



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 — www.vpcnaples.org
Office: 239-597-5410 — Learning Center: 239-594-9557
The church is a member of the Peace River Presbytery, the Synod of South Atlantic, and the Presbyterian Church (USA) — OneLicense.net # A-719387



May 7, 2023 10:00 am — The Fifth Sunday of Easter

The flowers on the chancel are given in loving memory of Millicent Marshall by her three children.

The Fellowship Hour is sponsored by Lee Weeks.

Worship Participants

The Rev. Melana Scruggs, *General Presbyter of the Peace River Presbytery and Guest Preacher*
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*
Molly Godley, *Liturgist*
Julie Carver, *Pianist*
Sherry Hardgrove, *Soprano*

The Chancel Choir
Victoria Bonavita, *Audio/Visual Technician*
Greeters: David & Beth Lee
Ushers: Greg & Julie Borden (Head Ushers), Jane Repp, Steve Blad, Karen Chappler, George Morton
Communion Servers: Jill Dunn, Joe & Sharon Doggett, Margaret Waters, Carol & Price Lindsay, Pat Rose, Pat Peters, Pete DeBaun, Bill & Sue Van Fossen

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

¹ In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.

² Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

³ You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me;

⁴ take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.

⁵ Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

¹⁵ My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

¹⁶ Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

Prelude: "Abide with Me"

arr. Lloyd Larson (b. 1954)

Sherry Hardgrove, *Soprano*

Announcements

* Call to Worship:

Gaze into heaven and see the glory of God.

Lift up your eyes to behold the risen Christ.

God is our rock of refuge, a strong fortress.

Christ leads us and guides us every day.

Then let us lay our troubles at Christ's feet.

Let us enter the sanctuary God prepares for us.

We have come to find the way, the truth, and the life.

We are here to ask and to receive and to serve.

Let us worship God.

* Hymn #417: "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"

REGENT SQUARE

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious,
Binding all the church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever,
And our confidence alone. | 3. Here bestow to all Your servants
What they ask of You to gain,
What they gain from You forever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Your glory
Evermore with You to reign. |
| 2. To this temple, where we call You,
Come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
With Your wonted lovingkindness
Hear Your people as they pray.
And Your fullest benediction
Shed within its walls always. | 4. Laud and honor to the Father,
Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever one;
One in might and one in glory
While unending ages run. |

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

We confess that sometimes we have covered our ears so we cannot hear your word of judgment, holy God. We seek to isolate ourselves from a world in pain. We become enemies and persecutors of Christ, who identified with poor, needy, and oppressed people. We reject the One you sent as the way, the truth, and the life. We do not pray, as Jesus prayed, trusting that you hear and respond. O God, deliver us from ourselves. *(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 Gospel Reading

John 14:1-14

¹ "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." ⁸ Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in

fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Reading

1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," ⁸ and "A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "Christ, the Cornerstone"

The Rev. Melana Scruggs

Offering

Offertory: "In Remembrance"

Buryl Red (1936-2013)

The Chancel Choir

In remembrance of Me eat this bread. In remembrance of Me drink this wine. In remembrance of Me pray for the time When God's own will is done. In remembrance of me heal the sick. In remembrance of me feed the poor. In remembrance of me open the door And let your brother in, let him in, Take eat and be comforted. Drink and remember too. That this is my body and precious blood shed for you. In remembrance of me search for truth. In remembrance of me always love. In remembrance of me don't look above. But in your heart, Look in your heart for God. Do this in remembrance of Me.

*** 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.**

***Offertory Prayer**

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

Music During Communion: "One Bread, One Body"

John B. Foley (b. 1939)

Sherry Hardgrove, *Soprano*

Prayer after Communion

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* Hymn #516: "Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation"

O QUANTA QUALIA

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Lord, we have come at Your own invitation,
Chosen by You, to be counted Your friends;
Yours is the strength that sustains
dedication,
Ours a commitment we know never ends. | pretension,
Lord, in Your kingdom, whatever our place. |
| 2. Here, at Your table, confirm our intention,
Give it Your seal of forgiveness and grace;
Teach us to serve without pride or | 3. When, at Your table, each time of returning,
Vows are renewed and our courage
restored;
May we increasingly glory in learning
All that it means to accept You as Lord. |

*** Commission and Blessing**

*Christ has gone ahead to prepare a place for us.
Following in Christ's way, we know fullness of life.*

We believe God dwells in us and among us.

God's mighty acts are revealed through us.

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: "Voluntary in D Major"

Richard Peek (1927-2005)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

May 14, 2023

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sermon: "Are You Ready?"

First Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Gospel: John 14:15-21



*We are saddened to announce the death of **Millicent Marshall** on May 2, 2023. Millicent, and her late husband, Chuck, were members of Vanderbilt for over 27 years. Millicent served as a Deacon, Elder and Usher and was a huge supporter of our music program. Please keep her family in your prayers at this difficult time. A memorial service was held on **Saturday, May 6, 2023 at 11:00 am** at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church.*

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU!

CHECK OUT THE NEW FLYER FOR SUMMER OPTIONS!

