



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

September 27, 2020
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 78

¹ Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
² I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings from of old,
³ things that we have heard and known,
that our ancestors have told us.
⁴ We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might,
and the wonders that he has done.



Jesus Teaches in the Temple

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Prelude: Two Arias

Blair Francis Paponiu, *Flute* & Radu Paponiu, *Violin*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

Call to Worship

Come, let us remember God's presence with us.

Let us give ear to all that God would teach us.

Our ancestors have told us about God's might.

They have celebrated God's wondrous deeds.

Our doubts can lead to honest searching.

God welcomes questions that seek new truth.

We want to see God's larger picture.

We are here to broaden the scope of our concern.

Hymn: "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"

GERMANY

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Where cross the crowded ways of life,
Where sound the cries of race and clan,
Above the noise of selfish strife,
We hear Thy voice, O Son of Man. | 5. O Master, from the mountainside,
Make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
Among these restless throngs abide,
O tread the city's streets again; |
| 2. In haunts of wretchedness and need,
On shadowed thresholds fraught with fears,
From paths where hide the lures of greed,
We catch the vision of Thy tears. | 6. Till all the world shall learn Thy love,
And follow where Thy feet have trod;
Till glorious from Thy heaven above
Shall come the city of our God. |

Prayer of Confession

We fear to approach you with our confession, holy God, for you may require changes in us that are costly. You ask us to have the mind of Christ, a mind free of pretense and self-interest. You challenge us to lay aside our advantages to go where you send us. We fear loss of security if we are obedient. It is hard to see ourselves as exploiters when we pursue advantages for our families. It is difficult to consider others when we feel like victims. We confess our need for you and our desire to find your purpose for us. Amen.

Moment for Children

Heather Mikes

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.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³ But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵ The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Duet: Nocturne Number 1

Blair Francis Paponiu, *Flute* & Radu Paponiu, *Violin*

Franz Behr
(1837-1898)

Prayer for Illumination

The Gospel Reading:

Matthew 21:23-32

²³ When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸ What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the

same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Message

"Vineyard Work is Grace Work"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

Offering

Offertory: "Teach Me, O Lord"

Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

William Byrd
(1543-1623)

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

Go forth to serve in the spirit of Christ.

Dare to question false values that hold us captive.

We count it a privilege to serve in Christ's name.

We are grateful for the saving power of love.

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: Rondo

Franz Doppler
(1821-1883)



WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, *Pastor*

Heather Mikes, *Interim Director of Christian Education*

Jim Muir, *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.*

Blair Francis Paponiu, *Flute*

Blair Francis is a South Carolina native and has been playing the flute since age 11. Prior to joining the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra, she performed as a substitute with the New York Philharmonic. She has also performed with the Austin Symphony Orchestra, Oregon Symphony Orchestra, New World Symphony, Augusta Symphony Orchestra (GA) and the Palmetto Opera Orchestra (SC). Blair was selected as a prizewinning finalist in the Young Artist Competitions of the Florida Flute Association and the South Carolina Flute Society and was chosen as a winner of the National Flute Association Masterclass Performers Competition. She has also been a winner of the University of Texas at Austin and the University of South Carolina concerto competitions. She holds a Master of Music degree from The University of Texas at Austin and a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of South Carolina, where she graduated *summa cum laude* and received the Presser Scholar Award.

Radu Paponiu, *Violin*

Radu Paponiu is the Associate Conductor of the Naples Philharmonic and Director of the Naples Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. Since 2017, Radu has conducted the Naples Philharmonic in nearly forty different classical, education, and pops programs. Radu began his musical studies on the violin at age 7. After coming to the US at the invitation of the Perlman Music Program, Radu was accepted to the studio of Robert Lipsett at the Colburn School Conservatory of Music in Los Angeles, California, where he earned both a Bachelor of Music degree and an Artist Diploma degree in violin performance. As a chamber musician, Radu has appeared in festivals throughout Europe and North America, collaborating with artists such as Itzhak Perlman, Clive Greensmith, Martin Beaver, Merry Peckham, and Vivian Weilerstein. Radu is currently on the chamber music faculty for the Perlman Music Program.

Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

Soundboard Operator: Victoria Bonavita



Scripture Passages for the following week:

October 4, 2020—18th Sunday After Pentecost

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

Reading from the First Covenant (OT): Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12,20

Reading from the Second Covenant (NT): Philippians 3:4b-14

PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

VPC NEWS

UPDATE - EXTENSION OF THE SUSPENSION OF IN-PERSON WORSHIP:



During their meeting on Monday, August 24, 2020, the Session re-affirmed their stance on continuing with virtual worship for the immediate future. They 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. Call us (597-5410), or contact us by email Barbara Bonavita (bbonavita@vpcnaples.org), Lisa Lloyd (llloyd@vpcnaples.org) or Michele Byrd (mbyrd@vpcnaples.org) if you need assistance of any kind.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION

ZOOM IN FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR—This morning, Sunday, September 27, from 11—11:30am, join the meeting to connect with 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!



THANK YOU FOR CONNECTING! We had a good turnout for our Connection Caravan on Wednesday, September 23rd. It was wonderful to see those of you that drove by for a wave and a special gift bag. Remember, you are LOVED!

ZOOM LUNCH WITH YOUR PASTOR: All VPC members and friends are invited to join Pastor Rob for lunch every Tuesday (starting October 13, 2020) at noon for "Zoom Lunch with Your Pastor." There is no agenda for this 60 minute lunch gathering. I simply want to see your smiling faces and visit a while during our lunch break. To register, call the church office (597-5410) or email Michele Byrd at mbyrd@vpcnaples.org.



WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR ROB:



Begins Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 7:00 pm (Open to all): Gather for Bible Study on Wednesday evenings with all who wish to attend. We will gather using Zoom meeting for a casual discussion of the Scripture passage to be examined during worship on the following week. To register, call the church office (597-5410) or email Michele Byrd at mbyrd@vpcnaples.org. The link will be provided to you via email.

SIGN UP FOR THIS TIMELY STUDY IN CHRISTIAN CARE AND COMFORT:

This five-week class will examine how to relate to those who are suffering based on the book by Kenneth C. Haugk, PH.D. (Founder of Stephen Ministries in St. Louis) entitled, *Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart*. We will discuss and explore how we can relate to those suffering in ways that will ease their pain and show we care. This course will be facilitated by Jill Peterson and Sterling Desorcy, both Stephen Leaders at VPC. Join us on Monday afternoons from 2:00 to 3:00 pm beginning October 12 and ending November 9, 2020. Participation will be via Zoom with assigned study questions for active group discussion. Book cost is \$15 each. Books will be ordered in advance, so please sign up by September 28 to ensure we have enough for everyone. A Zoom link will be sent to all course participants prior to the first class. No prep needed for the first class on October 12 at 2:00 pm....just sign up in advance and show up via Zoom. To sign up, please call the office at 239-597-5410 or email Heather Mikes, hmikes@vpcnaples.org.



W. Don McClure Lectures and World Mission Initiative's
Month of Mission Series

Jesus Christ and the 'Dividing Wall': Race and God's Mission



October 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2020

JESUS CHRIST AND THE 'DIVIDING WALL': RACE AND GOD'S MISSION:

Looking for tools to engage in a deeper conversation with others on how racial injustice and racism at home impact God's mission in the world? Join others for a free online conversation on "Race and God's mission" organized by the World Mission Initiative and Continuing Education at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. This is a four-part series live streaming on Wednesday evenings October 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 7:30 p.m. (ET) with nationally-recognized speakers leading the conversation. You can register or learn more by visiting the website www.pts.edu/wmi-conference.

THE SEPTEMBER VIRTUAL CONCERT IS AVAILABLE!

