



August 28, 2022

The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Psalm 81:1, 10-16

¹ Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

¹⁰ I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

¹¹ "But my people did not listen to my voice; Israel would not submit to me.

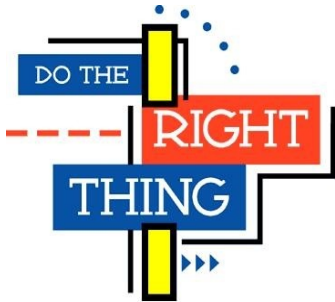
¹² So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts, to follow their own counsels.

¹³ O that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways!

¹⁴ Then I would quickly subdue their enemies and turn my hand against their foes.

¹⁵ Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him, and their doom would last forever.

¹⁶ I would feed you with the finest of the wheat, and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you."



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. If you are visiting, please fill out the blue card and leave it in the green pad.

Prelude: "Siciliano"

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

Announcements

*** Call to Worship**

Sing to God, our strength; cry out to God, our helper.

Rejoice, and do not fear to appear before our God.

It is God who led our ancestors through hard times.

It is God who leads us through difficult days.

God will not leave us or forsake us.

God welcomes us to the banquet of life.

God fills our mouths with good things.

God offers us fountains of living water.

Let us worship God.

*** Hymn #307: "Fight the Good Fight"**

DUKE STREET

1. **Fight the good fight with all thy might;
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right;
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Thy joy and crown eternally.**
2. **Run the straight race through God's good grace,
Lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face;
Life with its way before us lies,
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.**
3. **Cast care aside, lean on thy guide;
God's boundless mercy will provide;
Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.**
4. **Faint not nor fear, God's arms are near;
God changeth not, and thou art dear;
Only believe, and thou shalt see
That Christ is all in all to thee.**

*** Call to Confession**

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

O God, we are desolate and frightened, for there are evil tidings all around us and we do not know you well enough to count on your help. We cannot hear your voice or sense your presence. There is a void within us that things cannot satisfy. We have reached for honors and recognition, but they provide no lasting fulfillment. Forgive our mistaken priorities and draw us to you, the source of living water. *(Silence)*. Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*** Gloria Patri**

Henry Greatorex (1816-1858)

**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 Moment for Children

Heather Mikes

We invite children to gather up front for a special children's message. After we sing "Jesus Loves Me," children ages three through first grade may go to the Student Center for Summer Ministry Sessions. Nursery Ministry is also available for children birth through age two. Formal Sunday school for Children and Youth (ages three through high school) will resume on **September 11th** at our Fall Education Kick Off.

**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 2:4-13

⁴ Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. ⁵ Thus says the LORD: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me and went after worthless things and became worthless themselves? ⁶ They did not say, "Where is the LORD, who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" ⁷ I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land and made my heritage an abomination. ⁸ The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal and went after things that do not profit. ⁹ Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD, and I accuse your children's children. ¹⁰ Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look; send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. ¹¹ Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. ¹² Be appalled, O heavens, at this; be shocked; be utterly desolate, says the LORD, ¹³ for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 14:1, 7-14

¹⁴ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely. ⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." ¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: **Sermon Series:** *In Pursuit of a Prophet*

Sermon: "Do the Right Thing"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

Anthem: "Grace Divine"

RESIGNATION

The Chancel Choir

arr. Roger Price

Come, let us use the grace divine, and all with one accord, in a perpetual covenant join ourselves to Christ the Lord; Give up ourselves, thru Jesus' power, his name to glorify; and promise, in this sacred hour, for God to live and die. The covenant we this moment make be ever kept in mind; we will no more our God forsake, or cast these words behind. We never will throw off the fear of God who hears our vow; and if thou art well pleased to hear, come down and meet us now. Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, let all our hearts receive, present with thy celestial host the peaceful answer give; to each covenant the blood apply which takes our sins away, and register our name on high and keep us to that day!

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.**

*** Affirmation of Faith**

(A Brief Statement of Faith) Phil. 2:5-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is 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 #388: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"**

ANGEL'S STORY

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. O Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me,
My Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my guide.</p> <p>2. O let me feel Thee near me!
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.</p> | <p>3. O let me hear Thee speaking
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self will;
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.</p> <p>4. O Jesus, Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my friend.</p> |
|--|---|

*** Commission and Blessing**

*Go forth as humble servants of Almighty God.
Those who humble themselves will be exalted.*

How good it is to walk in the ways God leads us!

How satisfying to drink from the fountain of living water.

