

Vanderbilt

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church is a safe place for all people to worship regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background or sexual orientation.

August 23, 2020

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Psalm 124

- ¹ If it had not been the LORD who was on our side let Israel now say
² if it had not been the LORD who was on our side,
when our enemies attacked us,
³ then they would have swallowed us up alive,
when their anger was kindled against us;
⁴ then the flood would have swept us away,
the torrent would have gone over us;
⁵ then over us would have gone the raging waters.
⁶ Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth.
⁷ We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
⁸ Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Prelude: Adagio in D Minor

J. S. Bach
(1685–1750)

Call to Worship

Our help is from God, who made heaven and earth.
Come to worship the One who answers our prayers.
We rejoice in God's love and faithfulness.
Blessed be our God, whose word is true.
In thankfulness, we bring our joyous songs.
We are here to pay attention to God's instructions.
We are here, seeking to discern God's will.
We are open to God's transforming Spirit.

Prayer of Confession

O God, we did not realize that we are among the rich oppressors of this world. We think we are poor when we cannot have everything we want. Keep us from misusing the power we have. We confess our fear of those who are unlike us. We set up barriers against them when we are afraid. Keep us from acting in ways that alienate and divide. When we are tempted to conform to the world's standards, set before us the higher model of sacrifice and service that is given to us in Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Hymn: "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

ST. ANNE

1. Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.
3. A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.
4. Time, like an ever rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.
5. Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

Moment for Children

Drake DeBaun

Jesus loves me, this I know, For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

The New Testament Reading:

Romans 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Solo: "Come Follow Me"

Michele Byrd, Soprano

Jay Althouse
(b. 1951)

Prayer for Illumination

The Gospel Reading:

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Message

“Keys to the Kingdom”

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

Offering

Offertory: “The Twenty-Third Psalm”

Michele Byrd, Soprano

Traditional English Melody

arr. Althouse

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.

Commission and Blessing

Serve the world as people transformed by God.

Let others know God’s mercy and forgiveness.

We seek to live as Jesus taught.

We seek to embody trust in God and love of all.

Alleluia.

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: Prelude in D Minor

J. S. Bach

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, Pastor

Drake DeBaun, Christian Education Intern

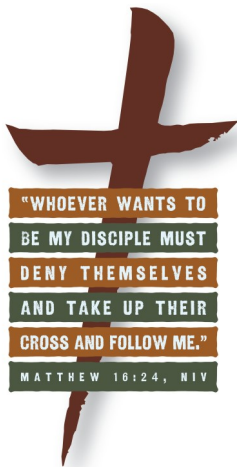
Jerry Grandey, Liturgist

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.

Michele Byrd, Soprano

Soundboard Operator: Pete DeBaun





Scripture Passages for the following week:
August 30, 2020—22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Romans 12:9-21

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:21-28

VPC NEWS

EXTENSION OF THE SUSPENSION OF IN-PERSON WORSHIP—The Session of Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church would like to thank you for keeping them in your prayers as they work to lead this congregation during this time of COVID-19. All of us are anxious to reconnect as an "in-person worshipping community." Please know that your safety and well-being are always paramount in our decisions. We continue to explore new options for our congregation to gather for ministry and mission. On Monday, July 27th the Session approved a motion affirming that the church will continue with virtual worship until deemed safe. The Session will continue to assess current health data and trends in order to determine when we can gather together for worship in our sanctuary. At a minimum, they will revisit this issue at its monthly meetings. Instead of coming into the church, please call us (597-5410), email Barbara Bonavita (bbonavita@vpcnaples.org), Lisa Lloyd(lloyd@vpcnaples.org) or Michele Byrd (mbyrd@vpcnaples.org) if you need assistance of any kind.

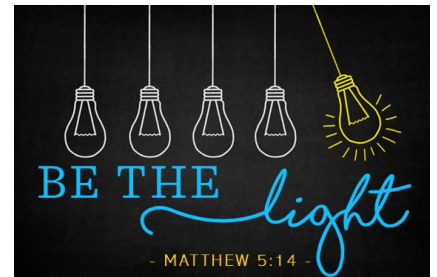


BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING: Our traditional Blessing of the Backpacks & Teacher Commissioning has been reimagined this year and will occur virtually next Sunday, August 30. Back to school may look different for many students and families this year, but God's promise to be with us remains unchanged. No matter how you choose to head back, let's ask God to bless each of us on our journey and fill us all with the Holy Spirit. As of this writing, CCPS and LCPS

students return to school on August 31. The Vanderbilt Learning Center starts on Sept. 8. Dates for private schools in the area vary widely.

VPC Back to School Blessing Supplies for Pincrest Elementary:

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church is collecting school supplies for teachers, staff, students and families at Pincrest Elementary School located in Immokalee, Florida. Immokalee is a rural farming community just forty miles from the resorts and beaches of Naples. Home to many immigrant and migrant families who work the fields and packing houses, Immokalee is a small community in Southwest Florida with good people that work hard and try to provide for their families. Please visit the Amazon Wish list by going to https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3ILXQTCIUMP6T?ref=wl_share and selecting items to purchase. You can also find the link to the Wish List in Pastor Rob's Weekly Epistle. Choose to ship them directly to Pincrest Elementary School (NOT to VPC) between now and August 31. If you don't have access to Amazon shopping and would still like to help, you can also make a monetary contribution. Mail a check to VPC or go online to give www.vpcnaples.org. Please indicate "Pincrest Elementary" in the memo area of your check or online in the Custom Section (page two). Thank you in advance for your gift to help others in need.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION

ZOOM IN FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR—This morning, Sunday, August 23 from 11—11:30am, Zoom in to see your fellow church members. The **Meeting ID is: 896 7928 1614** and the **password is 4Wp4kK**. Missing your church family? Zoom in to say HI! We hope to see you there!

