

# **January 2, 2022**

# **The Second Sunday of Christmas**

#### Psalm 147:12-20



And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us ...

John 1:14, ESV

12 Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!
 13 For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you.
 14 He grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat.
 15 He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.
 16 He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes.
 17 He hurls down hail like crumbs—who can stand before his cold?
 18 He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.
 19 He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel.
 20 He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances.
 Praise the LORD!

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. Children are important members of our faith community and are welcome in worship. We invite families to worship together this Sunday and next. There is no Sunday School or Nursery until January 9. Please ask an usher if assistance is needed. As a courtesy to others, please 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:** "Variations on Humbly I Adore Thee"

Dale Wood (1934-2003)

### Call to Worship

 ${\it True\ light\ is\ entering\ our\ world\ through\ Jesus\ Christ.}$ 

Sing for joy and praise God, all people.

God's Word makes the winds blow and water flow.

Jesus Christ is God's Word to us and for us.

Be radiant in appreciation of God's goodness.

Hear the Word of God and declare it to others.

The Word became flesh to dwell with humanity.

Grace and forgiveness are lavished upon us.

Let us worship God.

- 1. As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold; As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright; So, most glorious Lord, may we Evermore be led to Thee.
- 2. As with joyful steps they sped
  To that lowly manger bed,
  There to bend the knee before
  Him whom heaven and earth adore;
  So may we with willing feet
  Ever seek Thy mercy seat.
- 3. As they offered gifts most rare
  At that manger rude and bare;
  So may we with holy joy,
  Pure and free from sin's alloy,
  All our costliest treasures bring,
  Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King.
- 4. Holy Jesus, every day
  Keep us in the narrow way;
  And, when earthly things are past,
  Bring our ransomed souls at last
  Where they need no star to guide,
  Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

#### Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

Infinite God, look upon your finite creatures, broken and bereaved, with compassion and consolation. We view your world with unseeing eyes. We listen to the cries of your hurting people with ears that do not hear and hearts that do not feel their plight. The wind blows among us, but we do not discern your Spirit. You offer wisdom and insight, but we reject your counsel. You present to us the gospel of salvation, but we turn away from its saving grace. O God, help us change the direction of our lives so we may act like your children and reflect your love into the world. 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 Katherine Baron

We invite children to gather up front for a special children's message.

After we sing "Jesus Loves Me," children and youth will return to their families in worship.

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.

### **Prayer of Illumination**

The First Reading Jeremiah 31:7-14

<sup>7</sup> For thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people the remnant of Israel." <sup>8</sup> See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. <sup>9</sup> With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn <sup>10</sup> Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock. <sup>11</sup> For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. <sup>12</sup> They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. <sup>13</sup> Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. <sup>14</sup> I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading John 1:1-18

11 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. 8 He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. 9 The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. 12 But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. 14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. 15 (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me."") 16 From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

17 The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: Sermon Series: Coming Home for Christmas: "The Light of Home"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

**Solo:** "One Bread, One Body"

John B. Foley (b. 1939)

Michele Byrd, Soprano

arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless. And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord. Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all.

**Offering** 

\* **Doxology** OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Pastoral Prayer** 

#### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### Invitation to the Lord's Table

# \* The Apostle's Creed

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**

God of grace and peace, as you have shared your life with us through the child in the manger and this simple meal together, let us share your life with others as the body of Christ in the world; through Jesus Christ, who is the bread of heaven. Amen.

\* **Hymn** #68: "What Star is This, With Beams So Bright"

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

- What star is this, with beams so bright, More lovely than the noonday light?
   'Tis sent to announce a newborn King, Glad tidings of our God to bring.
- 'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed,
   "From Jacob shall a star proceed";
   And lo! the Eastern sages stand
   To read in heaven the Lord's command.
- 3. O Jesus, while the star of grace Impels us on to seek Your face, Let not our slothful hearts refuse The guidance of Your light to use.
- 4. To God the Father, God the Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One, May every tongue and nation raise An endless song of thankful praise.

