

March 20, 2022 Third Sunday in Lent

Psalm 63:1-8

¹ O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
² So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.
³ Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.
⁴ So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.
⁵ My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips
⁶ when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

^o when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the hight ⁷ for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy. ⁸ My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.



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

Moment for Mission

Prelude: "Sicilienne"

Colin Gerlach, Violin

* Call to Worship

Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, You who have no money, come, buy, and eat! Our souls thirst for God in a dry and weary land. We seek God's power and glory in the sanctuary. God offers us steadfast love and a covenant relationship. We are called to be faithful witnesses and leaders. We have come to meditate on the living God. We seek inspiration and empowerment to do what God asks. Let us worship God. Habitat for Humanity

Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962)

* Hymn #446: "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken"

AUSTRIAN HYMN

- Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
 God, whose word cannot be broken, Formed thee for a blest abode.
 On the rock of ages founded,
 What can shake thy sure repose?
 With salvation's walls surrounded,
 Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
- 2. See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal love, Well supply thy sons and daughters And all fear of want remove. Who can faint while such a river Ever flows their thirst to assuage? Grace, which like the Lord, the Giver, Never fails from age to age.
- Round each habitation hovering, See the cloud and fire appear For a glory and a covering, Showing that the Lord is near. Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day, Safe they feed upon the manna Which God gives them when they pray.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

We have been tempted, loving God, to go our own way without reference to eternal truths. We seek our own gratification rather than the well-being of all your children. We compare ourselves to others and find their failures but seldom discover our own shortcomings. We seek to build our lives by our own limited design rather than by your larger purposes. We engage in immorality in the name of freedom and become enslaved by our selfish ambitions. The ground on which we stand is crumbling under our feet. O God, forgive us and grant us a firmer foundation.

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

Sue Van Fossen

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

Isaiah 55:1-9

55 Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. ⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Solo: "O Lord Most Holy"

César Franck (1822-1890)

Michele Byrd, *Soprano* and Colin Gerlach, *Violin* (1822-189 O Lord most holy, O Lord most mighty, O loving Father, Thee would we be praising always. Help us to know Thee and love Thee; Father, grant us Thy truth and grace. Rule Thou our willful hearts, Keep Thine our wandering thoughts; In all our sorrows let us find our rest in Thee; And in temptation's hour, Save through Thy mighty power, Thine aid O send us; Hear us in mercy. Show us Thy favor, So shall we live, and sing praise to Thee.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 13:1-9

13 At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." ⁶ Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸ He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'" The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Message: Sermon Series: Gathered Up in Jesus: "If it Bears Fruit" Solo: "Prayer of St. Francis" Michele Byrd, Soprano

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love. Where there is injury, thy pardon, Lord. Where there is doubt, let there be faith. Where there's despair, let me bring hope. Where there is darkness, let there be light. Where there is sadness, let there be joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console. To be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, and it is in pardoning that we are pardoned. And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Offering

* Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

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.

* Affirmation of Faith

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

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.

* Hymn #78: "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"

MARTYRDOM

- 1. Alas! And did my Savior bleed, And did my Sovereign die! Would He devote that sacred head For sinners such as I!
- 2. Was it for crimes that I had done He suffered on the tree? Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree!
- Well might the sun in darkness hide, And shut its glories in, When Christ, the great Redeemer, died For human creatures' sin.
- 4. But drops of grief can ne'er repay The debt of love I owe; Here, Lord, I give myself away; 'Tis all that I can do.

