

Vanderbilt
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 29, 2022
The Seventh Sunday
of Easter

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

SPEAK
HOPE
gather

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 words in **bold print**.

Green Friendship Pads

We invite you, members and visitors, to sign our Green Friendship Pads and pass it down your pew and back, to welcome those with whom you are worshipping.

Preparation For Worship

Preparation for Worship

A word about worship: The Rev. Dr. Marcus Borg has helped us to understand our worship experience. He said that parts or all our worship together could be a "thin place"; that is, when our hearts are open and focused on God, we can meet God when our reality meets the presence of God. Be it through the music, or choir, or soloist, through the prayers, or through the children's talk, or through the homily, provide windows to enter the presence of God. May it be so for you.

Welcome

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

Prelude: "Mansions of the Lord"

Randall Wallace (b. 1949)

Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

Nick Glennie-Smith (b. 1951)

To fallen soldiers let us sing. Where no rockets fly nor bullets wing. Our broken brothers let us bring,
To the Mansions of the Lord. No more bleeding, no more fight. No prayers pleading through the night.
Just divine embrace, Eternal light, In the Mansions of the Lord. Where no mothers cry and no children
weep. We will stand and guard though the angels sleep All through the ages safely keep, The Mansions
of the Lord.

Preparing To Hear God Speaking to Us

*Call To Worship

Psalm 66:16-20

Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what God has done for me.

I cried aloud to the Lord, and God was extolled with my tongue.

If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

But truly God has listened; God has given heed to the words of my prayer.

Blessed be God, because the Lord has not rejected my prayer or removed God's steadfast love from me.

*Hymn #562: "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

MELITA

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm has bound the restless wave,
Who bade the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep:
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea. | 3. O Holy Spirit, who did brood
Upon the chaos wild and rude,
And bade its angry tumult cease,
And gave, for fierce confusion, peace:
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea. |
| 2. O Savior, whose almighty word
The wind and waves submissive heard,
Who walked upon the foaming deep,
And calm amid its rage did sleep:
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea. | 4. O Trinity of love and power,
All travelers guard in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad praise from air and land and sea. |

A Call for Reflection

Lord, you tell us that if we love you, we will keep your commandments. You tell us that your new commandment is to love one another as you have loved us. We cannot possibly live up to this standard. We frequently neglect your teachings. We easily see others' faults and too often make excuses for our own. Send, the Holy Spirit, to help us follow your instructions to feed the hungry, tend to the hurting and love our enemies. In your mercy forgive us yet again and free us to love you and neighbor more fully. Amen.

God's Reassurance

God is not far from us. God is closer than our own breath. We are not alone, not left to save ourselves. Jesus is the greatest expression of God's love. When we confess our sin and repent, the heavens rejoice and we can trust we are forgiven.

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

Thanks be to God

* 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.**

A Word With the Children

Heather Mikes

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.

Listening for God's Word

Prayer of Illumination

Almighty God, we know that we are not to be a people of fear, and yet there is much of which we are afraid in these challenging times. We come to you now, asking for the gift of your living Word. Enlighten the eyes of our heart so that we can be the people of love you call us to be. Amen.

A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹ The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD." ⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹ Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹² Therefore prophecy and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

By the gift of God's Spirit this may become the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* A Reading from the Christian Scriptures

St. Luke 24:44-53

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until

you have been clothed with power from on high.”⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy,⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

By the Gift of the Holy Spirit this may become The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Homily: “Speak Hope Gather”

The Rev. Louis S. Thompson

Solo: “Song for the Unsung Hero”

Joseph M. Martin (b. 1959)

Michele Byrd, *Soprano*

Let us sing for unsung heroes, those who lay their dreams aside. Choosing honor more than glory. Pledging faith with quiet pride. Those whose uniform is courage, yet are unashamed of tears. Finding in their love of freedom power stronger than their fears. Sing a song for unsung heroes, sing from sea to shining sea. As the faithful sang before you, sing the song of liberty. Let us sing for unsung heroes, those who answered freedom’s call. Those united by one purpose, all for one and one for all. We will sing and not be silenced, we will keep our voices strong, for as long as we keep singing, freedom’s cry will still live on. 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. Let us sing the song of freedom, sing the song of liberty. America!

