



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

WELCOME TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Just a few reminders as we gather together for in-person worship. The following guidelines have been established for the health and safety of our congregation:

- Bring an open heart, mind and spirit.
- Hand sanitizer is available as you enter the church.
- Masks are required and must cover your nose and mouth for the entire service.
- Maintain social distancing of 6 feet apart. Pews are marked to help.
- Please use the sliding glass doors at the porte-cochere for entry/exit.
- Ushers will seat you at the beginning of the service and dismiss by row following the postlude.
- There will be no congregational singing, however, you may join in the spoken responses with the liturgist.
- We use responsive or unison readings and prayers at different times. The leader will read the words in *italics*. The congregation reads the words in **bold print**.
- You are encouraged to take your bulletin home for reference.
- The East and West wings are closed.
- Offering plates are in the Narthex. You may also donate online.
- Restrooms will be open however, please limit to 2 people at a time and keep the main doors propped open.

November 29, 2020 First Sunday of Advent

Psalm 80:1-7



- ¹ Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth
- ² before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.
Stir up your might, and come to save us!
- ³ Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
- ⁴ O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?
⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure.
- ⁶ You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.
- ⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
- ¹⁷ But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one whom you made strong for yourself.
- ¹⁸ Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.
- ¹⁹ Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Prelude: "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Wilbur Held
(1914-2015)

Call to Worship

Awake, people of God, and stay alert for Christ's coming.

Grace to you and peace from God who sent Jesus to us.

Make your ways known to us, O God.

Show us once more your awesome presence.

We are all God's people; no one is excluded.

Come together as God's family for worship and prayer.

Let the mountains quake before you, mighty God.

Let the nations tremble in awe and reverence.

Let us worship God.

Hymn: "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

TRURO

Please remain seated and enjoy as the soloist sings the hymn.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates,
Behold, the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near;
The Savior of the world is here! | 2. Fling wide the portals of your heart;
Make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heaven's employ,
Adorned with prayer, and love, and joy. | 3. Redeemer, come! I open wide
My heart to Thee; here, Lord abide.
Let me Thy inner presence feel;
Thy grace and love in me reveal. |
|---|---|--|

Advent Candle Litany (*Responsive*)

Becca, Addison & Avery Acx (recorded service)
The DeBaun & Peterson Families (in-person worship)

Advent is a time of waiting, of holy expectation, a time of preparing our hearts and home for Christmas joy.

During Advent we remember the incarnation of Jesus, born to a young woman who, but for God's love, would have been an outcast.

The God who created the heavens and the earth becomes flesh in Jesus and dwells among us, God with us.

The God we meet in Jesus is a God of compassion, righteousness and a radical love like no other.

There was a man named John who quoted an ancient prophecy: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall be made straight, the rough ways smooth. And all humankind will see God's salvation."

We light this candle in gratitude for God's divine and perfect love, made visible in Jesus, and our imperfect and sometimes clumsy ways of sharing it.

We light this candle as a symbol of God's light shining in the darkness.

The light has come into the world and darkness shall not overcome it.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Awesome God, we confess the sin of our separation from you. We have blamed you for hiding from us, rather than admitting we have failed to see you in the thousands of ways you are revealing yourself every day. We have not called on you, and we have not listened for your call to us. Without you, we have become tiny islands of self-concern. Our links with the rest of your children are stretched and broken. O God, we long for that loving community in which your reign is acknowledged and your purposes are served. Move us to that place, we pray. Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Gloria Patri

Henry Greatorex

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, 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 First Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Solo: "Every Valley"

David Curtiss, *Baritone*

John Ness Beck
(1930-1987)

Prayer for Illumination

The Gospel Reading

Mark 13:24-37

²⁴ "But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷ Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ²⁸ "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰ Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³² "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵ Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶ or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message

"Keep Awake"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

Offering

Offertory: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

VENI EMMANUEL

David Curtiss, *Baritone*

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

Use the gifts you have been given to the glory of God.

Let the testimony of Christ strengthen you in every way.

With hearts full of gladness, we will do what is right.

With great joy, our lives will show forth our faith.

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: "Toccata in C Major"

Johann Pachelbel
(1653-1706)

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, *Pastor*
Susie Hilton, *Liturgist for Thursday recording*
Karen Chappler, *Liturgist for Sunday worship*
Drake DeBaun, *Christian Education Intern*
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.