Allen Pote

(b. 1945)

* Commission and Blessing

God sends us out as witnesses to good news. May our lips praise God as long as we live. God is our help in all times and places; We will call on God's name wherever we are. 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: "Rigaudon"

Colin Gerlach , Violin

Please be seated until the end of the Postlude.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, Pastor
Gwen Salyer, Virtual worship Liturgist
Jerry Grandey, 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.
Sue Van Fossen, Children's Moment for virtual worship

Brook Vayda, Children's Moment for Sunday worship

Michele Byrd, Soprano for virtual worship Sherry Hardgrove, Soprano for Sunday worship Colin Gerlach , Violinist The Chancel Choir, for Sunday worship Julie Carver, Pianist for Sunday worship Greeters: Priscilla Kutler & Geri Payne Ushers: Claudia Polzin and Carolyn Magarro (Head Ushers), Jerry Warnken, Teri Wilding, Diane Westerlund, Bill & Sue Van Fossen Soundboard Operators: Jim Hart & Victoria Bonavita

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

March 27: Fourth Sunday in Lent First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12 Gospel Reading: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 Lenten Sermon Series: Gathered Up in Jesus Sermon: "Lost and Found"



The flowers on the chancel are donated in loving memory of my husband, Tom Magarro, by Carolyn Magarro.



Kreisler

VPC NEWS

VPC BOOK CLUB: On March 21 we will meet in Harp Hall at 1:30pm to discuss *West With Giraffes,* by Lynda Rutledge. It is based on a true story of giraffes that survived the 1938 hurricane at sea, coming ashore in New York and then traveling across the US to the San Diego Zoo. If you would like to be our leader for discussion, let Peggy Landon know (<u>mlandon711@gmail.com</u>).

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIGHTS HABITAT BUILD CHALLENGE: It's LEGO Night on **March 23**! Children and youth groups (ages PreK-3 through High School) will be learning about our mission work with Habitat for Humanity and building their own LEGO houses to raise money for our Habitat Build Challenge. All houses will be displayed in Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, March 27.** Bring your spare change to vote for your favorite. One cent = one vote. All donations will go directly to Habitat for Humanity. WNL will meet on Wednesdays every two weeks (March 23, April 6 & 20, May 4 & 18). Dinner begins in Fellowship Hall at 5:30pm, followed by lessons and play from 6-7pm.

MARCH IS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MONTH! VPC has always been very involved with Habitat for Humanity. This month, we will spotlight this amazing organization in our Moment for Mission and work to raise funds to sponsor two houses! Everyone can be involved. Don't forget, you can help build homes on Wednesday mornings. Meet at the church at 7:30am!

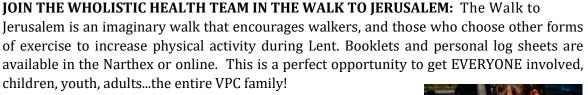
> **CHICKS WITH STICKS** will meet on **Thursday, March 24, 2022** in the Conference Room at 1:30 pm. All who knit or crochet are welcome. Bring your current project. Questions? Molly Cochran (757) 291-4034 or <u>mollyknits53@yahoo.com</u>

THE FIRST CARING VISIT: Our Stephen Minister trainees will be experiencing their second-tolast training session before commissioning this Thursday, **March 24** on "How to Make a First Caring Visit." This class summarizes everything our Stephen Ministers have learned so far and applies it to getting their first caring relationships off to a strong, healthy start. Pray for their continued growth — and pray for those who will begin receiving care from them in the coming

weeks. If you think you'd benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, or if you know someone else who might, contact our referrals coordinator, Kay Beernink at 239-238-1526.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OFFERINGS:

- THE SUNDAY SEMINAR: "LOST SCRIPTURES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT" You're invited to join the weekly conversation as we discuss some of these rejected scriptures, asking why were they excluded and what do they reveal about early Christianity. Sunday, 11:15am, Harp Hall led by Dr. John Braun.
- **AN EDUCATION OFFERING FOR MEN:** Journey with Matthew from the Birth to the Death of Jesus, The Messiah. A class for men on **Tuesdays at 9am** in Harp Hall.
- **PASTOR ROB'S BIBLE STUDY:** Gather for Adult Bible Study with Pastor Rob on **Wednesdays at 6pm** in Harp Hall.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS! On **Saturday, April 2, 2022** from 9am-12pm Boy Scout Troop 274 will be in the West Parking Lot at Vanderbilt for a Car Wash! The troop is accepting donations for their car wash services to help pay for a four day dive camp experience. Please bring your car and support our Scout troop.