***Affirmation of Faith** (unison)

From a Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”.

Offering of our Gifts of Thanksgiving

***Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving**

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.**

Prayers of the People and 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.

Our Going Out

***Hymn of Celebration #564: "O Beautiful For Spacious Skies"**

MATERNA

- | | |
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| 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! | 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. |
| 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! | 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! |

*Charge and Benediction

Congregational Postlude: "Armed Forces Salute"

arr. Joyce Eilers (1941-2009)

If you are a veteran or currently serving in a branch of the United States military, please stand when your service song is sung. We encourage everyone to sing along.

ARMY: First to fight for the right and to build the nation's might, and the Army goes rolling along.
Proud of all we have done fighting till the battle's won, and the Army goes rolling along.
Then it's Hi, Hi, Hey! The Army's on its way. Count off the cadence loud and strong.
For where e'er we go you will always know that the Army goes rolling along.

COAST GUARD: We're always ready for the call, we place our trust in Thee.
Through surf and storm and howling gale, high shall our purpose be.
Semper Paratus is our guide, our fame and glory too.

To fight, to save, or fight and die. Aye! Coast Guard, we're all for you!

MARINES: From the hall of Montezuma, to the shores of Tripoli
we fight our country's battles, in the air, on land and sea.
First we'll fight for right and freedom, and to keep our honor clean.
We are proud to claim the title of "United States Marine."

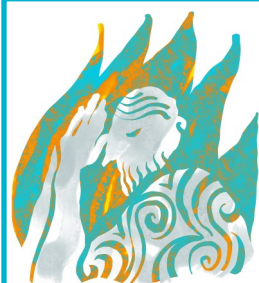
AIR FORCE: Off we go into the wild blue yonder, climbing high into the sun:
Here they come, zooming to meet our thunder, at 'em boys give 'er the gun.
Down we dive, spouting our flame from under, off with one hell-uva roar!
We live in fame or go down in flame! Nothing can stop the U.S. Air Force!

NAVY: Anchors aweigh, my boys, anchors aweigh.
Farewell to college joys, we sail at break of day, day, day, day.
Through our last night on shore, drink to the foam.
Until we meet once more, here's wishing you a happy voyage home!

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Louis S. Thompson, *Parish Associate*
Suzanne Zelinka, *Liturgist for virtual worship*
Karen Chappler, *Liturgist for Sunday worship*
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 & Becky Wheat
Ushers: Claudia Polzin & Carolyn Magarro
 (Head Ushers), Joe Trees, Joyce & Bill Dersch,
 Nancy Guthy, Tim Hall, Jane Repp
Soundboard Operators: Victoria Bonavita &
 Jim Hart



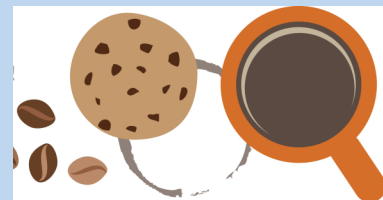
SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

June 5: Pentecost
First Reading: Acts: 2:1-17
Gospel Reading: John 14:8-17
Sermon Series:
Living the Spirit of Life
Sermon: "Overcoming Babel"

The flowers on the chancel are given
 in loving memory of our parents by
Viki & Buck Evans
 and in celebration of
Robert & Doris Martin's
 wedding anniversary.



Thank you to
Lou and Mary Thompson
 for providing our
Fellowship Hour treats today.



VPC NEWS

OFFICE CLOSURE: In observance of Memorial Day, the office will be closed on Monday, May 30.



WISDOM SEEKERS: Wisdom Seekers will meet on **June 1, at 12pm** at the Boston Beer Garden as a
 Thank You to them for sponsoring our Maundy Thursday dinner. Our topic is a discussion of the book
 "The Next Great Migration" by Sonia Shah. All are welcome and we hope those in town will join us.

MIDWEEK SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY: Come and study the Word on Wednesdays at 6pm in
 Harp Hall.



ADVENTURE IS OUT THERE!

