



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



**September 6, 2020**  
**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Psalm 149**

- <sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.  
<sup>2</sup> Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.  
<sup>3</sup> Let them praise his name with dancing,  
making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.  
<sup>4</sup> For the LORD takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory.  
<sup>5</sup> Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.  
<sup>6</sup> Let the high praises of God be in their throats and two-edged swords in their hands,  
<sup>7</sup> to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,  
<sup>8</sup> to bind their kings with fetters and their nobles with chains of iron,  
<sup>9</sup> to execute on them the judgment decreed. This is glory for all his faithful ones.  
Praise the LORD!

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Announcements**

**Prelude:** Variations on “Here at Thy Table, Lord”

Dale Wood  
(1934-2003)

**Call to Worship**

*Praise God in the assembly of the faithful.*

*Make melody to God and sing a new song.*

**Praise God for life enriched by love.**

**Praise God for love that fulfills God’s law.**

*This is the hour to wake from our sleep.*

*The energy of God’s love fills this place.*

**Here we claim our identity as Christians.**

**Here we become the church of Jesus Christ.**

**Hymn:** “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

LAUDA ANIMA

- 1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;**  
To His feet thy tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Evermore His praises sing;  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.
- 3. Father-like He tends and spares us;**  
Well our feeble frame He knows;  
In His hands He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.

- 4. Angels, help us to adore Him;**  
Ye behold Him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,  
Dwellers all in time and space.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

## Prayer of Confession

O God, we have not been faithful to your commands. We have been more ready to condemn than to console, more eager to justify ourselves than to work for understanding. We feed the flames of dissent instead of welcoming the freeing power of forgiveness. We gather as two or three, not to welcome your presence but to gossip about those who are absent. Our sins are destroying us, God. Turn us around to a new way of being. Amen.

## 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 13:8-14

<sup>8</sup> Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. <sup>11</sup> Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup> the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup> let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its Desires.

## Solo: "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

arr. Mark Hayes

Michele Byrd, Soprano

(b. 1953)

## Prayer for Illumination

## The Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:15-20

<sup>15</sup> "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup> But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup> If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup> Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup> Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

## Message

"The Church is Community"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

## Offering

**Offertory:** "Ubi Caritas Deus ibi est"

*Where this is charity, selfless love, God is truly there.*

Michele Byrd, Soprano

Jacques Berthier

(1923-1994)

## Prayers of the People

# THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

## The Invitation to the Lord's Table

### The Apostles' Creed

VPC Children and Families

**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.**

### The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

*The Lord be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*Lift up your hearts.*

**We lift them to the Lord.**

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Words of Institution

## Distribution of the Bread and Cup

### Prayer after Communion

**We give you thanks, Lord Jesus Christ, for the gifts of grace we have received from your hand.**

**Now send us forth to reflect your light, proclaiming your saving death and resurrection until you come again in glory. Amen.**

**Solo:** "Come Down, O Love Divine"

Michele Byrd, Soprano

Ralph Vaughan Williams

(1872-1958)

Come down, O Love divine, Seek out this soul of mine And visit it with Thine own ardor glowing: O Comforter, draw near, Within my heart appear, And kindle it, Thy holy flame bestowing. And so the yearning strong With which the soul will long Shall far out pass the power of human telling; For none can guess His grace, Till Love creates a place Wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

## Commission and Blessing

*We are God's servants, sent on a mission.*

*Let us make God's deeds known among the people.*

**Where two or three gather, God is with us.**

**We seek to live honorably in the spirit of Christ.**

*Alleluia.*

**Amen.**

## Congregational Response:

“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!**

**Postlude:** “Sent Forth with God’s Blessing”

Dale Wood

## WORSHIP LEADERS

**The Rev. Robert J. Marrow**, *Pastor*

**Drake DeBaun**, *Christian Education Intern*

**The Rev. Dr. Fred Schulz**, *Parish Associate and 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 13, 2020—24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**First Reading: Romans 14:1-12**

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35**



## 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. 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. Please, continue to call us (597-5410), email Barbara Bonavita ([bbonavita@vpcnaples.org](mailto:bbonavita@vpcnaples.org)), Lisa Lloyd ([llloyd@vpcnaples.org](mailto:llloyd@vpcnaples.org)) or Michele Byrd ([mbyrd@vpcnaples.org](mailto:mbyrd@vpcnaples.org)) if you need assistance of any kind.



