



April 26, 2020

The Third Sunday of Easter

Psalm 116

*I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.
Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.*



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Prelude: Cello Suite I in G Major

1. Prelude

Tom May, Cello

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Call to Worship

God has called us together for this time of worship.

God is listening to our thoughts and to our speaking.

God inclines an ear to us and hears us.

God knows us better than we know ourselves.

Prayer of Confession

Redeemer, grant us your mercy;

Redeem us, for we are yours, made in the image of our living God.

We call upon you in the name exalted above every name,

Jesus Christ, Lord of Lords, King of Heaven.

Give us your gift of forgiveness as we embrace the Spirit of truth;

Give us your gift of fullness and accept us empty as we are;

Give us your gift of peace through the hearing of your reassuring word;

Give us your gift of healing as one day we shall be completely transformed.

Enlighten our eternal souls and spirits,

And reveal to our minds the fullness of your grace.

Grant what eyes of angels have not seen,

And bestow upon us the wonderful mystery of your dwelling place.

For yours is the power and glory and praise and greatness

Forever and ever! Amen.

The Ancient Prayer of the Apostle Paul

(adapted, The Nag Hammandi Scriptures, Codex I and edited by John Braun)

Moment for Children

The Rev. Dr. Louis S. Thompson

Hymn: "Thine is the Glory"

JUDAS MACCABEUS

1. Thine is the glory, Risen conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes Where Thy body lay.
Refrain:
Thine is the glory, Risen conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.
2. Lo! Jesus meets us, Risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us, Scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness
Hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth; Death hath lost its sting.
Refrain
3. No more we doubt Thee, Glorious Prince of life!
Life is nought without Thee; Aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors Through Thy
deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan To Thy home above.
Refrain

Reading from The Second Covenant Acts 2:14a, 36-42

Elder Mary Thompson

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ³⁶ Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." ³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸ Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. ⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Solo: "Though Despair, Like Deepest Darkness"

Text: Mary Nelson Keithan (b. 1934)

Music: John Horman (b. 1946)

Though despair, like deepest darkness has descended on our land,
And discouraged hope of living out our faith by your command,
You remind us, God, that sometimes love seems hidden but shines on,
Offering new life to all people like the brightness of the dawn.
God of love, our dawn in darkness, shine with hope on our despair;
Give us strength to stand for justice, heart to speak for what is fair.
Give us grace to treat our neighbors with both kindness and respect,
To befriend outsiders, strangers other people may reject.
In our nation so divided, in our world that cries for peace,
Let your love shine through the darkness, that all fears and doubts may cease.
Grant us patience, understanding, and a will to share the light
Of your love with one another, as we seek to do what's right.

Prayer of Illumination

Homily

"An Ancient Sermon—And Modern Hearers"

The Rev. Dr. Louis S. Thompson

Offering

Offertory: "Elegy for Cello and Piano, Op. 24"

Gabriel Fauré
(1845-1924)

Tom May, Cello

Prayers for the People, Pandemic, 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.

Commission and Blessing

We have been called by Peter to a new ministry.

Life's meaning is not to be found in silver or gold.

We have found new life in trusting God.

We have been born anew through God's enduring word.

We embrace a living faith and hope.

Jesus is alive in our midst.

Jesus goes with us along all life's roads.

We go out to serve in the name of Jesus

May the love of Jesus find expression in us.

Amen!

Amen!

Benediction 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: "Tarantella, Op. 23"

Henry William Squire
(1871-1963)

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. Louis S. Thompson, *Parish Associate*

Elder Mary J. 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.*

Tom May, *cello*

Tom May, is assistant principal cellist of the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra and the principal cellist of the Southern Illinois Music Festival. May is formerly the orchestra teacher at both Gulf Coast and Barron Collier high schools. He received his B.M. degree from Augustana College and his M.M. degree from the University of Illinois. He has also pursued graduate studies at Indiana University. May lives in north Naples with his wife, daughter, son and multiple pets. He has been a member of the Naples Philharmonic since 1991.

Michele Byrd, *soprano*

Soundboard Operators: Victoria Bonavita & Dave Curtiss

Scripture Passages for the following week:
May 3, 2020—The Fourth Sunday of Easter
New Testament Reading: Acts 2:42-47
Gospel Reading: John 10:1-10

I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

THE GOOD
SHEPHERD
LAYS DOWN HIS

LIFE FOR
THE SHEEP.

JOHN 10:11



VPC NEWS

In light of the recent actions and advice provided by health experts and government officials regarding Coronavirus/COVID-19, the VPC Session decided to extend the suspension of our public worship gatherings, activities, and programming until **May 3, 2020**. The Session understands the importance of modeling appropriate social distancing for the safety and well-being of the larger community.

During this time, VPC will continue to record our weekly services of worship and post them to the Sermon Library, found on our website (www.vpcnaples.org). Sermons and other video materials, such as Pastor Rob's Daily Psalm Reading, are also available on the Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church Facebook page.

Instead of coming into the church, please call us (597-5410) or email Barbara Bonavita (bbonavita@vpcnaples.org), Lisa Lloyd (llloyd@vpcnaples.org) or Michele Byrd (mbyrd@vpcnaples.org) if you need assistance of any kind.

