perry Switzen	
Mitch Blackwell	Bob Kassing	Laura Warnken	
Wendy Bennett	Toni Keefer	Carole Williams	
Liz Capossella	Annette Kocal	Joanne Whitman	
Carnie	Mary Kaugasian		
Ruth Cohen	Judy Malone	We are sad to announce the	
Denise Cross	Marilyn McKee	death of Marlene Barkley,	
Ken Cyrus & Family	Kathy Meyer	longtime member of VPC.	
Joy Davidson	Susan Miller	Marlene died on December	
Linda Fitzhugh	Tebbs Moore	17 th , at home. A Memorial	
Jim Fligg	Caden Ordanas	Service is scheduled at	
Janel Geary	Cassidy Otto	Fuller Funeral Home, 1625	
Trisha Gould	Christopher Parent	Pine Ridge Road, for January	
Lillia Guttschall	Robin Ryan	11th @ 2pm. The Cremains	
Jonathan	Marsha Rust	will travel to Florida National	
Henry Hansen	Sandy	Cemetery in Bushnell, FL	
Hank Hanson	Christina Soriero		



bilt Presbyterian Church so they can let us know! Please notice that prayer requests will be kept in the bulletin for a period of 30 days, after which a new prayer request card should be resubmitted.

ENSIGN Francis Alvares
US Navy, Pensacola, FL
(Friend of Jay & Mary Chesslo)

MSgt Kristopher Chesslo
USAF
(Jay & Mary Chesslo's nephew)

CPTN Sterling W. Dawley
US Navy, Pacific Fleet
(Loren & Debbie Dawley's son)

ENSIGN Wyatt R. Dawley
US Navy Intel
(Loren & Debbie Dawley's grandson)

LT Col. Jessica D. Grassetti
(Claudia Polzin's niece)

LT Adam Endrelunas
US Navy
(Cherie & Dave Baines' son-in-law)

CPTN Allen Fujinaka
US Army
(LaVerne Perrollaz's grandson)

CPTN Jennifer Giles
USMC, Philippines
(Mary Giles' granddaughter)

CPTN Jeremy Giles
US Army Special Forces,
Ft. Bragg, NC

(Mary Giles' grandson)
MAJ Robert Gruber, USMC
LT CDR Marjorie Gruber, US Navy
Camp Pendleton, CA
(Bob Gruber & Marion Johnson's son & daughter in law)

LT Michelle Lea
US Navy
(Cherie & Dave Baines' daughter in law)

LT Kevin McCormick
US Army - USA
(Friend of Dick & Sharon Learn)

Austin Schwartz
USMC, Camp Pendleton, CA
(Patricia Schwartz's grandson)

MAJ Matthew Smith,
USMC, Kuwait
(Son of Linda Smith)
EM Xzavier Whitaker
US Navy
(John & Roberts McMaster's granddaughter's husband)



Please Pray for the men and women serving our country.

Happy Birthday!

Barbara Bonthron	12/22
Derek Millard	12/22
Chloe Cornell	12/23
Lauren Franklin	12/23
*Claudia Polzin	12/23
Kristina Hauschild	12/23
Garry Pettegrove	12/24
Robert Schmidt	12/26
Joanne Bowser	12/27
Jerry Grandey	12/28
*Doris Martin	12/28

Happy Anniversary

Joyce & Wayne Peters	12/22
Edgar & Barbara Dominguez	12/24
Clive & Nancy Ozard	12/24
George & Margaret Mackie	12/26
Cherry & Phil Jacobus	12/27
Heather & Jason Mikes	12/28

***Birthday Club Members**

Interested in joining the Club? Birthday Club Members give one dollar for each year of their life to celebrate their special day! The VPC Endowment Board uses the interest income from the Birthday Club funds exclusively for Youth Activities! Please consider becoming a member of the Birthday Club! Celebrate your Birthday by thanking God for your life!



If you have a relative or friend in the military, please let the Church have their name/address.

Sunday, December 22

9:30 am	Traditional Worship Service
9:45 am	Sunday School Children & Youth
10:30 am	Fellowship & Coffee Time
11:00 am	Traditional Worship Service

Monday, December 23

7:30 am	Men's Association Golf (Arrowhead G.C.)
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Tuesday, December 24—Christmas Eve

9am—12pm	Office Hours
2:30 pm	Pick up costumes for Unrehearsed pageant
3:00 pm	Christmas Eve Family Service (no communion)
5:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (no communion)
7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (no communion)

Wednesday, December 25—Christmas Day

Office Closed

Thursday, December 26

Office Closed

Friday, December 27

Saturday, December 28

10:00 am	Al Anon
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Sunday, December 29

9:30 am	Traditional Worship Service
9:45 am	Sunday School Children & Youth
10:30 am	Fellowship & Coffee Time
11:00 am	Traditional Worship Service

We think it is important to keep in contact with those who serve our country. Thank you.

VPC Week at a Glance

WE GATHER TOGETHER AT VPC

Mission Service ~ Choirs ~ Stephen Ministry ~ Youth Groups ~ Concerts ~ Women's Circles
Lecture Series ~ Health Seminars ~ Wholeness & Health ~ VandeReaders ~ Recycled Cards
Bible Studies for Men & Women ~ Senior Ministry ~ Book Studies ~ Confirmation ~ Quilters
Handbells & More ~ Support Group Meetings.



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

UNREHEARSED CHRISTMAS PAGEANT 3 PM

CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP 5 PM & 7 PM



We hope you
becoming a
member of
speak to the



Vanderbilt
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

come Center in the Narthex or call the office at 239-597-5410.

are interested in
member or affiliate
this church. Please
person at our Wel-

VPC MISSION