- **PLEASE HELP US HELP OUR CUBAN FRIENDS:** We are collecting monetary donations to help the Presbyterian Church in Perico and Matanzas Presbytery. Pastor Rob is going to Cuba in May. Give online, by check or cash - mark "Cuba" on your gift. Thank you.
- **COLLIER HARVEST FOUNDATION:** Our next packing event is **Monday, May 22nd at 5pm** at 4451 Mercantile Ave. Email Pete Rodino at pvrodino@aol.com for more information.
- **CAFÉ OF LIFE:** The VPC Mission Team is hosting a meal on **Friday, May 26th at 9am**. Join us at Leitner Park, 26724 Nomad Dr., Bonita Springs 34135. Donations of food and volunteers to serve are needed. Email Eliza Nevin at elizanevin@comcast.net

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOTICE - For May 14, 2023

The Session, at its April 23 meeting, approved a request of the Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC) to hold a Congregational meeting on Sunday, May 14, immediately following the 10am worship service for the purpose of electing an Elder to fill an unexpired term beginning June 1, 2023.

Richard A. Hilton, Clerk of Session

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION

- **PATHFINDERS:** A lunch and discussion group. Our Wisdom Seekers group is morphing into Pathfinders! We will meet on **Wednesday, May 10 at 12:30pm** at Shangri-La in Bonita Springs. Join us! We welcome new members. For more information email Priscilla Kutler at ptkutler@gmail.com.
- **VBS Needs Y-O-U!** Share God's love with children this summer! Vacation Bible School is loads of fun and full of lasting impact for everyone involved. There are lots of opportunities for every level of giftedness. So many ways to serve: adults, collegiate, middle school and high school students. Email Heather - hmikes@vpcnaples.org.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FRIENDSHIP AND COMMUNITY

- **STEPHEN MINISTERS** "Is it a sin to be angry with God?" A question most of us ask at one point or another in our lives. This is particularly true when grieving a loss. Stephen Ministers are trained to help assure you that it is not a sin and it is a normal stage of grief. "But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted; you consider their grief and take it in hand. The victims commit themselves to you; you are the helper of the fatherless." Psalms 10:14
- **MAH JONGG:** Contact Geri Payne at 249-5327 or paynegnb@comcast.net.

HELP US CELEBRATE GRADUATES!



If you have a senior graduating from high school, college, grad school or beyond, (or moving up from preschool, kindergarten, fifth grade or eighth grade) we want to help mark these significant educational milestones. This includes grandchildren! Send us a picture and short paragraph including their name, school and grade they are graduating/moving up from and the school they are heading to. Please include family information of proud parents, siblings and/or grandparents. We will honor them on Graduation **Sunday, May 21**. Please email submissions by **May 7** to Heather (hmikes@vpcnaples.org).

THANK YOU MELANA SCRUGGS!

We welcome The Rev. Melana Scruggs to our pulpit today. Melana is the General Presbyterian of the Peace River Presbytery.



Rev. Scruggs has been here many times and we are pleased to have her lead us in worship this morning.

A promotional graphic for an event. At the top, it says "Join Us!" in large, colorful, playful letters. Below that, it says "Monday, May 15, 2023 at 6:00 pm" in a pink, sans-serif font. Underneath, it says "The Vanderbilt Learning Center Spring Concert & Graduation" in a blue, sans-serif font. The background is light blue with several colorful balloons. At the bottom left, there is a small logo for the Vanderbilt Learning Center with the text "Growing, Caring and Sharing" below it. At the bottom right, there is a white box with black text: "Vanderbilt Learning Center students and families will celebrate the end of the school year with joyful songs on May 15 at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Come see what they've been working on with Dr. Jim. Help us celebrate our preschool and kindergarten graduates!"

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please continue to hold in prayer our church family and friends facing illness, injury and hardship. Also, if you have any joys or concerns, let us know. They are lifted up daily through our intercessory prayer ministry. Prayer requests will be kept in the bulletin for 30 days, after which a new prayer request card should be submitted.

Sharon Acx	Max Gould	Jeff Moon	The Wood Family
Rich Annunziata	Carol Harper	Mark Pratt	Maggie Woodruff
Charlyn Bonk	Sandra Johnson	Leah Ray	The Wynn Family
Adriana Caruso	Chester Kauffman	Marilyn & Sam Scheller	
Marlene Everson	Robbie Landon	The Schwiers Family	
Nadine Gaylord	The Marshall Family	John Shea & Family	
Lori W. Godwin	Moka	Wes	

PRAYER
list

Happy Birthday!

*Bruce Muddell	5/7	Zachary Woodring	5/10
Naseem Yousaf	5/7	Victoria Franklin	5/11
*Pierson Day	5/7	Karen Chappler	5/12
*Rich Yovanovich	5/8	Lane Raskauskas	5/12
*Leah Ray	5/9	Anne Smith	5/13
Harley Ruppert	5/9		
*Mary Hart	5/10		

HAPPY
Birthday

Happy Anniversary!

David & Larissa Gibson
5/11
Bill & Marian Cattrell
5/12

***Birthday Club** Members give one dollar for each year of their life to celebrate their special day. The Education Team may annually request up to 5% from the Club for Youth and Education Ministry!

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).

Thank you for your continued prayers for these military personnel.

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

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

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. **239-597-5410**

WATCH AT HOME
LIVESTREAM
www.vpcnaples.org/live/



Check our weekly email:
"Week at a Glance!"