### \* Commission and Blessing

Go out to fulfill your destiny as children of God. Let your hope be in Christ and live as disciples. We will live in the true light of Jesus Christ. We are listening for God's will for our lives. Alleluia.

Amen.

### \* 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: "Voluntary in C Major"

Richard Peek (1927-2005)

Please be seated until the end of the Postlude.

# **WORSHIP LEADERS**

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, Pastor
Sue Van Fossen, Virtual worship Liturgist
The Rev. Louis S. Thompson, Parish Associate
Dr. James Cochran, Director of Music, playing the
Richard & Patricia Fors Organ given to the
glory of God and in honor of James Cochran,
Organist.

**Katherine Baron,** Children's Ministry Assistant **Michele Byrd,** Soprano for virtual worship

The Chancel Choir, for Sunday worship Julie Carver, Pianist for Sunday worship

**Greeters:** Geri & Bill Payne

**Ushers:** Claudia Polzin and Carolyn Magarro (*Head Ushers*), Karen Chappler, Nellie Cummins, Rebecca Beavers, Sue & Bill Van Fossen, Tim Hall, Bob Miller

**Soundboard Operators:** David Curtiss & Victoria Bonavita

#### **SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK**



January 9: The Baptism of the Lord First Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7 Gospel Reading: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 Sermon Series: Love Never Ends: Being the Body of Christ Sermon: "Well Pleased" The flowers on the chancel are donated in thanksgiving for the VPC congregation from Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church.



#### **VPC NEWS**

**SOMETHING NEW AND IMPROVED!** Beginning in **January**, we will change how we communicate



with you by revamping our virtual information. On Mondays, you will receive an email with all the events for that week, along with ways to participate and sign-up for events. On Fridays, you will get an email with information about the upcoming Sunday service. On Sundays, you will get an email with links to the virtual service and reminders about the Sunday in-person worship. If you have an announcement for the bulletin, please

send it to Michele Byrd on Monday for inclusion in the bulletin for that week: mbyrd@vpcnaples.org.

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022 AT 2PM:** Our next concert will feature, Daniel Minnick, Organist. Minnick was awarded the 2021 Cochran Prize for best organ recital of the year at the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester. His concert will feature works by Bach, Widor, Reger, and Demessieux.



WHAT'S UP WITH WEDNESDAY NIGHTS? Mid-week faith formation will resume on January 12, 2022.

**FELLOWSHIP TIME WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 9, 2022.** If you wish to join us for socializing after



worship we will meet again on **January 9**. We are taking a break for the next two weeks. Please consider helping with the receptions. Contact Leslie Loughran at <a href="mailto:leslie.loughran@gmail.com">leslie.loughran@gmail.com</a> or 580-9069. **Stop by and sign the Joys and Concerns cards for our friends in need of our thoughts and prayers.** 

TRAINING BEGINS WITH "THE PERSON AS THE CAREGIVER:" Our Stephen Minister training class begins this week on Thursday evening, January 6. We ask you to keep our trainees in your prayers as they'll be equipped to bring Christ's care to hurting people. This MINISTRY week, our Stephen Minister trainees will be studying "The Person of the Caregiver," receiving an introduction to the training ahead of them and exploring the Christ-centered foundation of Stephen Ministry. And who are our Stephen Minister trainees from VPC? Dixie Bibb, Joan Butler, Judy Deitch, Barbara Green, Jody Nowry, and Lee Weeks.

"STAR LIGHT, STAR BRIGHT ... WHAT WAS THE STAR THAT HOLY NIGHT?" Scholars and



theologians, historians and astronomers, believers and skeptics —they've all had something to say about that wondrous "Star of Bethlehem." Most Christians associate it with Christmas Eve but the Church celebrates it on Epiphany, January 6. If you too are curious about that Star, plan to attend Dr. John Braun's illustrated presentation following morning worship on **January 9** in Harp Hall. Masks recommended. 11:15am-12:15pm.