SIGN UP TODAY to join us for Moving Up Movie Night in Fellowship
 Hall on **Friday, June 3, from 6-8pm**. We will be showing the movie "Up,"
 as we get ready for **Moving Up Sunday on June 5**, to celebrate graduates and
 educational milestones. Children and families of ALL ages are invited to stay
 together. If you'd prefer, children ages three and up may be dropped off.
 Please email hmikes@vpcnaples.org to sign up.

CAN YOU SPARE A DROP? Our next blood drive is on **Sunday, June 5, 2022 from 9am - 12pm**. To donate,
 you must wear a face mask on the bloodmobile, bring your ID, eat well and be hydrated, be at
 least 16 years of age and weigh at least 110 pounds. To sign up for a time, call the church office at
 597-5410. Give Blood.....Save a Life!



STEPHEN MINISTERS MONTHLY MEETING – JUNE 2, 2022: Stephen Ministry meets on Thursday, June 2 at 7pm in Harp Hall. We will be continuing with our education topic of Caring for People Experiencing a Major Medical Crisis using our Stephen Ministry training manual. Discussion will revolve around possible boundary issues as well as identifying and responding to the variety of challenges of a major medical crisis. After the education segment, we will have our usual supervision meetings, finishing at 9pm.



FRIENDS IN FAITH: Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, July 13**, where we will discuss “Reaching for the Invisible God” by Phillip Yancey. If you would like a copy of the book, email Kay Beernink at leskaybee@aol.com.



Lord God, until there is war no more and you wipe every tear from every eye, we will remember. We will remember those who have served and died for the sake of something greater than themselves. We will remember and give thanks for the men and women who knowingly put themselves in harm's way so that others might be safer. We will remember the families who grieve this day and every day for brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers, daughters and sons, friends and spouses, who lost their lives while wearing the uniform of our country. In the name of the One who grants us the peace that passes understanding, we pray. Amen.



FINANCIAL UPDATE - OPERATING FUND 2022

	April	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Operating Income	\$ 92,056	\$507,373	\$536,300
Expenses	\$107,900	\$389,618	\$448,500
Net	(\$ 15,844)	\$117,755	\$ 87,800

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)
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
SGT Wesley Kennedy
USMC - Okinawa, Japan

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!

*Judy Oehler	5/29
Bill Whitman	5/30
Bee Getman	5/31
Anna Barry	6/1
Babs Brock	6/1
Haley Hood	6/1
*Jean Lonergan	6/1
Shirley Byrne	6/2



Yari Figueroa	6/2
Olivia Carver	6/3

***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!

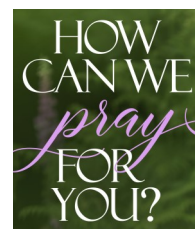
Happy Anniversary!

Caryl & Frank Bates	5/29
Doris & Bob Martin	5/30
Frank & Judy Darnell	6/2
Kristina & Thomas Hauschild	6/2
Ellen & George Morton	6/2
Cindi & Stephen Schock	6/2
Brett & Liberty Franklin	6/3
Ann & Bill Lienemann	6/4

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.

Margaret Andreason	Ron Davis	Sandra Johnson	J. Richard Szeremany
Cynthia Arnold	Nancy Diederich	Keira Krumbine	Dr. Al Tatarunius
Ron Bartlett	Annette & Bill Dietrich	Judy Malone	Diane Toulouse
Charles Beattie	Marlene Everson	Marilyn McKee	Tony & Yvonne Van Rooyen
Chris Bertler	Jim & Wealthea Flick	Joan Mountford	Al Williams
Alexis Bevan	Jim Folliard	Bridgette Negri	
Peg Black	Annie Foster	Joseph Negri	
The Blanchard Family	Gerry & Lynn Greenblatt	Bill Payne	
Tammie Carow	Jean Hahm	Ernie Sartorius	
Adriana Caruso	Blair Harlan	Carol Schwiers	
Mason & Pat Colby	Mary Hart	Jeff Smith	
Dick Creviston	Don Iwaniki		



We are saddened to announce the death of longtime member, Gene Blanchard, on May 22. Please keep the Blanchard family in your prayers. We will let you know if a memorial service is planned in the future.

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

