



**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**.

**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.

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.



1225 Piper Blvd., Naples, Florida 34110  
Office: 239-597-5410  
Learning Center: 239-594-9557  
[www.vpcnaples.org](http://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 # A-719387



**December 4, 2022  
The Second Sunday of Advent**

The flowers on the chancel are given in loving memory of my husband, Scott Elliott by Joan Elliott.

The Fellowship Hour is sponsored by the Mission Team in celebration of today's Heifer Fair.

**Worship Participants**

**The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, Pastor**  
**Charles, Caitlin, Evelyn, Parker & Annelise Whittington, Advent Wreath Liturgists**  
**Karen Chapler, 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:** Jan Fern & Beth Lee  
**Ushers:** Julie Borden (Head Usher), Greg Borden, Steve Blad, Rebecca Beavers, Nellie Cummins, Bill & Joyce Dersch, Pete Rodino, Dick Hilton, Jerry Warnken, Pete DeBaun  
**Audio/Visual Technician:** Victoria Bonavita

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

- <sup>1</sup> Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.  
<sup>2</sup> May he judge your people with righteousness and your poor with justice.  
<sup>3</sup> May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.  
<sup>4</sup> May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.  
<sup>5</sup> May he live while the sun endures and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.  
<sup>6</sup> May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.  
<sup>7</sup> In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.  
<sup>18</sup> Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.  
<sup>19</sup> Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.

**Prelude:** An Improvisation on Christmas Carols

Julie Carver, *Piano*

### Announcements

#### Advent Candle Litany

The Whittington Family

*"They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious."*

(Isaiah 11:9-10 NRSV).

**We are the followers of that root of Jesse Isaiah spoke of. We are the ones who are now called to stand as a signal to the world, to all of creation, that peace is the will of the one who created us. Peace is the knowledge of the Lord that we proclaim from sea to shining sea.**

*"In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea proclaiming. "Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near." And "bear fruit worthy of repentance"*

(Matthew 3:1,2, 8 NRSV).

**We light these candles, the candle of joyful hope and the candle of proclaimed peace, in part to remind ourselves that we are a people rising toward God's promise. But we also light them as a sign to the world, an announcement there are some who hold on to hope and there are some who work the ways of peace. We stand as a sign that Emmanuel is still our fervent prayer.**

\* **Hymn #9:** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

VENI EMMANUEL

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

*Refrain:*

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

2. O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight. (Refrain)

3. O come, Desire of nations, bind  
All peoples in one heart and mind;  
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease;  
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace. (Refrain)

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

**Awesome God, we have disregarded your Word, failing to inquire after your will for us. We have ignored the needy, defended our advantages, and neglected our prayers. We have not appreciated or witnessed to your sustaining love. Instead we destroy the resources of the earth with little regard for those who follow us. We value our prosperity more than the harmony you envision for your people. O God, we do not like ourselves this way. Deliver us, we pray. (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 and youth ages PreK-3 through High School may go to Sunday school or families may choose to worship together in the Sanctuary.

**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 11:1-10

*<sup>1</sup>A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup>The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of*

his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. <sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. <sup>6</sup> The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. <sup>9</sup> They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **The Gospel Reading**

Matthew 3:1-12

<sup>1</sup> In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup> "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." <sup>3</sup> This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" <sup>4</sup> Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>7</sup> But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, <sup>9</sup> and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup> Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup> "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** **Sermon Series:** *Advent Songs of Ascent*

**Sermon:** "Being a Signal to the Kingdom"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

**Special Music:** From *Messiah* "O Thou, that Tellest Good Tidings to Zion" G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

Alexandra Colaizzi, *Mezzo Soprano*

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion. Get thee up into the high mountain. O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem. Lift up thy voice with strength, lift it up, be not afraid. Say unto the cities of Judah behold your God. Arise shine for thy light is come and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

**Offering**

**Offertory Anthem:** "Carol for Advent"

Don Besig (b. 1936)

The Chancel Choir

Amid the winter's cold embrace, clothed in a shroud of white, an anxious world in silence waits through the dark of night. As the lonely song of a dove echoes across the sky above, we can feel the moment is near; soon the Child of Peace will appear. What child is this the world awaits with quiet expectation? When will He come, the promised one, to bring us peace and salvation? Raise, raise your prayers on high. Prepare His way, the time is nigh. Come, come, Emmanuel, O Child of Love and Peace. The air grows colder, the light grows dim, darkening the sky above. But soon the chill of winter wind will warm with God's gift of love. And a star will brighten the sky; songs of joy will echo on high! We will know the moment is here; the Child of Love and Peace will appear.

