



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



July 16, 2023 10:00 am — Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

The flowers on the chancel and the fellowship hour are sponsored by Ron and Linda Addaman.

Worship Participants

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, *Pastor*
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*

The Chancel Choir
Victoria Bonavita, *Audio/Visual Technician*
Greeters: Priscilla Kutler, Dick Clark
Ushers: Jerry & Mari-Bea Warnken (Head Ushers), Reggie Smith, Pat Rose, Dick Clark, Pete DeBaun

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 65:9-13

⁹ You visit the earth and water it;
you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.
¹⁰ You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges,
softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.
¹¹ You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
¹² The pastures of the wilderness overflow;
the hills gird themselves with joy;
¹³ the meadows clothe themselves with flocks;
the valleys deck themselves with grain;
they shout and sing together for joy.

Prelude: "Only You Are Holy"

arr. George Lachenauer (b. 1933)

Announcements

* Call to Worship:

God's Word is a lamp to our feet and light to our path.

Open yourselves this day to receive the Word.

We have committed ourselves to follow the light.

We come now to be instructed by God's law.

The Spirit of God raised Jesus from the dead.

That Spirit dwells in you and offers you new life.

We praise God, who saves us and gives us hope.

God cares for the earth and for each one of us.

Let us worship God.

* Hymn #229: "From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

1. From all that dwell below the skies

Let the Creator's praise arise:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung

Through every land, by every tongue.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. In every land begin the song,

To every land the strains belong:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

In cheerful sounds all voices raise

And fill the world with joyful praise.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;

Eternal truth attends Thy Word:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,

Till suns rise and set no more.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

All-knowing God, we know you understand us more deeply than we understand ourselves. You know how much the cares of this life weigh us down. Our thoughts and actions are often very shortsighted. We take so much for granted, failing to value the wonder of life all around us, the gift of family and friends, the amazing reality of your Spirit dwelling in us. We want to be like good soil, receiving the seed of your word with understanding that nourishes roots of trust and joy. Free us from all that keeps us from bearing fruit for you. *(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

Romans 8:1-11

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds

on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!" ¹⁸ "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "Planting Seeds"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

*** 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.

Offering

Offertory: "Guide My Feet"

African-American Spiritual
arr. Wendell Whallum

The Chancel Choir

Guide my feet while I run this race...
Hold my hand while I run this race...
Stand by me while I run this race...
I'm Your child while I run this race...
Search my heart while I run this race...
Guide my feet while I run this race...

*** 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**

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 #263: "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"**

ST DENIO

- 1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of
Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we
praise.**
- 2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in
might;
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring
above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of
goodness and love.**
- 3. To all, life Thou givest, to both great and
small;
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the
tree,
And wither and perish; but naught changeth
Thee.**
- 4. Thou reignest in glory, Thou rulest in light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their
sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!**

*** Commission and Blessing**

Carry the lamp of God's Word into the week ahead.

Share its light with all you meet.

God's Word lights our path and guides our feet.

Your ways, O God, bring joy to our hearts.

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: "Sortie in F Major"

César Franck (1822-1890)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

July 23, 2023

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

Family Led Worship/VBS Celebration Sunday

Sermon: "The Importance of Patience"

First Reading: Romans 8:12-25

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43



READY, SET, VBS!

Thank you to everyone who signed up to serve at "Monumental" VBS **July 17-21, 9am-12pm.**

If you haven't already, please join us for a brief volunteer meeting on **Sunday, July 16**, after worship **(between 11:15am-12:15pm)** to pick up your shirt and assignment or stick around to help set up. We're going off-road for a Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the southwest. By exploring God's awesomeness, kids and adults form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead. For questions, email Heather Mikes at hmikes@vpcnaples.org. Thank you!!

PRAY FOR OUR VBS

Lord, we give this VBS to you. Let this event be an opportunity to pour into the lives of kids in our congregation and community. Let your Holy Spirit speak to the hearts of each child, leader, volunteer, parent, and caretaker. Let us glorify you in all that we do. We pray this week strengthens relationships, changes hearts, and brings kids, families, and volunteers closer to you!



For more information, see the bulletin board by Fellowship Hall.

stephen MINISTRY®

"Listen to me, oh house of Jacob. I have made you and I will carry you. I will sustain you and I will rescue you."
Isaiah 46:3-4.

Scripture supports what Stephen Ministers offer. God created us and sustains us. Stephen Ministers are trained and commissioned to support the scriptures.

Call the office or speak to Pastor Rob if you are in need of a Stephen Minister.



BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

SAVE

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING
AUGUST 13, 2023

THE

FALL EDUCATION KICK OFF
SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

DATES

Vanderbilt PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BACK TO SCHOOL BACKPACK DRIVE

VPC is collecting school supplies and monetary donations for needy children in Collier County. Everything will be split between Grace Place and Mision Peniel. We are collecting **through July 23rd**. Make checks payable to VPC - Memo: Backpacks. Drop off any of the following supplies to the office during the week: zipper backpacks, crayons, washable markers, No.2 pencils, composition notebooks, pencil sharpeners, glue sticks, blunt-topped scissors, rulers, blue or black ballpoint pens, erasers, highlighters, permanent markers, loose left paper, spiral bound notebooks, white glue (bottles), colored pencils. Thank you!



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	Susan Flynn	Judy Jacobs	Jodi Reckmeyer
Rich Annunziata	Nadine Gaylord	Sandra Johnson	Ron Sieling
Linda Bauer	Lori Godwin	Chester Kauffman	Lou Thompson
Charlyn Bonk	Max Gould	Robbie Landon	Jerry Tragesser
Adriana Caruso	Bunny Heitman	Jeff Moon	The Wood Family
Louise Eliot	Gordon Herman	Norman Parker	
Marlene Everson	Kay Hurley	Leah Ray	

Happy Birthday!

Happy Anniversary!

*Ellen Morton	7/16	Barbara Dominguez	7/21	George Cheatham & Jean Dugan	7/18
Jill Trees	7/16	Richard Hood	7/21	Jim & Wealtha Flick	7/20
Berniece Pak	7/16	Sharon Wylie	7/22	Doug & Jill Dunn	7/22
*Geri Payne	7/17				
Penny Jacob	7/18				
Jean Fletcher	7/18				
Peg Black	7/18				
Joyce Peters	7/18				
Pat Rogge	7/19				
Sally Meeuwsen	7/20				
Sue Graves	7/20				

*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)

MSgt Kristopher Chesslo

USAF (Jay & Mary Chesslo's nephew)

LT Wyatt R. Dawley

US Navy Intel/SEAL Team
(Debbie Dawley's grandson)

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)

1st LT Jacob Guzman

US Army—South Korea
(Cesar Guzman's son)

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**



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