

Vanderbilt

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

July 4, 2021

The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Psalm 48:1-7

- ¹ Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God. His holy mountain,
² beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth,
Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King.
³ Within its citadels God has shown himself a sure defense.
⁴ Then the kings assembled, they came on together.
⁵ As soon as they saw it, they were astounded;
they were in panic, they took to flight;
⁶ trembling took hold of them there,
pains as of a woman in labor,
⁷ as when an east wind shatters the ships of Tarshish.

"THIS IS MY BODY
THIS IS MY BLOOD."
MATTHEW 26:26, 28



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

Welcome to Vanderbilt! We rejoice that you are here to worship God with us. Please ask an usher if assistance is needed. As a courtesy to others, please remember to turn off cell phones during the service. The asterisk (*) in the bulletin indicates that the congregation is asked to stand as able. 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**.

Announcements

Prelude: "American Anthem"

Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

Gene Scheer
(b. 1958)

All we've been given by those who came before; the dream of a nation where freedom would endure, the work and prayers of centuries have brought us to this day; what shall be our legacy? What will our children say? Let them say of me I was one who believed in sharing the blessings I received, Let me know in my heart when my days are through, America, America, I gave my best to you. Each generation from the plains to distant shore, with the gifts that they were given were determined to leave more; valiant battles fought together, acts of conscience fought alone, these are the seeds from which America has grown. For those who think they have nothing to share, who fear in their hearts there is no hero there, know that quiet acts of dignity will help to fortify the soul of a nation that never dies.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

* Call to Worship

Great is our God and greatly to be praised.

Worship the One whose grace covers all our needs.

The God of hosts is with us here.

We praise, with joy, God's holy name.

Ponder God's steadfast love in the temple.

Practice sharing that love while we are together.

God's love is amazing, beyond our understanding.

We seek to share the love we are receiving.

We are here to be equipped for the journey of life.

We have gathered that our daily witness might be empowered.

Sometimes we are not strong enough to love.

We pray that God will use our weakness for good.

*** Hymn: "My Country, 'Tis of Thee"**

AMERICA

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside Let freedom ring.</p> <p>2. My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free, Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills Like that above.</p> | <p>3. Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake,
Let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break, The sound prolong.</p> <p>4. Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty, To thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might, Great God our King.</p> |
|---|--|

Call to Reflection

As disciples of Jesus, we are sometimes forgetful of our responsibilities in building the Kingdom of God. For a few moments, let us reflect upon our commitment to the church and the Kingdom of God. Let us pray silently.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Rejoice in the judgments of God that are ever tempered with mercy. God understands our weaknesses and is acquainted with our needs. The grace of God is sufficient to cover our forgetfulness. When we recognize our weakness, God can strengthen us. When we accept the reign of love among us, we are empowered to be the church, reaching out to a sick and troubled world. Amen.

*** 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 WORD

Prayer of Illumination (*unison*)

May we be quiet, O Lord, to hear you speak to us of your Good News, and hearing you, may we continue our journey of transformation. Amen.

A Reading from the First Book in The Torah

Genesis 18:1-8

¹ The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and

after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” ⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” ⁷ Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. The Word of the Witness to our Father in The Faith.

Thanks be to God.

Solo: “Eat This Bread”

Jacques Berthier
(1923-1994)

Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry, trust in me and you will not thirst. I am the bread of life, the true bread sent from the Father. Anyone who eats this bread, will live forever. If you believe and eat this bread, you will have eternal life.

***A Reading from the Gospel According to Matthew**

Matthew 26:26-29

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” ²⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; ²⁸ for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

This is the Witness of Matthew

Thanks be to God.

Homily

“In The Presence of The Holy”

The Rev. Louis S. Thompson

***Affirmation of our Faith (*unison*)**

From a Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

In life and death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus , the love of God, and the communion of God’s Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching the Good News to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the broken- hearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the Gospel. We believe in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or death can separate us from the love of God in Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Offering

Some take offense when asked to give, but all of us are eager to receive. Jesus Christ turned these priorities around, giving thanks for the generosity of God's covenant with humanity, but finding greatest joy in the opportunity to share. In gratitude and Joy, we bring our offerings.