David Curtiss, *Baritone*

Greeters: Priscilla & Steve Kutler

Ushers: Carolyn Magarro & Claudia Polzin (*Head Ushers*), George Morton, Sue Van Fossen, Bill Van Fossen, Becky Wheat, Joe Trees

After Church Goodies: Priscilla Kutler, Jan Fern, Beth Lee and Sue Van Fossen

Soundboard Operator: Victoria Bonavita

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK



December 6:

Second Sunday of Advent

New Testament Reading:

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Gospel Reading:
Mark 1:1-8

VPC NEWS

IN-PERSON WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY:

This new worship opportunity continues today at 10:00 am. ***It is not intended to replace our ongoing virtual worship.*** Individuals in our community who are not feeling well or are included in other at-risk categories are asked to stay home and worship virtually. You must sign up **EACH** week if you wish to attend. Call us (597-5410) if you need assistance of any kind.

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?

If you are looking for a church home in Naples and would like to find out more about Vanderbilt, we would love to tell you about our church and learn more about you. If you have any questions or would like to learn about membership options at VPC, please contact the church office (597-5410). Pastor Rob would love to talk with you!!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION

ZOOM IN FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR:

This Sunday morning, 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!

ZOOM LUNCH WITH YOUR PASTOR AND WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY RESUME THIS WEEK:

Tuesday at noon you can Zoom in and have lunch with Pastor Rob. Wednesday at 7pm is the Zoom Bible Study. Email Michele Byrd (mbyrd@vpcnaples.org) for the link to either meeting.

ZOOM IN FOR THE LADIES VIRTUAL BRUNCH:

Ladies, celebrate Christmas with your VPC family! Saturday, December 12, 2020 from 11am—1pm. The afternoon will include a presentation by VandeReaders, music from our beloved choir, a blessing given by Rev. Dr. Fred Schulz and of course fellowship! Call Lisa at the church to sign up/get zoom link or Lois at lafolliard@gmail.com.

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP

4 MISSION OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVENT:

Each of these worthy organizations have been selected for your consideration during the season of Advent. All monetary donations will be accepted through the church website, www.vpcnaples.org.

Be sure to note where your gift should be applied. Thank you.

1. The **Christmas Joy Offering** has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years. Make sure to put "**Christmas Joy Offering**" on your check or online donation.
2. **Misión Peniel Christmas Toy Drive**—Many of the farm worker families in Immokalee have been impacted by COVID-19. Vanderbilt is running a Christmas toy drive for the children of the farm workers in Immokalee - **specifically for boys and girls ages 1-5**. The item(s) can be anything you desire as long as it does not promote violence (like toy guns or toys/games promoting fights). Please bring your unwrapped toy(s) to the church no later than Tuesday, December 15th in a bag marked "Peniel Christmas". They will be delivered to Immokalee and distributed prior to Christmas Day. If you'd rather just donate money, simply write a check to the church or donate online by Sunday, December 13th and put "**Peniel Christmas**" in the memo. If you have any questions email Pete Rodino at pvrodino@aol.com. Thank you for your support of the Misión Peniel farm worker mission.
3. Be a blessing! Donate to the **Salvation Army Angel Tree** and adopt an angel boy or girl during the Christmas season. Our Missions Team is committed to sponsoring 200 children in the Angel Tree



Program this Christmas. VPC has received a \$5,000 matching gift for the "Angel Tree," so we are halfway to our goal to raise \$10,000 to spread Christmas cheer to children and families in need! We are not able to collect toys this year. All donations, whether online or by check, must be delivered to VPC by **November 30, 2020** with "**Angel Tree**" in the memo. No child should be without Christmas joy, cheer, and gifts. This is an excellent opportunity to spread our love!



4. VPC has a long tradition of alternative giving to **Heifer International**. Instead of purchasing another unneeded thing for a family member or friend, make a contribution to Heifer International in their honor. Heifer works to alleviate hunger and poverty around the world by providing livestock and training to needy small-scale farmers and by educating young girls in developing countries. Donations may be made before or after services on December 6th, 13th, and 20th OR online through the VPC website. Please put "**Heifer**" in the donation line of your check or online gift. For more information, contact Leslie Loughran at leslie.loughran@gmail.com.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR HELP

VPC STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE HERE TO HELP:

Know someone in need? 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).