REACH OUT TO YOUR VPC COMMUNITY! With so much uncertainty surrounding our lives during the Coronavirus Pandemic and the start of Hurricane Season, why not reach out to your VPC community? If you are looking to contact someone, check the online directory. If you need an address or phone number, please give the office a call. We would be happy to help you make a connection with your church family.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR HELP

VPC STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE HERE TO HELP: Know someone in need? Maybe you? Maybe a family member, friend or neighbor? Needs can be short-term or long-term...we want to help and are still available in these COVID-19 times! Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers that are a phone call or email away to walk beside you, listen and provide ongoing support. We currently have 15 active Stephen Ministers at VPC, some with care receivers and others waiting to help when called. Call for yourself or someone in need. To get started, call our Stephen Leader Referrals Coordinators: Don Sherman at 239-777-0847 (dsherman249@gmail.com) or Kay Beernink at 239-238-1526 (leskaybee@aol.com).



ANOTHER GRANT FOR THE COVID-19 RELIEF FUND— We have received another very generous \$10,000 challenge grant to the COVID-19 Relief Fund. Please send in your donations to match the new challenge grant! To date, we have received \$47,609 for the fund (including the first \$10,000 grant). We have disbursed \$34,440 to local charities to help with housing and hunger. Please indicate “COVID” in the memo area of your check or donate online. Thank you in advance for your gift to help others in need.

VETERANS: Avow has an upcoming Zoom webinar for Veterans and those who serve Veterans. **Veterans Benefits at a National Cemetery presented by John Rosentrater on September 24, 2020 at 12:00-1:00pm.** For more information, go to [www.https://avowcares.org/?s=veterans](https://avowcares.org/?s=veterans). You can also click the link on this week’s Epistle from Pastor Rob.

Stay Connected!

ZOOM!

Facebook!

www.vpcnaples.org

Weekly Epistle!

Reach out to someone!

Share the love of Christ!



FINANCIAL UPDATE—OPERATING FUND: July 2020:

	July	YTD	Budget
Operating Income	\$230,565	\$934,102	\$800,800
Expenses	\$ 91,879	\$634,820	\$697,500
Deo Mortgage Balance	7/31/2020	\$1,711,481	



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)

LTJG 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. Grassetti
(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)



Happy Birthday!

Katie Desorcy	8/23
*Ann Hoffman	8/23
Ginny Dieken	8/24
John Ireland	8/24
*Lou Thompson	8/24
Cherry Jacobus	8/25
Gina Truax	8/25
Sebastian Aguilar	8/26
Tim Grove	8/29
Eleanor Sarina Hoppner	8/29
Sumera Yousaf	8/29



*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!

Bruce & Wendy Baker	8/23
Al & Jean Fletcher	8/23
Judy & Tom Maish	8/23
Bill & Judy Oehler	8/23
Charles & Nancy Thompson	8/23
Jackson & Nancy Bell	8/25
Finley & Jean Lee	8/26
Michael & Vicky Crosby	8/27
Jean & Dan Suciu	8/27
Don & Jan Fern	8/29



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.

David Barrientos	Michael Jeskey	Eleanor & Gary
Edna Benton	Sandra Johnson	Shepherd
Anna & Brooke Borden	Bob Kassing	Jim Shields
Family of Carmen	Mary Koppelkam	Joy Skarka
Virginia Chandley	LaDonna Lass	Liz Nowry Smith
Chloe Cornell	Judy Malone	The Waskey Family
Vicky Crosby	Don Neer	Will & Heather & Family
Ron Davis	Matt Nulph	Connie Wilson
Margaret Degler	Bonnie Olson	We are sorry to announce
Dan Dorty	Cassidy Otto & Family	that Rafael Antonio
Julie Eilers	Domenico Paglia	Guzman, father of VPC
David Elliott	Christopher Parent	custodian Cesar Guzman,
Elpi & Family	Savanna Peters & Phoenix	passed away in the
Asia Rial Elsbee	Marcia Piipponen	Dominican Republic.
Jim Fligg	The Power Family	Please keep the Guzman
Tom Freehan	Leah Ray	family in your prayers as
Janel Geary	Carol Rodkey	they deal with the added
Gary Gorran	Twila Rowe	stress of traveling during
Jake Hellihan	Metty Ryan	the Pandemic.
Inspired Living at Bonita Springs	Robin Ryan	
	Sadie Ann	

- For all students, teachers and parents navigating the upcoming school year.
- For those who were injured or lost their lives in the recent bombing in Beirut.
- 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 (National, State, & Local) 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.

That we will seek to serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves. That we will strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.

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.



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