**THE WHOLISTIC HEALTH TEAM PRESENTS:** Stress Management Tools presented by Dr. Al Tartarunis, on Thursday, **January 13, 2022** at 10am in Harp Hall. A program of



relaxation, behavior modification and letting go of negative emotions will help us to assess our current level of stress, examine our approach to coping with daily stresses of life, explore doable alternatives, and develop a personal stress management plan - a timely program as we attempt to reenter life after Covid 19. If living a healthier life is a priority for you, don't miss this seminar.



DR. LOU THOMPSON PRESENTS AN EDUCATION OFFERING FOR MEN: Journey with Matthew as he leads us from Birth to Death of Jesus, The Messiah. A class for men on Tuesdays at 9am in Harp Hall.

**2022 GIVING ENVELOPES** are in the Narthex. Please pick yours up when you come to VPC! Thank you!

- **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**: Every Wednesday morning, meet in the VPC parking lot at 7:30am to go to Immokalee to build homes. No special skills or tools are required, just bring a bag lunch. Questions? Call Karen Chappler at 592-6434.
- WEEKEND POWER PACK: At 10:30am on Thursday, January 6, 2022 volunteers are needed to pack 240 bags of food for homeless children. The packing takes about an hour. Please contact Cherie Baines



at ctfl.baines@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer. To donate, please make the check to VPC and write "Powerpack" on the memo line.

# FINANCIAL UPDATE—OPERATING FUND

		November	YTD	YTD Budget
Operating Income		\$ 70,867	\$1,132,058*	\$1,206,100
Expenses		\$ 97,809	\$1,073,993	\$1,190,800
Deo Mortgage Balance	11/30/2021	\$ 334,013		

\*This includes \$125,700 Grant from the Payroll Protection Program.

Without this one-time grant, our Year-to-Date income would be \$1,006,358.



### 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** 

(Jay & Mary Chesslo's nephew)

LTIG 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 Navv

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)

Nolan Kellv

US Army - Private First Class

Fort Sill, OK

#### Christian Kurz

US Navy, USS Nitze

(Joyce Geary's great nephew)

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



Happy Birthday!		*Jean Lee	1/5	*Birthday Club Members			
*Phyl Auman	1/2	Phyllis Macbeth	1/6	Interested in joining the Club? Birthday Club Mem-			
Molly Godley	1/2	Heather Monda	1/6	bers give one dollar for each year of their life to			
*Bill Reckmeyer	1/2	Diana Woodward	1/6	celebrate their special day. The VPC Endowment Team uses the interest income from the Birthday			
ľ	•	*Kay Beernink	1/7	Club exclusively for Youth Activities! Celebrate			
*Bill Cornell	1/3	*Huguette Castaneda	1/7	your Birthday by thanking God for your life!			
Joan Haller	1/3	*Priscilla Kutler	1/7				
Carol Loebs	1/3	*Bob Bush	•	Happy Anniversary!			
*Ron Sieling	1/3		1/8	Jim & Lois Ann Folliard 1/2			
Peter DeBaun	1/5	Dee Gregg	1/8	Joe & Sharon Doggett 1/5			
	,	Marjorie Renth	1/8	Joe & Sharon Doggett 1/3			

### **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. 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! <u>Please note that prayer requests will be kept in the bulletin for a period of **30 days**, after which a new prayer request card should be *submitted*.</u>

Cynthia Arnold	Dawn Marie	Chester Kauffman	Judy Oehler
Ava	Bob Diederich	Ellis Lee Kline	Sadie
Tracey Barry	Jim & Wealtha Flick	Keira Krumbine	Harold Soule
Ron Bartlett	Jim Fligg	Michelle Lea	Bill Schwessinger
Pam Botelho	Lori Godwin	Mark Madden	The Walton Family
Adriana Caruso	Richard Grunert	Lonnie Mahan	Geraldine Wearsch
Mason & Pat Colby	Bunny Heitmann	Judy Malone	Ann West
Dick Creviston	Cherry & Phil Jacobus	Bridgette Negri	Don Westall



#### **VPC MISSION**

Marciadee Newman

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church is called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to live like Christ in a broken world.

Joseph Negri

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...

Ron Davis

Gretchen Davison

...so grounded in scripture and sustained by prayer,

Sandra Johnson

Ionathan

- ...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