"September Song" is online at www.vpcnaples.org and is found in the Sermon Library. "September Song" is a concert featuring Michele Byrd and Brice Gerlach taking you on a tour of Broadway—from the 1930's to present day. The second part of the concert is presented by James Cochran and William Marshall performing some of their Broadway favorites. We hope you enjoy this musical feast!

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP

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 \$50,234 for the fund (including both \$10,000 grants). We have disbursed \$46,440 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.

THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR BLESSINGS WITH PINECREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!

VPC has generously donated more than \$1,500 in back to school supplies and monetary gifts for teachers, staff, students and families at Pinecrest Elementary School in Immokalee. The link to order supplies will remain active for as long as anyone would like to provide them. Please visit the Amazon Wish list at https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3ILXQTCIUMP6T?ref=wl_share and select items to purchase. Choose to ship them directly to Pinecrest Elementary School (NOT to VPC).

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).



VIRTUAL COFFEE WITH VETS - PRESENTED BY AVOW:



Grab a cup of coffee and join us to share memories, experiences, and general conversation with other local veterans. Friday mornings 9:30am—10:30am. Join the conversation at: <https://bit.ly/3ksvAEI>. For more information, contact Mark Beland at 285-9300.

FINANCIAL UPDATE—OPERATING FUND: August 2020:

	August	YTD	Budget
Operating Income	\$ 50,383	\$984,485	\$854,000
Expenses	\$ 87,071	\$721,892	\$795,800
Deo Mortgage Balance	8/31/2020	\$1,703,980	



PRAY FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

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 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 & Roberta McMaster's
granddaughter's husband)



PRAY FOR OUR

MILITARY



Happy Birthday!

Lou Grady	9/27
Rachel Heimberger	9/27
*Jackson Bell	9/28
Max Gould	9/28
*Laura Marzano	9/28
*Malcolm McDonald	9/28
Carol Wood	9/28
Jack Asinger	9/29
Bill Faude	9/30
*Pat Rose	9/30
*Mary Thompson	9/30
Christopher Bowman	10/01
Margaret Mackie	10/02
Ruth Wade	10/03



Happy Anniversary!

Mary & Bill Koppelkam	9/27
Barbara & Joe Feddern	9/28
Nancy & Ron Guthy	9/28
Alexander & Julianne Hobbs	9/28
Dennis & Jean Hahm	9/30
Ed & Joan Haller	9/30
Brenda & Gary Karnes	10/03

***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 Team uses the interest income from the Birthday Club exclusively for Youth Activities! Please consider becoming a member of the Birthday Club. Celebrate your Birthday by thanking God for your life!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please continue to hold in prayer our church family 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 friend of 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	Jake Hellihan
Edna Benton	Kay Hurley
Anna & Brooke	Inspired Living at
Borden	Bonita Springs
Lilia Cagua	Jack
Family of Carmen	Michael Jeskey
Adriana Caruso	Sandra Johnson
Virginia Chandley	Bob Kassing
Dick Creviston	The Randy Kline
Vicky Crosby	Family
Ron Davis	LaDonna Lass
Margaret Degler	Judy Malone
Dan Dorty	Lucy Mikes
Julie Eilers	Don Neer
David Elliott	Matt Nulph
Asia Rial Elsbree	Bonnie Olson
Bill Faude	Cassidy Otto & Family
Jim Fligg	Domenico Paglia
Tom Freehan	Christopher Parent
Ali Frimpter	Harry Patchell
Janel Geary	The Power Family
Gary Gorran	Carol Rodkey
Richard Grunert	Twila Rowe

Metty Ryan
Robin Ryan
Eleanor & Gary
Shepherd
Jim & Patty Shields
Deborah Smith
Liz Nowry Smith
Alan Swailes
The Bette Thielking Family
The Waskey Family
Will & Heather & Family
Connie Wilson

- For people dealing with the effects of all the natural disasters occurring in the world.
- For all students, teachers and parents navigating the upcoming school year.
- 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 making tough decisions during this difficult time.
- For our church which provides comfort to all and leads us in new ways of worship and service to each other.
- For peace and unity throughout the world.



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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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

