

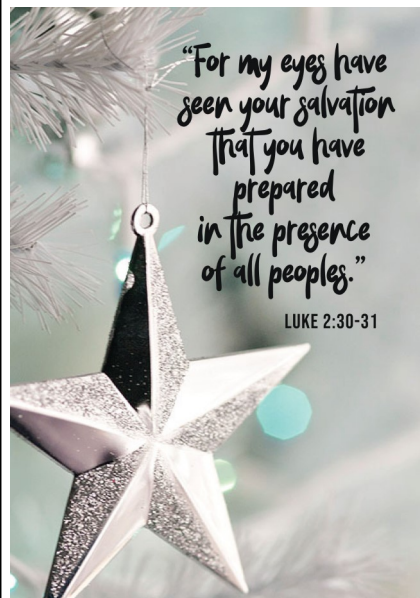


Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church is a safe place for all people to worship regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background or sexual orientation.

December 27, 2020
First Sunday of Christmas

Psalm 148

- ¹ Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
² Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!
³ Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!
⁴ Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!
⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.
⁶ He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.
⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,
⁸ fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!
⁹ Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
¹⁰ Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!
¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
¹² Young men and women alike, old and young together!
¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.
¹⁴ He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Prelude: Chorale Prelude on "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"

Johann Walther
(1684-1748)

Call to Worship

*Praise God from the heights of heaven.
Praise God, all people of the earth.
God opens our eyes to see the light.
We will be called by a new name.
*Men and women, youth and aged,
Sing of God's glory; shout your praise.*
God has made us heirs of promise.
We will praise God's holy name.
*Let us worship God.**

Hymn: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

GO TELL IT

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

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.
<i>Refrain</i> | 2. The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! Above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth.
<i>Refrain</i> | 3. Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.
<i>Refrain</i> |
|--|---|---|

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

We bring our prayers to you, gracious God, sensing that there is more to life than the ways we have known. We are drawn to the Messiah, yet we shrink from following where faith leads. We are afraid of what we might lose if we are guided by the Spirit. Thoughts of sacrifice and servanthood are not appealing to us. We are reluctant to enter into a close relationship with you. We think we know, better than you, what is best for us. Forgive our arrogance. Help us see the Christ. 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

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. ⁶² ¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ² The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Solo: "All Through the Night"

Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

Welsh Carol
arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

Prayer for Illumination

The Gospel Reading

Luke 2:22-40

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male

shall be designated as holy to the Lord”),²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him.²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law,²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,²⁹ “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”³³ And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage,³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day.³⁸ At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message

“God With Us”

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

Offering

Offertory: “The Virgin’s Slumber Song”

Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

Max Reger
(1873-1916)

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 in peace, carrying God’s word to the world.

Praise God, and tell the good news of a Savior.

We are heirs of amazing blessings.

We are gifted to become a blessing to others.

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: Chorale Prelude on "From Heaven Above to Earth I Came"

Wilbur Held
(1914-2015)

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, Pastor

Jerry Grandey, Liturgist for Thursday recording

Mary Lynn Myers, 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.

Michele Byrd, Soprano for Thursday recording

Andrea Daggett, Alto for Sunday worship

Greeters: Priscilla & Steve Kutler

Ushers: Carolyn Magarro & Claudia Polzin (*Head Ushers*), Sue & Bill Van Fossen, Tom Maish, Becky Wheat and Harley Ruppert.

After Church Goodies: Priscilla Kutler & Sue Van Fossen

Soundboard Operators:

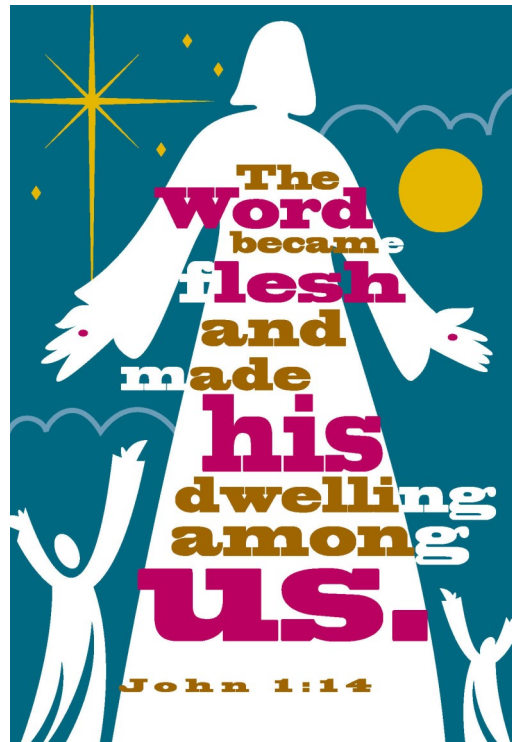
David Curtiss, *for Thursday recording* & Pete DeBaun, *for Sunday worship*

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEK

January 3: The Second Sunday of Christmas

First Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

Gospel Reading: John 1: (1-9), 10-18



VPC NEWS

IN-PERSON WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY:

This 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 in other at-risk categories are asked to stay home and worship virtually. Call us (597-5410) if you need assistance of any kind.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE CHRISTMAS CONNECTION!

We hope that you enjoyed our Christmas Connection on December 19th! It was wonderful to see so many of our VPC family in person! Thanks to the Membership & Involvement Team (especially, Priscilla Kutler, Jan Fern, Beth Lee, Nancy Miller and June Peterson) for helping to assemble the gift bags, our youth orchestra musicians; Colin Gerlach, *Violin*, Alondra Damian-Noyola, *Viola*, and Osei Allen, *Cello* for providing the beautiful Christmas music, the Usher Team that helped with directions (especially Claudia Polzin, Harley Rupert, Molly Godley, Sue and Bill Van Fossen, Carolyn Magarro, Karen Chappler, Becky Wheat and Nellie Cummins), and YOU for attending! MERRY CHRISTMAS!

