



December 5, 2021
Second Sunday of Advent



SECOND SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

Philippians 1:3-11

³ I thank my God every time I remember you,
⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you,
⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.
⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you
will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.
⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me
in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace^l with me, both in my
imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.
⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of
Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more
and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine
what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and
blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes
through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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. Nursery ministry is also available. 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: "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Wilbur Held
(1914-2015)

Advent Candle Litany (*Responsive*)

The Grider Family

Jeremiah prophesied, "The days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the gracious promise I made to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah... I will make a righteous branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land." (Jer. 33:14-15)

We light this candle for every child of God who is far from home. We light this candle committed to making the world a safe home for all people.

We light these candles to proclaim that God's light has come into the world and the darkness will not overcome it. Let us pray.

God of Advent, you are our heart's home: safe, loving, and eternal. You chose to incarnate yourself into a family that had little else but love on the night you were born. Help us see and touch the lost and needy people around us. Draw us closer to your light as we draw closer to Christmas.

*** Hymn #5 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"**

PICARDY

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded,
For with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand. | 3. Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of Light descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away. |
| 2. King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
In the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heavenly food. | 4. At His feet the six-winged seraph;
Cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Lord Most High! |

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O God, we have tried to cover up our sins, yet you know the disorder we have caused in our lives. You have witnessed our poor choices and our destructive habits. We have denied our baptism and ignored the responsibilities of discipleship. The good we do is often self-serving, while we avoid the full claims of gospel partnership. Hear our cries of repentance and turn our lives around, that we may know the wonder of your forgiveness. Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*** Gloria Patri**

Henry Greatorrex

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

Recording of the baptism of Eliana Lynn Berger from Sunday, November 28, 2021.

We invite children to gather up front for a special children's message. After we sing "Jesus Loves Me," children and youth ages PreK-3 through High School may go study, serve, pray and play together during Sunday school.

**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

Malachi 3:1-4

³ ¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 3:1-6

³ ¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵ Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; ⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: Sermon Series: *Coming Home for Christmas*: "The Fear of Home"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

Solo: "All Through the Night"

Welsh Carol

Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

arr. Ruth Elaine Schram (b.1956)

Sleep, my child, and peace attend thee, all through the night. Guardian angels God will send thee. Soft the drowsy hours are creeping, hill and vale and slumber sleeping, I my loving vigil keeping. While the moon her watch is keeping. While the weary world is sleeping. Over thy spirit gently stealing, visions of delight revealing. Breathes a pure and holy feeling. All through the night.

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

Gracious and abundant God, even as we wait for the fulfillment of your creation, You meet us in Christ at this table, in this meal. We thank you for feeding us with the bread of life and quenching our thirst with the cup of salvation. Now send us out into the world by the power of your Holy Spirit to share your life and salvation with all whom we meet.
Amen.

* Hymn #31 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

MENDELSSOHN

- | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King.
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
<i>Refrain:</i> Hark! the herald angels
sing, "Glory to the newborn King!" | 2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time, behold Him come,
Offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel.
<i>Refrain:</i> | 3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that we no more may die.
Born to raise us from the earth,
Born to give us second birth.
<i>Refrain:</i> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

* Commission and Blessing

*God will be with you wherever you go;
The good work begun in you will be brought to completion.*

All flesh will see the salvation of our God;

We will live in covenant with our Creator.

Alleluia.

Amen.

* The Lord's Prayer

Albert Hay Malotte

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: Noel: "Quand Jesu naquit a Noel"

Claude Balbatre (1727-1799)

Please be seated until the end of the Postlude.



**SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR
NEXT WEEK**
December 12:
Third Sunday of Advent
First Reading:
Zephaniah 3:14-20
Gospel Reading:
Luke 3:7-18
Sermon Series:
Coming Home for Christmas
Sermon: "The Joy of Home"



**The flowers on the Chancel are
donated in loving memory
of my husband, Scott Elliott,
by Joan Elliott.**



**This morning, our fellowship hour
treats are sponsored by the
Membership & Involvement Team.
Come to Fellowship Hall after the
service!**

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, *Pastor*
Jerry Grandey, *Virtual worship Liturgist*
Jim Muir, *Sunday worship Liturgist*
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.
Heather Mikes, *Director of Christian Education*
Michele Byrd, *Soprano for virtual worship*

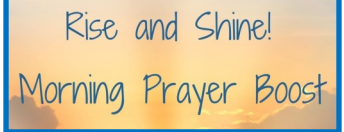
The Chancel Choir, *for Sunday worship*
Julie Carver, *Pianist for Sunday worship*
Greeters: Priscilla Kutler & Carol Schwiers
Ushers: Claudia Polzin and Carolyn Magarro
(*Head Ushers*), Karen Chappler, Nellie Cummins,
Bob Miller, Pat Rose, Sue & Bill Van Fossen
Soundboard Operators: Victoria Bonavita & Jim
Hart

VPC NEWS

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOTICE: The Session will hold a Congregational meeting on
Sunday, December 5, immediately following the 10am service for the purpose of electing 2
Deacons and four Directors for the VPC Endowment Trust Board. A separate sheet with photos
and information is inside this bulletin.



RISE & SHINE! MORNING PRAYER BOOST! Coffee gets us started, but prayer keeps us going. Join us in Fellowship Hall at 8:15am-8:45am on the **first Tuesday of each month** for early morning prayer. Come as you are. All are welcome **December 7.**



WHAT'S UP WITH WEDNESDAY NIGHTS? We encourage everyone to participate in all the Advent activities on Wednesday Nights for families — adults and children of all ages, church family, friends, and community. Call the church office (239) 597-5410.



December 8 - Family Gingerbread Decorating and Pizza Party, Followed by Youth Group. Registration is free and simply allows us to know how many gingerbread houses to have ready with icing and basic candies. You will have ONE HOUR to decorate your house any way you'd like. You are welcome to come up with a theme in advance and bring extra candies and items to make your entry unique. Completed houses will be displayed in the Narthex on Sunday, **December 12**, during Family Led Worship. Our church family and friends will vote on their favorite! The winner will be announced at Wednesday Night Lights on Wednesday, **December 15**. Pizza will be provided for dinner. **December 15** - Youth Group Pajama Party and Game Night.

MUSICAL OFFERINGS IN DECEMBER:

Advent Noontime Concerts: Wednesdays: **8, & 15 - from 12-12.30pm** December 8: Michele Byrd, Soprano, December 15: Janie Spangler, Violin and Glenn Loontjes, Viola - All concerts are accompanied by Jim Cochran.

Nine Lessons and Carols: Sunday, December 12 at 2pm. Each December, the Chancel Choir and the VandeReaders present the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Soloists, Choir, Trumpet, and Organ will help to put you in the Christmas Spirit!



CHRISTMAS COFFEE, MUSIC AND GIVING: JOIN US for coffee and live Christmas music on **Friday, December 10** on the patio from 8am-10:30am. Violin and Viola play 8:15am-10:15am during VLC carline drop off under the porte-cochere. Bring a lawn chair and your Angel Tree donations! Visit the Heifer Fair table. Enjoy fellowship, coffee and breakfast treats available for purchase! Back by popular demand! **ALL are welcome.**

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: Our Sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas again this year. 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 in the Narthex and place it in the offering plate with the check or simply sending it in with your donation. Donors names and dedications will be included in the Christmas Eve worship service bulletins. **Please send your check and dedication by December 12th.** Thanks!

SIGN-UP FOR THE BLOOD DRIVE! Sunday, December 12 from 9am-noon. Call 597-5410 or email bbonavita@vpcnaples.org. Thank you for saving a life!

FRIENDS IN FAITH - WINTER STUDY INVITE: Friends in Faith is a caring group of women who support one another through exploring God's word together. The group has will resume on **January 12**. Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month from 10-11:30am. All ladies are welcome to come read and discuss "*Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World*" by Max Lucado. We will order books through the church office for \$10. Please contact Barbara Bonavita at (239) 597-5410 or bbonavita@vpcnaples.org before **December 12th**.