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: "The Prince of Denmark's March "

Jeremiah Clarke (1674-1707)

Please be seated until the end of the Postlude.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, *Pastor*
Karen Chappler, *Liturgist*
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*

The Chancel Choir
Julie Carver, *Pianist*
Greeters: Priscilla Kutler & Ruth Felipe
Ushers: Claudia Polzin & Carolyn Magarro
(Head Ushers), Jerry Warnken, Greg & Julie
Borden, Nancy Guthy
Audio/Visual Technician: Victoria Bonavita

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

September 4: The 13th Sunday after Pentecost



First Reading: Jeremiah 18:1-11
Gospel Reading: Luke 14:25-33
Sermon Series: "Journey with Jesus"
Sermon: "Total Commitment"



**The flowers on the
chancel are given
in loving memory
of Ellen Alexander
by her family.**

Our Sunday worship service is live streamed directly to our website and Facebook. That means you can tune in to www.vpcnaples.org or on Facebook at 10am on Sunday mornings to watch the service live! If you want to watch at a later time, the service will be available on our website in the Sermon Library. If you have any questions, call the office at 597-5410.



**The Fellowship Hour
is sponsored by
the Grider Family.**
*"It's just a wonderful
day to celebrate!"*

VPC NEWS

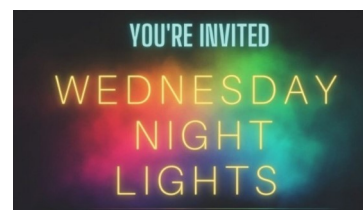


FALL EDUCATION KICK OFF IS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11!

Sometimes called Rally Day, children and families return to formal Sunday school classes on Sept. 11th. At Vanderbilt, Fall Education Kick Off is for all God's children! It's a time for learning and growing in our faith, as we deepen our relationship with God in a variety of ways. What is God calling you to? He has given us all gifts, talents, resources and time and He is calling us all to be a blessing to others. He is calling us all to action. We encourage you to answer the call as you are able - in our church and in our community. Join us

for another family-led worship service at 10:00am. Children and youth, PreK-3 through high school, will be invited to Sunday School immediately following the Children's Moment. Nursery Ministry will be available for infants and toddlers, beginning at 9:45am. Children and youth of all ages are invited to music with Dr. Jim and Mrs. Carver on Sundays 11:30am-12:00pm in Cochran Music Hall. Come sing with us and learn about musical opportunities for everyone. Families are invited to stay in Fellowship Hall or the Student Center. We are also looking for small group leaders to share teaching opportunities during this Christian Education Hour, immediately following worship. Email Heather at hmikes@vpcnaples.org.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIGHTS - Gear Up! Get Ready! Game On! Children & Youth groups (ages PreK-3 through high school) resume **September 11**. Wear your sports jersey or favorite team for kick off! Check out our new schedule at the VPC website. **We will meet on Wednesdays every two weeks. 5:30pm Dinner in Fellowship Hall, 6-7pm Study/Serve/Pray/Play.**



PLEASE BE PATIENT WITH US! Our database program is being converted to a new and improved version. This upgrade will be a huge improvement, but we need a bit of grace during the conversion. This process will take a few weeks and may affect the website and anything related to finance. *Thank you for your understanding.*

PLEASE CONSIDER SPONSORING CHANCEL FLOWERS! We are in need of sponsors for Chancel Flowers. You can do so in honor or memory of a loved one or just because you love your church! Contact Barbara Bonavita at 597-5410 or bbonavita@vpcnaples.org to schedule a date.



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE: The recent floods in Kentucky, Missouri and Virginia have been in the headlines and some of us wonder, what can I do? The PCUSA supports people in need via Presbyterian Disaster Assistance; www.pda.pcusa.org/situation/july-flooding/. If you are looking for a way to help those in need, consider making a donation on the website above. Thank you for your generosity.

A STEPHEN MINISTER comes alongside a hurting person and meets with that person on a weekly basis to listen, care, encourage, pray, and provide emotional and spiritual support. Men are paired with men, women with women. Over the years, well over one-and-a-half million people have benefited from the one-to-one, Christ-centered care of a Stephen Minister. This care is entirely confidential and care receiver identity is not shared except with their Stephen Minister, the Referrals Coordinator, and the pastor. VPC has had Stephen Ministry for 24 years and helped an estimated 260 care receivers over the years.



GATHER WITH YOUR VPC FRIENDS!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Midweek Small Group Bible Study: Wednesdays at 5:30pm in the Library

Friends in Faith: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month, **at 10am** in Harp Hall & by ZOOM

JOIN A SMALL GROUP! MAH JONGG Contact Geri Payne at 593-5529 or paynegnb@comcast.net

BRIDGE Contact Nadine Gaylord at 740-816-1628 or nanjan69@gmail.com

TRY GOING "BLUE!"

