



**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](http://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*



**August 20, 2023 10:00 am  
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost**

The flowers on the chancel are donated by the Grider Family. "Welcome back to School!"  
And in celebration of 65 years of marriage by Charles & Nancy Thompson.

The fellowship hour is sponsored by the Grider Family. "Welcome back to School!"

**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**  
**Gwen Salyer, Liturgist**  
**Brooke Vayda, Children's Moment**

**Julie Carver, Pianist**  
**The Chancel Choir**  
**Victoria Bonavita, Audio/Visual Technician**  
**Greeters:** Priscilla Kutler & Geri Payne  
**Ushers:** Becky Wheat (Head Usher), Joe Trees, Price & Carol Lindsay, Nancy Guthy, Karen Chappler

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Psalm 67

- <sup>1</sup> May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,  
<sup>2</sup> that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.  
<sup>3</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.  
<sup>4</sup> Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations upon earth.  
<sup>5</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.  
<sup>6</sup> The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.  
<sup>7</sup> May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

**Prelude:** Prelude on “Amazing Grace”

Dale Wood (1934-2003)

### Announcements

#### \* Call to Worship:

*Let all the people praise the God of all nations.*

*Let us give thanks and enjoy the blessings God gives.*

**May God grant us understanding and courage.**

**May faith grow beyond our doubts.**

*The earth has yielded its blessing.*

*Let all the ends of the earth revere our Creator.*

**God brings us together in unity of purpose.**

**May our circle grow as we welcome newcomers.**

*Let us worship God.*

#### \* Hymn #280: “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

AMAZING GRACE

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <b>Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,<br/>That saved a wretch like me!<br/>I once was lost, but now am found,<br/>Was blind, but now I see.</b>        | 4. <b>The Lord has promised good to me,<br/>His Word my hope secures;<br/>He will my shield and portion be<br/>As long as life endures.</b>                    |
| 2. <b>'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,<br/>And grace my fears relieved;<br/>How precious did that grace appear<br/>The hour I first believed!</b> | 5. <b>When we've been there ten thousand years,<br/>Bright shining as the sun,<br/>We've no less days to sing God's praise<br/>Than when we'd first begun.</b> |
| 3. <b>Through many dangers, toils and snares,<br/>I have already come;<br/>'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,<br/>And grace will lead me home.</b>  |  |

**\* Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession**

**Forgive us, O God, for the sin we recognize in ourselves and the wounds we do not see. Show us how we have hurt one another and grant us courage to seek forgiveness and reconciliation. Reveal to us our disobedience to you and keep us from leading others into our sin. We seek your mercy for the times we have willfully offended. Help us to put aside all actions and comments that defile. Cleanse us for new life in Christ. (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**

Brooke Vayda

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 11:1-2a, 29-32

*<sup>1</sup> I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2</sup> God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel? <sup>29</sup> for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup> Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup> so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup> For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.*

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Gospel Reading**

Matthew 15:21-28

*21 Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22 Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." 23 But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." 24 He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." 25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." 26 He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." 27 She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." 28 Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.*  
*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** "Faith and Fairness"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

## **\* The Affirmation of Faith**

from A Brief Statement of Faith

**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. Amen.**

## **Offering**

**Offertory:** "Blest are They"

David Haas (b. 1957)

The Chancel Choir

Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God. Blest are they full of sorrow; they shall be consoled. Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you. Yours is the kingdom of God. Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth. Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill. Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs. Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God. Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God. Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs. Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of me. Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom. Shine for all the see.

## **\* 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 #482: "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

LOBE DEN HERREN

1. Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty,  
the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him,  
for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear,  
now to His temple draw near;  
Join me in glad adoration!
2. Praise ye the Lord,  
who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under His wings,  
yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen  
how thy desires e'er have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?
3. Praise ye the Lord!  
O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath,  
come now with praises before Him.  
Let the Amen sound from His people again,  
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

## \* Commission and Blessing

*God's call to service goes with you from this time.*

*We cannot escape from God's expectations.*

**We have received God's abundant mercy.**

**We depart, intent on showing mercy to all.**

*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:** "Prelude in C Major"

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

*Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.*

## SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

August 27, 2023

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon: "A Fair Question"

First Reading: Romans 8:1-8

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:13-20



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.



