



May 16, 2021

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Psalm 1

¹ Happy are those
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;
² but their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.
³ They are like trees planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.
⁴ The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the
judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the
righteous;
⁶ for the LORD watches over the way of the
righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Prelude: "A Short Voluntary"

Jeremiah Clarke
(1674-1707)

Call to Worship

We are together today because Christ has claimed us.

We are called to be the body of Christ in today's world.

We are not here just for ourselves, for our own needs.

We are drawn together by a larger purpose.

We have been called by Christ for a mission.

The gathered community is sent out into the world.

We are here to be equipped for ministry.

We have been chosen as apostles of good news.

Let us worship God.

Hymn: "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

LOBE DEN HERREN

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

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| 1. Praise ye the Lord,
the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him,
For He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear,
Now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration! | 2. Praise ye the Lord,
Who o'er all things so wondrously
reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings,
Yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen
How thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what He ordaineth? | 3. Praise ye the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath,
Come now with praises before Him!
Let the amen
Sound from His people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him. |
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Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pour out our Prayer of Confession. We have been called together into the church to live the resurrection faith, to embody Easter and touch lives as Jesus did. We have not done this well. Our vision has been narrow and limited. Our testimony has been timid and self-protective. We listen to the wrong advisors and complain when things do not go our way. Forgive our limited commitment and low expectations that deny the Body of Christ as the strong force for good that we are meant to be. Help us rediscover the delight and joy of full commitment. 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

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.

First Scripture Reading

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶ "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— ¹⁷ for

he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ²¹ So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” ²³ So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴ Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Solo: “His Eye is On the Sparrow”

Charles H. Gabriel (1856-1932)

Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come? Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is He; His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me. I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free; for His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me. “Let not your heart be troubled,” His tender word I hear; and resting on His goodness, I lose my doubt and fear. Though by the path He leadeth but one step I may see; His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Prayer for Illumination

The Gospel Reading

John 17:6-19

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵ I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Offering

Offertory "We Shall Behold Him"

Dottie Rambo
(1934-2008)Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

The sky shall unfold, preparing His entrance; The stars shall applaud Him with thunders of praise. The sweet light in His eyes shall enhance those awaiting, And we shall behold Him then face to face in all of His glory, our Savior and Lord. The angels shall sound the shout of His coming, The sleeping shall rise from their slumbering place. And those who remain shall be changed in a moment, And we shall behold Him then face to face.

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

You do not belong to the world but to God.

You are in the world as bearers of God's truth.

God, who knows our hearts, accepts us.

The love of God follows us wherever we go.

Alleluia!

Amen.

Benediction Response: "The Irish Blessing"

Owen Goldsmith
(b. 1932)

May the road rise to meet you, may the wind be always at your back; may the sun shine warm upon your face, may the rain fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Postlude: "Toccata in F Major"

Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

Please remain seated until the end of the Postlude.



The flowers on the chancel are donated in loving memory of both our parents, Robert & Pearl Smith and Erasmus & Maria Belden by Mike and Reggie Smith.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, Pastor

Jerry Grandey, Liturgist for virtual worship

Bob Martin, Liturgist for Sunday worship

Dr. James Cochran, Director of Music, playing the Richard and Patricia Fors Organ given to the glory of God and in honor of James Cochran, Organist.

Heather Mikes, Director of Christian Education

Michele Byrd, Soprano for virtual worship

Sherry Hardgrove, Soprano for Sunday worship

Greeters: Priscilla & Steve Kutler

Ushers: Carolyn Magarro & Claudia Polzin (*Head Ushers*), Steve & Priscilla Kutler, David & Cherie Baines, Karen Chappler, Tom Maish, Tim Hall

Soundboard Operators: Victoria Bonavita & Gordon Black



SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

May 23: Day of Pentecost

The Rev. Louis S. Thompson, Parish Associate & Guest Preacher

First Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 37: 1-10

Second Reading: The Acts of the Apostles 2:1-5, 11b-13

Homily: "Pentecost People"

Remember! Wear RED to celebrate Pentecost!!