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**.

ZOOM LUNCH WITH YOUR PASTOR AND BIBLE STUDY ARE CANCELED THIS WEEK:

These two offerings will resume in January.

FRIENDS IN FAITH is a caring group of women who support one another through study, prayer and friendship, as they explore God's word together. The group will reconvene on January 13, 2021 via Zoom and meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 10:00am until 11:30am. All ladies are welcome to come read and discuss "**The Friendship of Women: The Hidden Tradition of the Bible**" by Joan Chittister. To join the Zoom meeting use: Meeting ID: 819 4499 3844, Passcode: 757147.



CAFÉ OF LIFE: On Tuesday, December 29, 2020, VPC volunteers will help prepare and serve a midday meal at 10:00 am at Leitner Park, 26274 Nomad Drive, Bonita Springs. About 100 people, including the working poor, and homeless, attend these events. Volunteers prepare a dish (salad, pasta, fruit salad, cookies, etc.) and bring it to the park. To learn more about this opportunity, please contact Eliza Nevin at elizanevin@comcast.net or Cherie Baines at ctfl.baines@gmail.com.



WEEKEND POWER PACK: On Wednesday, January 13, VPC volunteers will pack 120 bags of food for homeless children or those living at poverty level as part of the Weekend Power Pack Program. Weekly, students in the program, receive a bag containing two breakfasts, two lunches, two dinners, and four



snacks. The school guidance counselor puts the “power pack” in their backpack before leaving school for the weekend. Please contact Cherie Baines at ctfl.baines@gmail.com for more information.

COLLIER HARVEST/FEED 5000: On January 18, 2021, at 5:30 pm, Collier Harvest (Feed 5000) will have a packing event at their warehouse at 4451 Mercantile Avenue. Volunteers will pack 150 bags of food for the families of needy students from Golden Gate, East Naples, and Immokalee Middle Schools. If you are available and would like to join us, please send an email to Cherie Baines (ctfl.baines@gmail.com) or call at 239-776-5652.



MISIÓN PENIEL: On Friday, January 22, 2021, and Friday, March 19, 2021, our church is scheduled to serve at Misión Peniel, (following COVID protocols.) A group of six volunteers will serve on each of these days, and you must provide your own transportation to Immokalee. If you are interested in signing up, email the date(s) you would like to participate to Cherie Baines (ctfl.baines@gmail.com.)



THANK YOU VPC!!



You generously donated over \$4,000 and an abundance of toys to the children of Misión Peniel to brighten their Christmas! What a wondrous outpouring of Christian love to those who have so little! Thanks to each of you for your donations of cash and toys for this very worthy cause! Due to an incredible \$5,000 matching grant, the generosity of the VPC congregation, and the Missions Team's support, VPC was able to raise \$10,000 to sponsor 200 children in the Angel Tree Project. Each child received a \$30 Walmart gift card and a \$20 Publix food gift card. Thank you!

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).



FINANCIAL UPDATE—OPERATING FUND: November 2020:

	November	YTD	Budget
Operating Income	\$ 95,820	\$1,176,634	\$1,067,300
Expenses	\$ 85,959	\$1,006,262	\$1,106,00
Deo Mortgage Balance	11/30/2020	\$1,686,229	

**THANKS FOR
DONATING!**

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)



Happy Birthday!

Joanne Bowser	12/27
Jerry Grandey	12/28
*Doris Martin	12/28
Bayne Carew	12/29
Pat Jansen	12/29
*Nancy Thompson	12/30
Gracia Schmidt	12/31
*Phyl Auman	1/02
Molly Godley	1/02
Bill Reckmeyer	1/02

***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!



Happy Anniversary!

Cherry & Phil Jacobus	12/27
Heather & Jason Mikes	12/28
Jerry & Sharon Anderson	12/29
Cheryl & Sterling Desorcy	12/30
Jim & Patty Shields	12/30
Ruth & Rick Bethem	12/31
Gene & Shirley Blanchard	12/31
Chuck & Connie Lewis	12/31
Kristy & Mica Jackson	1/01
Jim & Lois Ann Folliard	1/02

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.

Bayne Carew	Emily Orr
Adriana Caruso	Cassidy Otto & Family
Pat Counts	Domenico Paglia
Dan Dorty	The family of Christopher Parent
David Elliott	Harry Patchell
Jeffrey Elliott	Marianne Rapps
Bob Fahnestock	Leah Ray
Jim Fligg	Charlene Roth
The family of Bernie Froysland	Carol Schweirs
Pattie Fruth	Tony Shogren
Quinten Hawkins	Deborah Smith
The Family of Charles Henningsen	Liz Nowry Smith
Kay Hurley	Scott A. Smith
Chloe Bell Indelicato	The family of Arlene Sniffen
Inspired Living at Bonita Springs	Alan Swailes
Dennis Jones	The Tetlak Family
Bob Kassing	Lee Weeks and Family (<i>on the death of his sister, Debbie Weeks Badalamenti</i>)
Brooke Kirchner	Pat Wesley
Judy Malone	The Wesley Family
Millicent Marshall	Dan Westerlund
Marilyn McKee	Diana Woodward
Joan Mountford	
Don Neer	

We are saddened to share with you the death of *Bernie Froysland*. Bernie and Sue were not members of VPC, but have been involved with the Social Justice Ministry Team. Please keep the Froysland family in your prayers.

Holy God, all-glorious giver of grace, you are light, shining in darkness; you are life, the life of all people. Fill us with the light and life of Christ, through whom all things were made, so that we may be faithful disciples, bearing witness to your grace and truth; through Christ, your Word made flesh.

John 1:1-14

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