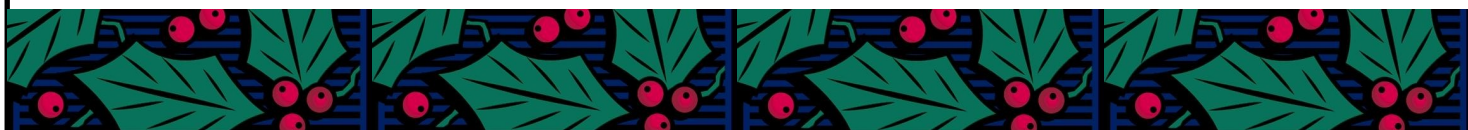
ADVENT DEVOTIONS INFORMATION:

Advent begins today (Sunday, November 29). We welcome this opportunity to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. To guide us on our journey together through Advent this year, we are using the great tradition of the Jesse Tree created by Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (PTS). Information was emailed on Wednesday. If you need assistance or did not receive the email, call us at 239-597-5410.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Our Sanctuary will be decorated for Advent/Christmas again this year: that's right, 2020 is not taking that away from us! We are offering you the opportunity to dedicate poinsettias in honor or memory of your loved ones. Members and friends wishing to assist in funding the cost, may do so by completing the form available in the Narthex on Sunday mornings or simply sending in donations marked "Poinsettias". Donors names and dedications will be included in the Virtual Christmas Eve worship service bulletins. This year the poinsettias cannot be distributed after Christmas Eve. You may pick up your plant on Wednesday, December 23rd (10am to 4pm) and Thursday, December 24th (10am to 3pm). To be included in the bulletin, please send your check by December 13th. We appreciate your generosity!



FINANCIAL UPDATE—OPERATING FUND: October 2020:

	October	YTD	Budget
Operating Income	\$ 60,165	\$1,079,314	\$978,600
Expenses	\$101,152	\$ 920,302	\$998,000
Deo Mortgage Balance	10/31/2020	\$1,692,757	



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)



Apologies! The birthday & anniversary lists were not updated last week. This listing has 2 weeks of celebrations!

Happy Birthday!

*Fran Lauriat	11/23
Sid Showalter	11/23
*Herb Nelson	11/25
Teresita Sosa	11/26
George Cheatham	11/27
*Bob Kassing	11/27
Sharon Messmore	11/27
Sara Wells	11/28
*Mary Jane Williams	11/28

*Mary Lynn Myers	11/30
Metty Ryan	11/30
Ruth Bethem	12/1
Oscar Lowe	12/1
Ali Frimpter	12/2
Madison Bowman	12/3
Judy Davis	12/3
Jerry Anderson	12/5
*Jean Rawson	12/5

Happy Anniversary!

Lou & Mary Thompson	11/24
Pat & Max Gould	11/25
Jerry & Mari-Bea Warnken	11/26
Don & Lyla Schulte	11/27
Steve Blad & Judy Malone	11/28
Madge & Bob Bush	11/28
Gayle & Rob Kaderly	11/28
Haley & Richard Hood	12/2

***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.

Bob Bush	Domenico Paglia
Adriana Caruso	The family of Christopher Parent
Mason Colby	Harry Patchell
Pat Colby	Charlene Roth
Pat Counts	Carol Schweirs
Dan Dorty	Tony Shogren
David Elliott	Deborah Smith
Jeffrey Elliott	Liz Nowry Smith
Bob Fahnstock	Scott A. Smith
Jim Fligg	Arlene Sniffen
Ali Frimpter	Alan Swailes
Quinten Hawkins	The Tetlak Family
Paul Heroy	Diana Woodward
Chloe Bell Indelicato	
Inspired Living at Bonita Springs	We are saddened to share the
Jonathan	news of Charlie Henningsen's
Dennis Jones	death on November 22. Please
Brooke Kirchner	pray for Charla, his wife, and his
Judy Malone	family.
Millicent Marshall	
Marilyn McKee	Please pray for Leah Ray on the
Don Neer	death of her mother, Jo Tidwell.
Cassidy Otto & Family	

Almighty, all-merciful God, through Christ Jesus you have taught us to love one another, to love our neighbors as ourselves, and even to love our enemies. In times of violence and fear, let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, so that we may not be overcome with evil but overcome evil with good. Help us to see each person in light of the love and grace you have shown us in Christ. Put away the nightmares of terror and awaken us to the dawning of your new creation. Establish among us a future where peace reigns, justice is done with mercy, and all are reconciled. We ask these things in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



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