**\*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 #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.
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.
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.
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!

**\* Commission and Blessing**

*The God of steadfastness sends you into the world.*

*The God of encouragement bids you to live in harmony.*

**In our daily living, we will rejoice in God's presence.**

**We are thankful that God helps us to understand.**

*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: "Postlude on Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"**

Harold DeCou (1932-2008)

*Please be seated until the end of the Postlude.*

**VPC NEWS**

**SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK**

**December 11: The Third Sunday of Advent**

**First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10**

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:2-11**

**Sermon Series: "Advent Songs of Ascent"**

**Sermon: "Preparing the Way"**

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION**

- **ADVENT DEVOTIONALS:** Each day you will receive an email with our Advent devotional for the day. If you wish to have a printed copy, they are available in the office or narthex.
- **MIDWEEK SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY:** **Wednesdays at 6pm** in the Library.
- **WNL: 12/14** is the Gingerbread House Decorating Contest. Email Heather [hmikes@vpcnaples.org](mailto:hmikes@vpcnaples.org).
- **YOUTH ADVENT:** Middle, high school and college students....we need you! Email Heather to help lead the Advent reading **Christmas Eve at 4pm.**

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR MUSIC AND WORSHIP

- **WELCOME Alexandra Colaizzi** as our soloist this morning. She is pursuing her DMA at the University of Miami. Alex is in Naples to sing with Seraphic Fire **tonight** at VPC at **7pm**. Tickets will be available at the door.
- **HOME COMMUNION:** The Deacons are offering Home Communion. If you would like to receive Home Communion OR if you are an ordained Elder or Deacon and would like to assist in this effort, please contact Michael Bevilacqua at [Michael@bevilacquaent.com](mailto:Michael@bevilacquaent.com) or 612-803-0767.
- **CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:** We are offering you the opportunity to dedicate poinsettias in honor or memory of your loved ones. Forms are in the Narthex. Donors names and dedications will be included in the Christmas Eve & Christmas Day worship service bulletins. **Due by 12/12.**
- **MUSICAL OFFERINGS FOR DECEMBER:** VPC has many concert events for your listening pleasure: **12/4 at 7pm** - Seraphic Fire (www.seraphicfire.com for tickets), **12/6 at 7pm** - Christmas Brass Extravaganza, **12/7 at 12pm** - Advent Concert, Susan Norbeck, Flute, **12/11 at 4pm** - VPC Chancel Choir Christmas Concert, **12/12 at 6pm** - VLC Christmas Concert, **12/14 at 12 pm** - Advent Concert - Sherry Hardgrove, Soprano, **12/21 at 12pm** - Advent Concert - Michele Byrd, Soprano.

### BE SURE TO PICK UP THE SEPARATE SHEET WITH MISSION OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU!

- **HEIFER INTERNATIONAL:** VPC's Heifer Fair is **TODAY** after worship in Fellowship Hall.
- **CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE!** This year the toys will go to the **Salvation Army & Misión Peniel**. Please bring a new, unwrapped toy by **12/4**.
- **MISIÓN PENIEL WORKDAY: 12/9 at 1pm.** Karen Chappler for information- [kchappler@aol.com](mailto:kchappler@aol.com).
- **BLOOD DRIVE: 12/11 from 9am-12pm.** Call the office to schedule a time 597-5410.
- **COLLIER HARVEST:** The next event is **12/12 at 5pm** at 4451 Mercantile Ave. Email Pete Rodino [pvrodino@aol.com](mailto:pvrodino@aol.com).
- **CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING:** Provides assistance to current and retired church workers and for future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools & colleges equipping communities of color. Envelopes are in the Narthex through **12/18**.