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION

### Live out your faith by teaching Sunday School!

Join us after worship for an informational meeting on **Sunday, August 27, at 11:15am** in the Student Center to talk about teaching Sunday School to children, youth and adults. We supply the curriculum. You share love, patience and passion with all God's children, as we spend time in God's Word together.



### Fall Education Kick Off is **Sunday, September 10!**

Sometimes called Rally Day, children and families return to formal Sunday school classes on **Sept. 10th**. 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**.



Come learn about Cuba and our Presbyterian Partners!

Wednesday, August 23  
at 1:30pm  
at Vanderbilt  
Presbyterian Church



All are invited to meet and hear Rev. Ary Fernandez Alban and Rev. Beidy Casas Aragon, pastors of Central Reformed Presbyterian Church in Matanzas, Cuba. They will share about what life is like in Cuba, about the ministries of their churches and about the impact of their efforts in the local community. This is a rare chance and a wonderful opportunity to learn first-hand about Cuba, the role of the church in Cuba, and about U.S. partnerships with churches there.

RSVP to [alesia@peaceriverpresbytery.org](mailto:alesia@peaceriverpresbytery.org)



### OPPORTUNITIES FOR MISSIONS

Collier Harvest: **Monday, August 28 at 4:30pm** to unload, **4:45pm** to pack food 4451 Mercantile Ave. Email Pete Rodino for more information: [pvrodino@aol.com](mailto:pvrodino@aol.com). Join us as we pack bags of healthy and nutritious feed for our hungry neighbors across Collier County.



Join our **Mission Team** by zooming into our next meeting on **Tuesday, September 19 at 7pm.**

Email Toni Keefer at [toninkefer@hotmail.com](mailto:toninkefer@hotmail.com) or Becky Wheat at [sportbroad@comcast.net](mailto:sportbroad@comcast.net) for more information. There is a place for you!



Thank you  
From Misión Peniel

### THANK YOU!

Take a look at the bulletin board in the office to see the thank you note from Misión Peniel. Our Backpack and School Supplies Drive was a success thanks to your generosity.



## 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	Marlene Everson	Robbie Landon	Pete Schwiers
Rich Annunziata	Nadine Gaylord	Bob Martin	The Starr Family
Jeff Berger	Kimberly Gould-Blackwell	Jeff Moon	Lou Thompson
Charlyn Bonk	Phil Jacobus	Leah Ray	Jerry Tragesser
Adriana Caruso	Sandra Johnson	Jodi Reckmeyer	The Ufheil Family
Molly Cochran	Chester Kauffman	Donna Riley	Kay Winemiller
Nancy Diederich	The John Kennedy Family	Julio Rodriguez	Chris Wood & Family

<b>Happy Birthday!</b>			<b>Happy Anniversary!</b>
*Carter Mikes	8/20	Gina Truax	8/25
Chuck Holley	8/20	Quinn Lawrence	8/25
Barbara Elliott	8/21	Sebastian Aguilar	8/26
Herb Newman	8/21	Karen Lawrence	8/26
Merle Wylie	8/22	<b>*Birthday Club</b> 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!	
Ann Hoffman	8/23		
*Lou Thompson	8/24		
Ginny Dieken	8/24		
Cherry Jacobus	8/25		
		Daniel & Dianne Westerlund	8/20
		Bruce & Roberta Hobbs	8/21
		Nancy & Charles Thompson	8/23
		Al & Jean Fletcher	8/23
		Bruce & Wendy Baker	8/23
		Jack & Nancy Bell	8/25
		Bob & Laura Reardon	8/26



## 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>SGT Wesley Kennedy</b> USMC - Okinawa, Japan
<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>MAJ Rex Rafferty</b> USAF—Alabama (Norm & Linda Parker's granddaughter's husband)
<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)	

## 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!"**