The Session will be meeting again tomorrow, Monday, April 27, 2020, to decide how best to proceed at VPC. Please keep them in your prayers.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR HELP

STRESSED? FEELING DOWN? NEED ENCOURAGEMENT?: Stephen Ministers don't just provide care for people experiencing a major crisis. They also provide care and support for people weighed down by the little things in life. If you're feeling down, lonely, stressed, or discouraged, you could benefit from the care, support, and encouragement of a Stephen Minister. It's free. It's confidential. And it will really make a difference in your life! Find out more by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders: Don Sherman at 239-777-0847 (dsherman249@gmail.com) or Jill Peterson at 239-597-7440 (petersji72@gmail.com).

THE SHELTER FOR ABUSED WOMEN & CHILDREN IS THERE TO HELP: Now as never before, it is vital that the community help spread the word about services provided by The Shelter for Abused Women & Children. The same health protocols and regulations established to protect the public pose significant challenges and risk to victims of domestic violence. Your assistance is critical to saving lives. If you see something, say something. Call 911. If you or someone you know is affected by domestic violence, call The Shelter's **24-hour Crisis Line at 239-775-1101**. Victims can also email info@naplesshelter.org to access information and assistance.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

FINANCIAL UPDATE—OPERATING FUND: March 2020:

	March	YTD	Budget
Operating Income	\$ 104,651	\$ 436,519	\$ 453,100
Expenses	\$ 94,475	\$ 294,633	\$ 297,800
Deo Mortgage Balance	3/31/2020	\$ 1,733,558	

Happy Birthday!

*Wendy Baker	4/26
Ann Hansen	4/26
Della Sheppard	4/26
Richard Grunert	4/27
Chris Wood	4/28
*Jim Hart	4/29
*Stephen Myers	4/30
*Clark Higgins	5/01
Barbara Hurst	5/02
Joanne Whitman	5/02



***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!

Happy Anniversary!

Chong & Randall Devine	4/26
Alice & Dennis Lebo	4/29
Yvonne & Tony Van Rooyen	4/29
Clifford & Margaret Swaby	5/01
Caroline & Michael Thomas	5/01



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 Vanderbilt 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.

Abigail	Gary Gorran
Jerry Alfieri	Tim Hall & Family
Annie	Barbara Hurst
Kathleen Bradford	Michael Jeskey
Family of Carmen	Bob Kassing
Cassidy	Kristen
Fernando Castillo	LaDonna Lass
Ruth Cohen	Kristen Linfante
Dan Dorthy	Judy Malone
David Daugherty	Mark
Connie Dawson	Henry Miller
Margaret Degler	Carolyn Moore
Erin Falluca	The Morroni Family
Jim Fligg	Nate
Joseph Gagliano	Domenico Paglia
Janel Geary	Christopher Parent

Mario Regoli
Carol Rodkey
Marsha Rust
Metty Ryan
Robin Ryan
Don Schulte
Eleanor & Gary
Shepherd
Suzanne Waylonis
Laura Warnken
CC Waskey
Will & Heather
& Family



For people in this country and throughout the world suffering and coping with the Coronavirus disease.

For Doctors, Nurses, and Medical Teams giving their best to provide care for those suffering in hospitals and other medical facilities.

For leaders in government (Nationally, State, & Locally) and throughout the world making tough decisions during this difficult time.

For our church and all churches providing comfort to all and leading us in new ways of worship and service to each other.

Please Pray for the men and women serving our country.

If you have a relative or friend in the military, please let the Church have their name/address. We think it is important to keep in contact with those who serve our country. Thank you.

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 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)
LT Col. Jessica D. Grasseti
(Claudia Polzin's niece)
MAJ Robert Gruber, USMC

LT CDR Marjorie Gruber, US Navy
Camp Pendleton, CA
(Bob Gruber & Marion Johnson's son & daughter in law)
E-3 Jacob Guzman
US Army—USA
(Cesar Guzman's son)
Lt. Devon Hennessey
Just returned to Texas from Afganistan
(Toni Hubbard)
Christian Kurz
US Navy, USS Nitze
(Joyce Geary's great nephew)
LCDR 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)

1st LT Andrew P. Vadyak
USMC
Okinawa, Japan
Hadley Vadyak
USNA Class of 2020
EM Xzavier Whitaker
US Navy (John & Roberts McMaster's granddaughter's husband)



VPC MISSION

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church is called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to live like Christ in a broken world.

To Proclaim the Gospel
To Glorify God in worship and deed
To Equip our congregation for ministry
To Serve others in Christ's name.

VPC VISION

A congregation...

...so grounded in scripture and sustained by prayer,
...so committed to spiritual growth and faithful discipleship,
...so inviting, welcoming and inclusive,
...so nurturing and healing,
...so mission-minded,
...so vibrant, energetic and open to opportunities to share the Gospel that lives are transformed
by the love of Christ.

BAPTISM...



NOW SAVES YOU.
1 PETER 3:21



Vanderbilt
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1225 Piper Blvd., Naples, FL 34110-1252 Office: 239-597-5410

Learning Center: 239-594-9557 www.vpcnaples.org

The church is a member of the Peace River Presbytery, the Synod of South Atlantic, and the Presbyterian Church (USA). OneLicense.net 3 A-719387