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR FRIENDSHIP AND COMMUNITY

- **LUNCH BUNCH:** Our next lunch gathering will be **12/11 at noon**. Sign up in Fellowship Hall.
- **VPC QUILTING SISTERS:** We will gather **12/22 at 9am** in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. Email Sharon Messmore for more information, [sharonmessmore@hotmail.com](mailto:sharonmessmore@hotmail.com).
- **STEPHEN MINISTRY:** The Stephen Ministry logo represents a care receiver's journey from brokenness toward wholeness via the cross of Jesus. Info on our bulletin board by Fellowship Hall .
- **MAH JONGG:** Contact Geri Payne at 593-5529 or [paynegnb@comcast.net](mailto:paynegnb@comcast.net).
- **BRIDGE:** Contact Nadine Gaylord at 740-816-1628 or [nanjan69@gmail.com](mailto:nanjan69@gmail.com).

#### Happy Birthday!

*Jean Rawson	12/5
Jerry Anderson	12/5
Carole Helmick	12/6
Judy Deme	12/7
Chad Brodbeck	12/8

Nadine Gaylord	12/9
Carol Lindsay	12/10

#### Happy Anniversary!

Dave & Stacia Hinkler	12/7
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#### \*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.

Rich Annunziata	Annette & Bill Dietrich	Jonathan	Eric Muir
Leo Barrett	Eva	Chester Kauffman	Al Starr
Ron Bartlett	Marlene Everson	Barbara Lang	The Ryan Family
Adriana Caruso	Jim & Wealtha Flick	The Lee Family	Barbara & Russ Thomas
Cristiana	Jim Folliard	Judy Malone	
Ron Davis	Gail & Gary Goran	Zachary Mazzola	
The Dawley Family	Mary Hart	Marilyn McKee	
Dawn Marie	Sandra Johnson	Joan Mountford	

<b>Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church</b>	
<b>10/31/22 YTD</b>	
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$ 940,057</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,075,947</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>(\$135,890)</b>


*We are saddened to announce the death of **Jean Lee** on November 25, 2022. Jean and her late husband, Finley, were members of Vanderbilt for over 5 years. Please keep her family in your prayers at this difficult time.*

*With Sympathy*

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING OUR COUNTRY

If you have any additions or corrections to the list below, please email Michele Byrd ([mbyrd@vpcnaples.org](mailto:mbyrd@vpcnaples.org)). Thank you for your continued prayers for these military personnel.

<b>ENSIGN Francis Alvares</b> US Navy, Pensacola, FL (Friend of Jay & Mary Chesslo)	<b>CPTN Jennifer Giles</b> USMC, Philippines (Mary Giles' granddaughter)	<b>CPTN Devon Hennessey</b> Korea (Toni Hubbard)
<b>MSgt Kristopher Chesslo</b> USAF (Jay & Mary Chesslo's nephew)	<b>CPTN Jeremy Giles</b> US Army Special Forces, Ft. Bragg, NC (Mary Giles' grandson)	<b>Nolan Kelly</b> US Army - Private First Class Fort Sill, OK
<b>LT Wyatt R. Dawley</b> US Navy Intel/SEAL Team (Debbie Dawley's grandson)	<b>COL Jessica D. Grassetti</b> (Claudia Polzin's niece)	<b>SGT Wesley Kennedy</b> USMC - Okinawa, Japan
<b>MAJ Allen Fujinaka</b> US Army (LaVerne Perrollaz's granddaughter's husband)	<b>1st LT Jacob Guzman</b> US Army—South Korea (Cesar Guzman's son)	

<b>NOTES FROM THE OFFICE</b>	
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. <b>239-597-5410</b>	
 <a href="http://www.vpcnaples.org/live/">www.vpcnaples.org/live/</a>	Check our weekly email: "Week at a Glance!" 