Offertory: “Battle Hymn of the Republic”

William Steffe (1830-1890)

Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

arr. Jay Althouse (b. 1951)

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord. He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored. He has loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword. His truth is marching on. Glory, hallelujah! I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps. They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps. I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps. His day is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea, with a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me.

As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free, while God is marching on.

Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving

Everlasting God of righteousness and grace, as our nation celebrates this Independence Day, remind us of our complete dependence upon you. We look to you for your wisdom and mercy as important issues are discussed. On this day, we ask you to keep this nation, and all nations, under your care, that we may be peoples who are at peace, and who are a blessing to others in this earth. Grant our nation's leaders wisdom, that there would be times of peace and justice in our land and in our world. And on this day keep all of us grounded not in our strength but in yours, ever relying upon the promise that "those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength ... They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." All of this we pray in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation to the Lord's Table

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

Merciful God, we give thanks that you have invited us to this table. We give thanks that you have received us as members of the body of Christ and have affirmed us as a community of faith. Lead us to live as faithful and dedicated disciples in service to all the world; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

* Hymn: "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

MATERNA

1. O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!
2. O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law!

3. O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved,
And mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness
And every gain divine!
4. O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

* Commission and Blessing

Go out into the world in the name of the carpenter.

Emulate Christ's deeds of compassion and power.

We face hardships and calamities with courage.

Christ strengthens us when we are weak.

In humility, reach out to help and to be helped.

Travel light, with your faith as your major resource.

We will trust God in our preparations and on the journey.

We will give our best, relying also on God's grace.

As disciples of Jesus Christ, you are blessed and empowered.

God's steadfast love surrounds you wherever you go.

Great is our God, and greatly to be praised!

God will be our guide today and forever.

The Lord's Prayer

Albert Hay Malotte (1895-1964)

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: "God Bless America"

Irving Berlin (1888-1989)

Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

arr. Roy Ringwald (1910-1995)

God bless America, Land that I love; Stand beside her and guide her Through the night with a light from above. From the mountains to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam: God bless America, My home sweet home.

Please be seated until the end of the Postlude.



The flowers on the chancel are donated in honor of loved ones by an anonymous donor.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

July 11: 7th Sunday After Pentecost

Rev. Winston Lawson, Guest Pastor

Sermon: "Living in Graceland"

First Reading: Psalm 24:1-6

Gospel Reading: John 1:14-18



WORSHIP LEADERS

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

Bill Payne, *Liturgist for virtual worship*

Karen Chappler, *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.

Drake DeBaun, *Christian Education Intern*

Michele Byrd, *Soprano for virtual worship*

Bill Marshall, *Baritone for Sunday worship*

Sherry Hardgrove, *Soprano for Sunday worship*

The Chancel Choir, *for Sunday worship*

Greeters: Priscilla Kutler and Jean Hahm

Ushers: Carolyn Magarro (*Head Usher*), Bill & Sue Van Fossen, Priscilla Kutler, Geri & Bill Payne, Nancy Guthy, Jerry Warnken and Mary Thompson

Soundboard Operators: Jim Hart and Lisa Lloyd

VPC NEWS



WELCOME THE REV. DR. LOUIS S. THOMPSON this morning to lead our worship service.

PASTOR ROB IS ON VACATION: Pastor Rob is on vacation until July 19th. If you have any pastoral concerns, call the church office at 597-5410 or email Lisa Lloyd (llloyd@vpcnaples.org). Dr. Louis Thompson is available for pastoral needs while Rob is on a much deserved break.

OUR GUEST PREACHER for Sunday, July 11 and 18 will be The Rev. Dr. Winston Lawson from Covenant Presbyterian Church of Fort Myers. After completing Seminary training in Jamaica in 1967, Winston spent a year at the University of Winnipeg, Canada doing a yearlong internship for the World Student Christian Federation, in preparation for becoming the General Secretary of Student Christian Movement in Jamaica. Since then, Winston did graduate studies at Pittsburgh seminary in PA, served the denomination at the General Assembly level, and churches in Atlanta, GA, Columbia, SC, Jackson, KY, and Tuscaloosa, AL. In 1992 Winston completed his Ph.D. in Social History at the University of the West Indies, in Kingston, JA. In 2001, Winston was called to the pastorate of Hillside Presbyterian Church in Decatur, GA, from which he retired after 14 years in 2014 to move to Lehigh Acres, where he served a one year Interim-ship at First Presbyterian, before becoming Parish Associate at Covenant, as an honorably retired minister in Peace River Presbytery, where he is now is a member of the Partnership Task Force on Cuba. Lawson has been married to Dr. Verona Lawson for 53 years, with whom he shares 2 grown children and 3 grandchildren.