VPC, with support of the Wholistic Health, Building and Grounds, and Education Teams, has partnered with Growing Climate Solutions, which is a locally focused group striving to make changes here in SWFL. In addition to "going green" we should all be "going blue" as over 80% of global carbon circulates through the world's oceans. Half of the carbon dioxide absorbed by the ocean – or blue carbon - is held under the roots of three ecosystems including mangroves, salt marshes and seagrasses. Some of these soils have been accumulating for up to five thousand years and can be 10-12 feet deep, containing over forty percent carbon. Loss of these habitats results in release of that carbon to the atmosphere, one reason why protecting coastal ecosystems is critical to combatting climate change.



Help Protect Seagrass and Mangroves

- Don't fertilize your lawn during rainy season
- Avoid prop scarring sea grass beds
- Use mechanical methods to clear plants out of water
- Don't purchase imported farmed shrimp
- Don't illegally prune mangroves on your property
- Pick up your dog's waste.

Together we can make a difference!



PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW IF YOU ARE IN THE HOSPITAL. If you or a member of your family are hospitalized, please call the church office. The hospital is changing their software and are unable to notify the church. The only way we know, is if you communicate to us directly. Call 597-5410.

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)

LT Wyatt R. Dawley

US Navy Intel/SEAL Team
(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



**Be a Blessing to
Pinecrest Elementary**

VPC is collecting school supplies for teachers, staff, students and families at Pinecrest Elementary School located in Immokalee.

- Donate \$ indicate "Pinecrest" on payment
- Shop Amazon wishlist (info in the bulletin)

We hope to raise enough to purchase shirts for teachers and staff

You have a few more days to visit the Amazon Wish List "VPC Back to School Blessing Pinecrest Elementary 2022-23". Ship to the school by **August 31**. You can also make a monetary contribution. Please mail a check to VPC or go online to give. https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3ILXQTCIUMP6T?ref=wl_share

Mission Opportunities

Collier Harvest's next packing event is on **August 29, 5pm**, 4451 Mercantile Avenue. Volunteers are needed to help pack bags of groceries for the families of students in need. Email Cherie Baines ctfl.baines@gmail.com.

Thursday, September 8, 2022 is the next packing day for **Weekend Power Pack**. Fellowship Hall at 10:30am. To volunteer, email Becky Wheat sportbroad@comcast.net.

Happy Birthday!

Tim Grove	8/29	Avery Acx	9/1
Eleanor Sarina Hoppner	8/29	Anna Borden	9/1
Al Teti	8/29	Brooke Borden	9/1
Sumera Yousaf	8/29	*Joan Elliott	9/1
Barbara McElwaine	8/30	Nancy Guthy	9/1
*Pete Schwiers	8/30	Wayne Rockenbach	9/1
*Janet Kassing	8/31	Mark McElwaine	9/2
*Elizabeth Lee	8/31	Nancy Ruppert	9/3
Addison Acx	9/1	*Jack Ufheil	9/3



Happy Anniversary!

Don & Jan Fern	8/29
Becca & Steve Acx	8/31
Clark & Kathryn Leaming	9/1

***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!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please continue to hold in prayer our church family and friends facing illness, injury and hardship. If you have any joys 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 30 days, after which a new prayer request card should be submitted.

Linda Addaman	Jim Folliard	Lauren Marquis
Rich Annunziata	Ali Frimpter	Doris Martin
Cynthia Arnold	Gerry & Lynn Greenblatt	Marilyn McKee
Charlyn Bonk	Mary Hart	Nancy Miller
Linda Burwinkel	Casey Hunt	Joan Mountford
Adriana Caruso	Judy Jacobs	Ernie Sartorius
Ron Davis	Sandra Johnson	Kristin Travis
Annette & Bill Dietrich	Chester Kauffman	Tony & Yvonne Van Rooyen
Marlene Everson	Margaret Mackie	
Jim & Wealtha Flick	Judy Malone	

BEST WISHES!

We wish Gerry & Lynn Greenblatt God's blessings as they relocate to South Carolina to be near family. Thank you for your dedicated years of service to VPC. You will be missed!



FINANCIAL UPDATE - OPERATING FUND 2022

	June	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Operating Income	\$ 93,480	\$690,981	\$736,600
Expenses	\$119,502	\$626,563	\$664,000
Net	(\$ 26,022)	\$ 64,418	\$ 72,600

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.

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



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