VPC NEWS

IN-PERSON WORSHIP: As we continue to navigate our Sunday morning worship services, it is important that we have a good handle on the number of people planning to attend. Each week, emails are sent with instructions on how to register online, or you may always call the church office (597-5410) during the weekdays, to sign-up. If your plans change before 3pm on Friday, please call and let us know.

REMEMBER...WE ARE ROOTED IN FAITH AND GROUNDED IN LOVE!

Please help us to follow the mandates for safe worship at VPC. As a reminder, we continue to follow the recommendations of the CDC, including wearing masks and maintaining a 3-foot social distance between family units. As always, you may watch the worship service anytime via our website. Each person has a different level of comfort when it comes to gathering together as the Body of Christ. We are doing everything we can to make sure that all our members are comfortable and feel supported and loved.



REMINDERS: As we continue to follow safety guidelines for our in-person worship services, *please* remember to take your bulletins home, *please* take anything that you bring into the sanctuary (water bottles, purses, tissues, etc.) and at the end of the service, *please* wait to be dismissed by the ushers. We are trying to be mindful of everyone's safety, so remember we are rooted in faith and grounded in love.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The Congregational Nominating Committee has called a meeting of the congregation on **May 16, 2021** for the purpose of electing a Deacon to fill an unexpired term. The meeting will be held live, in-person in the Sanctuary at 11 am immediately following the 10 am service.



Dianne Westerlund: I was born and raised on a farm in southern Minnesota. The church we attended was ½ mile away so I walked to Catechism every Saturday for 4 years! This was a Missouri Synod Lutheran church. In 1963, I attended Augustana College in Sioux Falls, SD, a Lutheran college, and met Dan, a Baptist. After we were married, we joined a Baptist church in Sioux Falls. We have 3 children. Jill Miles, Julie Borden and Jay Westerlund. After leaving Sioux Falls, we moved a lot! Each town we lived in, we would visit many churches and many denominations. We chose churches that seemed right for us and our children so in a few towns we were Methodists and in a few more we were Presbyterians. It was in Northern California where we first became Presbyterians in a small church out on the Delta. In 2004, we moved here where our daughter Jill lived. We thought VPC was too big, but she said you will love it, and we did and still do! Soon after, our daughter Julie and family moved here and joined too. And pretty soon, our son Jay moved here too.

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**. We hope to see you there!

ARE YOU HEADED NORTH FOR THE SUMMER? If your plans include leaving Naples for the summer, please call or email the office to let us know so we can change your address (597-5410 or bbonavita@vpcnaples.org.) We are also collecting non-perishable food donations!

HELP US CELEBRATE GRADUATES! If you have a senior graduating from high school, college, grad school or beyond, we want to help mark these significant educational milestones. This includes grandchildren! Also, if you have a student moving up from preschool, kindergarten, fifth grade or eighth grade, we need to hear from you, too! Send us a picture and short paragraph, so we can honor them on Graduation Sunday, June 13. Please email submissions to Drake DeBaun at ddebaun@vpcnaples.org by May 28.

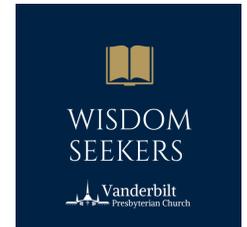


OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION



SUMMER STUDY INVITE: 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 has concluded their Spring session and will resume on July 14 with a very special summer session. Meetings are held via Zoom on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month from 10:00-11:30am. All ladies are welcome to come read and discuss "Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament" by P. Lynn Miller. We will be ordering books for pick up in the church office. The cost is \$10. Please let us know if you are interested by contacting Barbara Bonavita at (239) 597-5410 or bbonavita@vpcnaples.org before May 24.

WISDOM SEEKERS: This book discussion group is rooted in faith and connected by friendship, as they explore current affairs through topical authors. The spring session concluded in April. However, each member of the group is currently reading a book of their choosing to bring to the table for review and discussion at a monthly lunch gathering this summer on June 2 and July 7. All are welcome. We understand many of us may have conflicts over the summer, so please feel free to join the group on an ad hoc basis. For more information email Heather Mikes at hmikes@vpcnaples.org.



OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP WITH MISSIONS

COLLIER HARVEST/FEED 5000: On Monday, May 17, at 5:30 pm, Collier Harvest (Feed 5000) will have the last packing event until August. Volunteers will pack 150 bags of food for the families of needy students from Golden Gate, East Naples, and Immokalee Middle Schools at their warehouse at 4451 Mercantile Avenue. This is such a wonderful way to give back to the community and the event usually lasts only an hour!



Please send an email to Cherie Baines (ctfl.baines@gmail.com) if you are available to help! To donate to Collier Harvest, please make your check out to VPC and put Collier Harvest on the memo line.

HELPS OUTREACH: Please donate nonperishable food to Helps Outreach by dropping it off at VPC or taking it to Helps Outreach, 2025 J & C Blvd., Naples, FL. Especially needed are canned tuna, salmon, chicken, fruit, peanut butter, diapers, and women's hygiene products. Donations can be dropped off at Helps on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Also, volunteers are needed to help sort and arrange donated items, pick up furniture, and assist clients in the office. For additional information, to donate or volunteer, please contact Joe or Angie Valentini at helpsoutreach@hotmail.com or call: (239) 593-3226.



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. Call our Stephen Leader Referrals Coordinator: Kay Beernink at 239-238-1526 (leskaybee@aol.com).

FINANCIAL UPDATE—OPERATING FUND: March 2021:

	March	YTD	Budget
Operating Income	\$107,986	\$ 360,057	\$1,363,000
Expenses	\$ 74,072	\$ 282,377	\$1,363,000
Deo Mortgage Balance	3/31/2021	\$1,661,243	

You will be enriched
in every way to be
generous in every way,
which through us will
produce thanksgiving
to God.
2 Corinthians 9:11

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)

LTJG Wyatt R. Dawley

US Navy Intel
(Loren & Debbie Dawley's grandson)

LCDR Adam Endrelunas

US Navy
(Cherie & Dave Baines' son-in-law)

MAJ Allen Fujinaka

US Army
(LaVerne Perrollaz's granddaughter's husband)

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!

Jay Truax	5/16
*Dave Baines	5/18
*Buck Evans	5/18
*Jay Chesslo	5/19
*Amber Grider	5/21



*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!

Elle & Gary Shepherd	5/16
Judy & Ron Davis	5/17
Jill & Joe Trees	5/17
James & Marsha Reed	5/20
Chuck & Heidi Holley	5/22



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.

Ashley	Joanna McNally
Greta Birnbaum	Don Neer
David Bos	Emily Orr
Adriana Caruso	Jonathan Orr
Dick Creviston	Domenico Paglia
Gretchen Davison	Marjorie Renth
Dick Dahnke	Bruce Reyher
Jim & Wealtha Flick	Karen Rodino
Jim Fligg	Twila Rowe
Ali Frimpter	Ernie Sartorius
Pattie Fruth	Frank Schmitt
Lori Godwin	Carol Schwiers
Donna Goldblatt	Sid Showalter
Richard Grunert	Ron Sieling
Quinten Hawkins	Deborah Smith
Kay Hurley	Liz Nowry Smith
Inspired Living at Bonita Springs	John Spain
Sandra Johnson	Alexandra Sze & Baby Luca Ryan
Larry MacDonald	Lake Walton
Judy Malone	
Max (Cindi & Stephen Schock's grandson)	



Choir member, Cleo Williams (wife of the late Rev. Dr. Frank Williams - Parish Associate at VPC) passed away on May 8th. A memorial service will be held in Michigan this summer. Cards of sympathy may be sent to Cleo's daughter and son-in-law, Jill and Tim Russell, 611 West Angel Drive, Chandler, Arizona 85248.

Former member, Judy Meissner, is in need of our Prayers. She informed us of the passing of a second son, Mark, on May 2nd in Montana. Her husband, Bud, passed away on December 29th, and another son, Bruce, died on January 11th in California. (Three deaths in the Meissner family in slightly more than four months.) Cards of sympathy may be sent to Judy Meissner at 2815 Byberry Road, Apartment #435, Hatboro, Pennsylvania 19040.

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