WELCOME BACK TO THE CHANCEL CHOIR! On Monday, June 26th, the Session approved the return of our beloved Chancel Choir to our Sunday worship services. Please join them in the choristers prayer: ***Bless O Lord, us your servants, who minister in your temple: grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts we may show forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***



OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP

PLEASE HELP HELPS OUTREACH FEED THE HUNGRY OF NAPLES! Donate non-perishable food to fill the pantry. There is a collection box in the VPC Office where we can donate food such as canned tuna, chicken, salmon, beans, fruit, boxes of pasta, cereal, rice, jars of peanut butter or spaghetti sauce. On Sunday, July 11 & August 15 the Helps Outreach truck will be at VPC to collect this donated food. Helps Outreach provides food, clothing, furniture, books, household goods and Christian counseling to the homeless and those in need free of charge! Helps Outreach is supported totally through the generous donations of community members. Right now their food supply is dangerously low. We will see you at VPC on July 11!



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: May 2021:



	May	YTD	Budget
Operating Income	\$117,269	\$ 598,360	\$1,363,000
Expenses	\$ 89,499	\$ 465,426	\$1,363,000
Deo Mortgage Balance	5/30/2021	\$ 464,764	

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)



Happy Birthday!

John Braun	7/4
Liberty Franklin	7/4
Byna Hood	7/4
*Jason Mikes	7/4
Tom Hallin	7/5
Marge Piano	7/6
*Charles Thompson	7/6
*Paige Leaming	7/7
*Twila Rowe	7/7
Caroline Thomas	7/7
Oliver Hood	7/8
Barbara Thomas	7/8
Susanne VanderStarre	7/8
Mavelyn Millard	7/9
*John Rist	7/9
*Sherry Smith	7/9
Tom Nale	7/10

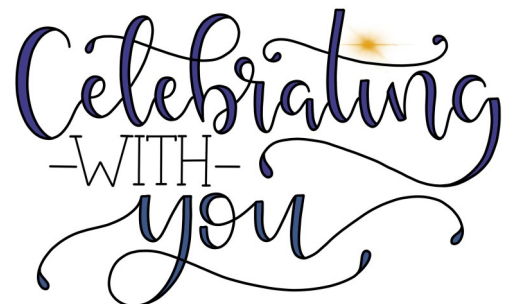


***Birthday Club Members**

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!

Pete & Karen Rodino	7/4
Douglas & Tammy Wilson	7/4
Nena & Bill Beynon	7/7
Jody & Ron Nowry	7/7



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	Melinda
The Barry Family upon the death of Ted	Jonathan Orr
David Bos	Domenico Paglia
Adriana Caruso	Marjorie Renth
Dick Clark	Karen Rodino
Dick Creviston	Twila Rowe
Ron Davis	Ernie Sartorius
Gretchen Davison	Frank Schmitt
Jim & Wealtha Flick	Don Schulte & Family
Jim Fligg	Fred Schulz
Ali Frimpter	Robert Schwindt
Pattie Fruth	Sid Showalter
Lori Godwin	Deborah Smith
Connie Hawkins	Jim Smith
Sandra Johnson	Liz Nowry Smith
The Lass Family	Marilyn Snyder
Fran Lauriat	Lake Walton
Larry MacDonald	Rev. B.J. Weber
Judy Malone	Jayce Wood Van-Horn & Chris and Jessica
Max (Cindi & Stephen Schock's grandson)	
Joanna McNally	

Pray for the family of Dr. Ann Barton who died on June 21st. Dr. Barton was the sister of VPC member, Sue Davis.

*We pray for our Florida neighbors in the
Surfside building collapse.*

*Pray for those who are missing,
that they may be found.*

*Pray for the searchers
that they may find and help save.*

*Pray for those who have died.
Our fervent prayer is that healing and love
be offered, found, and experienced. 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