STEPHEN MINISTRY: Ministry is not just the role of the clergy—the opportunity and responsibility has been given to all Christians. The upcoming Stephen Ministry training class is a chance to be trained and equipped for the joyous privilege of caring ministry. To date, we have 4 VPC members attending our training starting in January 2022. Thank you to Jody Nowry, Barbara Green, Dixie Bibb and Joan Butler for joining in this important ministry. Talk with Jill Peterson about the possibility of getting involved at petersji72@gmail.com or 239-250-4483.



VPC IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE RETURN OF FELLOWSHIP TIME after church and we need you! Sign up to help with setting up and cleaning up during fellowship. OR Sign up to provide treats. Bring a fruit plate, a salty snack, and a sweet OR sponsor treats by donating \$50 to the Parish Life Committee and we'll purchase them for you. To sign up, contact Leslie Loughran, leslie.loughran@gmail.com or (239) 580-9069.

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 9 am** in Harp Hall.

VPC WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON - Join us on **Saturday, December 18 at 12 pm**. Enjoy a VandeReaders presentation, carol singing, and a catered lunch by LBD - Leslie Loughran. \$25 per person. Sign up in the church office (597-5410) or Sunday.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR MISSIONS

- **THE SALVATION ARMY "ANGEL TREE"** All donations are due on **December 5**. You may drop of last minute gifts on **December 10** at the Christmas Coffee, Music and Giving event.
- **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 Bill Payne - 593-5529.
- **CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING:** This Offering supports our Presbyterian leaders, including leadership development for communities of color, and support for Presbyterian church workers in their time of need. Envelopes are in the Narthex.
- **COLLIER HARVEST/FEED 5000:** **December 13 - 5:15pm** Collier Harvest warehouse to pack food & **December 14 - 8:30am** Strand Publix - drive the VPC van (must be under 70) to deliver groceries. ctfl.baines@gmail.com - Cherie Baines.
- **HEIFER INTERNATIONAL:** **December 5, 12, and 19**, we will have a table set up in the Narthex for donations. Heifer gift cards are available for any contribution of \$10 or more. Don't miss this wonderful mission opportunity!
- **SALVATION ARMY:** **On December 15 & 16** volunteers are needed to assist families in choosing gifts for their "Angels." Salvation Army Christmas Toy Shop, 3725 Tamiami Trail East. Maria Ramos, is scheduling volunteers.
- **CAFE OF LIFE:** **On Friday, December 17**, VPC volunteers will provide and serve a meal at Cafe of Life in Lightner Park, Bonita Springs, FL. For more information, contact Eliza Nevin at: Elizanevin@comcast.net.

FINANCIAL UPDATE—OPERATING FUND

	October	YTD	YTD Budget
Operating Income	\$ 96,552	\$1,061,191	\$1,106,700
Expenses	\$ 99,969	\$ 976,184	\$1,071,800
Deo Mortgage Balance 10/31/2021	\$ 336,017		



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 Afghanistan
(Toni Hubbard)
Nolan Kelly
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



*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 Birthday!

Adam Day	12/3
Jerry Anderson	12/5
*Jean Rawson	12/5
Carole Helmick	12/6
*Rick Miles	12/6
Judy Deme	12/7
Chad Brodbeck	12/8
Joseph Tutton	12/8
*Jo Miles	12/9
Carol Lindsay	12/10
Carly Jacob	12/11
Dan Suci	12/11

Happy Anniversary!

There are no anniversaries to celebrate this week.

Congratulations

To our new Birthday Club Members!

*George Cheatham - 11/27



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! 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.

Cynthia Arnold	Bob Diederich	Keira Krumbine	Twila Rowe
Ava	Jim & Wealtha Flick	Michelle Lea	Harold Soule
Tracey Barry	Jim Fligg	Lonnie Mahan	Lake Walton
Adriana Caruso	Richard Grunert	Judy Malone	Ann West
Mason Colby	Dick Hardgrove	Bridgette Negri	
Dick Creviston	Sandra Johnson	Joseph Negri	
Ron Davis	Jonathan	Marciadee Newman	
Gretchen Davison	Chester Kauffman	Judy Oehler	
Dawn Marie	Ellis Lee Kline	Athena Partin	



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