MINISTRY



Ready, Set,

Walking in

THE LI

BOOK

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES:

• **PRAYERS FOR UKRAINE:** We at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church are doing our best to "stand in the GAP' by **G**iving, **A**cting, and **P**raying. VPC is willing to accept your donation to help the Presbyterian Disaster Relief Program which will send funds where the need is most urgent. You may send a check to VPC and put Ukraine in the memo or you may use the link to donate online via credit card at the VPC website. You may also choose to donate directly to the <u>PCUSA https://pma.pcusa.org/donate/make-a-gift/giftinfo/DR000156/?appeal=PDA&package=UK22-PNS. We thank you for your generosity and prayers.</u>



- WEEKEND POWER PACK: On Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 10:30am volunteers are needed to pack 240 bags of food for children who are homeless or living in poverty. It takes about an hour. Please contact Cherie Baines for more information or to volunteer. <u>ctfl.baines@gmail.com</u>
- CAFÉ OF LIFE: On Friday, March 25, 9:15am VPC volunteers are invited to take part in a "Fruit Blessing" at Café of Life, Leitner Park, 26274 Nomad Drive, Bonita Springs. Volunteers can drop fruit off at the park on Friday morning, or on Thursday after 3pm at VPC. To learn more about this beautiful volunteering opportunity, please contact Eliza Nevin. Elizanevin@comcast.net
- **COLLIER HARVEST: On March 28, 5pm** Collier Harvest will have a packing event at their warehouse at 4451 Mercantile Avenue. Volunteers will pack 150 bags of food for families in need. This monthly event lasts only an hour. If you are available and would like to join us, email Cherie Baines at <u>ctfl.baines@gmail.com</u>



FINANCIAL UPDATE—OPERATING FUND

	January	YTD Budget
Operating Income	\$184,825	\$132,100
Expenses	\$ 96,146	\$106,700
Deo Mortgage Balance	1/31/2022	\$229,655

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) **CPTN Devon Hennessey** Korea (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) MAI Matthew Smith, USMC, Kuwait (Son of Linda Smith) **1st LT Andrew P. Vadyak** USMC Okinawa, Japan **Hadley Vadyak** USNA Class of 2020

Happy Birthday! Happy Anniversary! Bill Cattrell 3/21 Ann & Bill Hoffman 3/23 *Karen Hiller 3/21 Karen & Richard Talford 3/25 Marsha Bennett 3/22 *Birthday Club Members *Ewald Forsbrey 3/22 Interested in joining the Club? Birthday *Carmen Campbell 3/23 Club Members give one dollar for each year of their life to celebrate their special *Judith Jacobs 3/24 day. The VPC Endowment Team uses the Alex Shreve 3/25 interest income from the Birthday Club exclusively for Youth Activities! Ellie Desorcy 3/26 Celebrate your Birthday by thanking God Lvnn Greenblatt 3/26 for your life! Anniversarv

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>

Courtney GatesJim & Wealtha FlickJack LucarelliGeraldAbrahamJim FliggJudy MaloneBill WCynthia ArnoldJim FolliardBridgette NegriAl WilDakota BieryThe Giles & WoodsFinley Bryan Perry

Geraldine Wearsch Bill Whitman Al Williams



VPC MISSION

and Family

Abby Renie

Twila Rowe

Carol Schwiers

Harold Soule

The Rev. J.

Szeremany

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...

Tammy Carrow

Adriana Caruso

Dick Creviston

Marlene Everson

Mason & Pat Colby

John Ciampi

Ron Davis

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

Families

Lori Godwin

Blair Harlan

Sandra Johnson

Keira Krumbine

Jean Hahm

Mary Hart

...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.