**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.

**OUR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM IS STAYING CONNECTED WHILE APART!** We hope you have enjoyed seeing the children and families in the pre-recorded Lord's Prayer and Apostles' Creed videos. Make sure to watch the service today to see another one! Our EMT is the best!

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION

**ZOOM IN FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR**—This morning, Sunday, September 6, 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.



### Virtual Concert "September Song"

September 9, 2020

Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

James Cochran, *Piano*

Brice Gerlach, *Piano*

William Marshall, *Baritone*



Please plan to watch the next concert in our Virtual Concert Series.

"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. Songs will include pieces from *Kismet*, *Music Man*, *Oliver*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Cats*, *Les Miserable* and *Wicked* and composers Gershwin, Hammerstein, Rodgers, Bernstein, Lerner & Lowe, Sondheim, Lloyd Webber and Hamlisch. You will be amazed at how many songs you know! The second part of the concert is presented by James Cochran and William Marshall performing music from *Camelot*, *South Pacific* and *Phantom of the Opera* as well as many other Broadway gems.

*Even though we cannot enjoy the concerts in person, you can still delight in the beauty of music performed in our sanctuary.*

All concerts will be online for your listening and viewing pleasure.

Go to [www.vpcnaples.org](http://www.vpcnaples.org) and go to the Sermon Library to find all the concerts!

## 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](mailto:dsherman249@gmail.com)) or Kay Beernink at 239-238-1526 ([leskaybee@aol.com](mailto:leskaybee@aol.com)).



### **VPC BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING SUPPLIES FOR PINECREST**

**ELEMENTARY:** Thank you for your donations! We continue to collect school supplies for teachers, staff, students and families at Pinecrest Elementary School in Immokalee. Please visit the Amazon Wish list by going to [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3ILXQTCIUMP6T?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3ILXQTCIUMP6T?ref=wl_share) and selecting items to purchase. Choose to ship them directly to Pinecrest Elementary School (NOT to VPC). 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](http://www.vpcnaples.org). Please indicate "Pinecrest Elementary" in the memo area of your check or online in the Custom Section (P. 2).

**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 \$48,784 for the fund (including the first \$10,000 grant). 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.



**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](http://www.https://avowcares.org/?s=veterans). You can also click the link on this week's Epistle from Pastor Rob.

## — STAYING —

# CONNECTED



**ZOOM!**

*Facebook!*

*[www.vpcnaples.org](http://www.vpcnaples.org)!*

*VPC Kids & Families YouTube!*

*Weekly Epistle!*

*Reach out to someone!*

*Say a prayer for a friend!*

*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	



**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 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!

Mary Ann Kellogg	9/6
Irene McGee	9/7
Bob Gruber	9/8
Susan Hallin	9/8
Judy Istock	9/8
Karen Schulz	9/8
*Robert Schwindt	9/8
Suzanne Smith	9/8
*Bruce Stryker	9/8
*Al Starr	9/9
*Marsha Reed	9/10
Debra Bevilacqua	9/11
Sherri Bratt	9/11
Paul Rowley	9/12



#### \*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!

Barbara & Fred Minter	9/7
Don & Greta Corcoran	9/9
Gil & Lou Grady	9/10
John & Anna Maria Miles	9/10
Pam & Tim Mitchell	9/11
Claudia & Scott Cunningham	9/12



## 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
Adriana Caruso	Judy Malone
Virginia Chandley	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

Eleanor & Gary
Shepherd
Jim Shields
Joy Skarka
Deborah Smith
Liz Nowry Smith
The Waskey Family
Will & Heather & Family
Connie Wilson

- 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 (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](http://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*

