

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 30, 2020

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Psalm 105: 1-6

¹ O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.

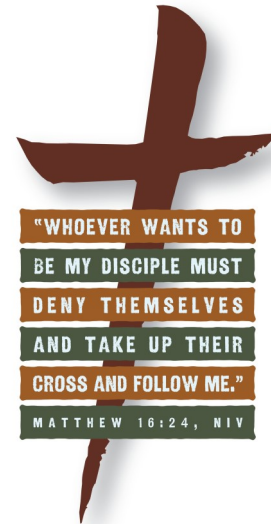
² Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.

³ Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

⁴ Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually.

⁵ Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered,

⁶ O offspring of his servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.



"WHOEVER WANTS TO
BE MY DISCIPLE MUST
DENY THEMSELVES
AND TAKE UP THEIR
CROSS AND FOLLOW ME."
MATTHEW 16:24, NIV

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Prelude: Prelude in A Minor

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Call to Worship

God calls us to this time of worship.

The place where we are standing is holy ground.

Give thanks to God: sing praises,

Give attention to the voice of God.

Out of a burning bush, God spoke to Moses.

In the rhythms of worship, God speaks to us.

We will listen for God's message to us.

Surely God's strength will supply our needs.

Hymn: "To God Be the Glory"

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

1. To God be the glory, great things He hath done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin.
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,

And give Him the glory:
great things He hath done!

2. Great things He hath taught us,
great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain

Prayer of Confession

O God, we have wavered in our faith in the midst of suffering, and we have not persevered in prayer. We have claimed to be wiser than we are, and have even tried to correct you. We make excuses for ourselves rather than listening for your direction and heeding your call. Our days are so filled with the busyness of this world that we cannot see your reign among us. We are so weighed down by our own concerns that we have no energy to serve in your realm. Send your cleansing fire among us, forgiving God. Amen.

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

Moment for Children—Back to School Blessing—Teacher Commissioning

Thank you, God, for new opportunities to learn and grow whether it be in an actual classroom, a virtual classroom, or from our homes. Be with our students, teachers, leaders, parents, grandparents, caregivers, and administrators as they guide us into the new school year. Give them the tools and energy to create engaging ways for all of us to learn and grow. Help us to open our hearts and minds to new ideas, new friends and leaders, and new ways of learning. Show us how to seek joy in all things. When things don't go as planned, help us rejoice in the newness. When we have technical difficulties, help us rejoice in simple things like books and crayons. When we feel lonely or isolated, remind us that you are by our side. When our teachers and caregivers seem worried and wary, help them to be gentle with themselves. As we begin to explore the unknown of this school year, let us rejoice with new friends, in new ways of learning, in knowing that you are with us through it all. God of joy and light, pour out your blessing upon these students, families, teachers, and leaders. Bless their backpacks, computers, virtual classrooms, school buildings, and all preparations that help build a strong and safe year for everyone. May each of you be a blessing and light in your new year! Go and light up the world! Amen.

**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 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Solo: "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

arr. Jack Schrader

Michele Byrd, Soprano

(b. 1942)

Prayer for Illumination

The Gospel Reading:

Matthew 16:21-28

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? ²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Message

"Foundation or Stumbling Block?"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

Offering

Offertory: "God be in My Head"

Henry Walford Davies

Michele Byrd, Soprano

(1869-1941)

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

Seek every day the presence we have known here.

God offers strength for every challenge we face.

We will give thanks and call on God's name.

We will open our eyes to see God's daily miracles.

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.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, *Pastor*

Heather Mikes, *Interim Christian Education Director*

Drake DeBaun, *Christian Education Intern*

Susie Hilton, *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: Victoria Bonavita

Scripture Passages for the following week:

September 6, 2020—23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Romans 13:8-14

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:15-20



VPC NEWS

UPDATE - EXTENSION OF THE SUSPENSION OF IN-PERSON WORSHIP: During their meeting on Monday, August 24, 2020, the Session reviewed the current health data, local trends, and issues that impact planning for reopening in-person worship at VPC. The data for Southwest Florida, and Collier County in particular, are markedly improved over the past few weeks. Following discussion, the Session re-affirmed their stance on continuing with virtual worship for the immediate future. The Session will continue to examine this important information over the coming weeks and plan to add in-person worship when they determine it is safe to do so. The Session of VPC 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, continue to call us (597-5410), email Barbara Bonavita (bbonavita@vpcnaples.org), Lisa Lloyd (llloyd@vpcnaples.org) or Michele Byrd (mbyrd@vpcnaples.org) if you need assistance of any kind.



VPC BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING SUPPLIES FOR PINECREST ELEMENTARY:

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church is collecting school supplies for teachers, staff, students and families at Pinecrest Elementary School located in Immokalee, Florida. 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 Pinecrest Elementary School (NOT to VPC) by tomorrow, 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 "Pinecrest 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.



TAKE A STUDY BREAK WITH PASTOR ROB! We are gathering for a brief virtual prayer meeting on Wednesday, September 16 at 6:00 p.m. to ask for God's blessing on our time of study and to support and encourage one another through our first few weeks of back to school. Stay tuned for Zoom details.

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).



*“Bear one another’s burdens,
and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.”
(Galatians 6:2, NRSV).*



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 \$47,834 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.



ZOOM!
Facebook!
www.vpcnaples.org!
VPC Kids & Families YouTube!
Weekly Epistle!
Reach out to someone!
Say a prayer for a friend!
Share the love of Christ!

—STAYING—

CONNECTED

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 Afghanistan
(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!

Barbara McElwaine	8/30
*Peter (Pete) Schwiers	8/30
*Janet Kassing	8/31
*Elizabeth Lee	8/31
Addison Acx	9/1
Avery Acx	9/1
Chong Devine	9/1
Joan Elliott	9/1
Nancy Guthy	9/1
Wayne Rockenbach	9/1
Ilana Cota	9/2
Mark McElwaine	9/2
Nancy Ruppert	9/3
Jack Ufheil	9/3

Jane Repp	9/4
*Joseph Riashi	9/5



***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!

Virginia & Bill Chandley	8/30
Becca & Steve Acx	8/31
Charla & Charles Henningsen	8/31
Beth & Will McDonough	8/31
Michele & Rich Yovanovich	8/31
Clark & Kathryn Leaming	9/1
Mary & Tom Bender	9/2
Jo & Rick Miles	9/2
Geri & Bill Payne	9/4
John & Mavelyn Millard	9/5



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	Inspired Living at
Edna Benton	Bonita Springs
Anna & Brooke	Michael Jeskey
Borden	Sandra Johnson
Lilia Cagua	Bob Kassing
Family of Carmen	LaDonna Lass
Virginia Chandley	Judy Malone
Chloe Cornell	Don Neer
Vicky Crosby	Matt Nulph
Ron Davis	Bonnie Olson
Margaret Degler	Cassidy Otto & Family
Dan Dorty	Domenico Paglia
Julie Eilers	Christopher Parent
David Elliott	Savanna Peters &
Elpi & Family	Phoenix
Asia Rial Elsbree	Marcia Piipponen
Jim Fligg	The Power Family
Tom Freehan	Leah Ray
Janel Geary	Carol Rodkey
Gary Gorran	Twila Rowe
Richard Grunert	Metty Ryan
Jake Hellihan	Robin Ryan



- For all students, teachers and parents navigating the upcoming school year.
- For everyone affected by Hurricane Laura.
- 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.



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 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

