



**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*



**September 10, 2023 10:00 am — Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
Family Led Worship & Fall Education Kick-Off**

The flowers on the chancel are donated in loving memory of our grandparents by Carol and Price Lindsay and in loving memory of Robert, on the anniversary of his birthday, by Shirley Schwindt and Family.

The fellowship hour is sponsored in loving memory of Norm Burke by the Grider Family.

**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*  
**Devon Grider**, *Youth Liturgist*  
**Ellen Tanner**, *Liturgist*  
**Julie Carver**, *Pianist*  
**The Chancel Choir**  
**Victoria Bonavita**, *Audio/Visual Technician*

**Greeters:** Priscilla Kutler & Jan Fern  
**Youth Acolyte,** Wyatt Gersch  
**Ushers:** Becky Wheat (Head Usher), Ron & Linda Addaman, Price & Carol Lindsay, Nancy Guthy  
**Youth Ushers:** Alyssa Gersch & Riley Mikes  
**Communion Servers:** Jan Fern, Michael Bevilacqua, Sharon & Joe Doggett, Jerry Grandey, Mary Lynn Myers, Steve Blad, Joan Butler, Bill Van Fossen, Pete Rodino

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Psalm 149

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

<sup>2</sup> Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

<sup>3</sup> Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

<sup>4</sup> For the LORD takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory.

<sup>5</sup> Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.

<sup>6</sup> Let the high praises of God be in their throats and two-edged swords in their hands,

<sup>7</sup> to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,

<sup>8</sup> to bind their kings with fetters and their nobles with chains of iron,

<sup>9</sup> to execute on them the judgment decreed. This is glory for all his faithful ones. Praise the LORD!

**Prelude:** From the First Book of Organ Music: "Plein Jeu" and "Grand Jeu"

Michel Corrette  
(1707-1795)

### Announcements

#### \* Call to Worship:

*Praise God in the assembly of the faithful.*

*Make melody to God and sing a new song.*

**Praise God for life enriched by love.**

**Praise God for love that fulfills God's law.**

*This is the hour to wake up from our sleep.*

*The energy of God's love fills this place.*

**Here we claim our identity as Christians.**

**Here we become the church of Jesus Christ.**

*Let us worship God.*

#### \* Hymn #376: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

HYFRYDOL

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Love divine, all loves excelling,<br/>Joy of heaven to earth come down,<br/>Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,<br/>All Thy faithful mercies crown!<br/>Jesus, Thou art all compassion,<br/>Pure, unbounded love Thou art;<br/>Visit us with Thy salvation,<br/>Enter every trembling heart.</p> <p>2. Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit<br/>Into every troubled breast!<br/>Let us all in Thee inherit,<br/>Let us find that second rest;</p> | <p>Take away the love of sinning;<br/>Alpha and Omega be;<br/>End of faith, as its beginning,<br/>Set our hearts at liberty</p> <p>4. Finish, then, Thy new creation;<br/>Pure and spotless let us be;<br/>Let us see Thy great salvation<br/>Perfectly restored in Thee;<br/>Changed from glory into glory,<br/>Till in heaven we take our place,<br/>Till we cast our crowns before Thee,<br/>Lost in wonder, love, and praise.</p> |
|--|---|

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

**O God, we have not been faithful to your commands. We have been more ready to condemn than to console, more eager to justify ourselves than to work for understanding. We feed the flames of dissent instead of welcoming the freeing power of forgiveness. We gather as two or three, not to welcome your presence but to gossip about those who are absent. Our sins are destroying us, God. Turn us around to a new way of being. *(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

Exodus 12:1-14

*<sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, <sup>2</sup> "This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup> Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. <sup>4</sup> If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. <sup>5</sup> Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup> You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup> They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they*

eat it. <sup>8</sup> They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup> Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. <sup>10</sup> You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire. <sup>11</sup> This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the LORD. <sup>12</sup> I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. <sup>13</sup> The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. <sup>14</sup> "This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **The Gospel Reading**

Matthew 18:15-20

<sup>15</sup> "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup> But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup> If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup> Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup> Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** "Step by Step"

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:** "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

arr. Richard Erickson

The Chancel Choir

I want to walk as a child of the light, I want to follow Jesus. God sent the stars to give light to the world  
The star of my life is Jesus. In Him, there is no darkness at all, The night and the day are both alike. The  
Lamb is the light of the city of God, Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus. I want to see the brightness of God, I  
want to look at Jesus. Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path And show me the way to the Father. I  
want to see the brightness of God I want to look at Jesus. Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path  
And show me the way to the Father. I'm looking for the coming of Christ, I want to be with Jesus. When  
we have run with patience the race, We shall know the joy of Jesus.

**\* 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 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:** Improvisation

Julie Carver

**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 #513: "Let Us Break Bread Together"**

LET US BREAK BREAD

**1. Let us break bread together on our knees;  
Let us break bread together on our knees.**

**Refrain:**

**When I fall on my knees,  
With my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

**2. Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
Let us drink wine together on our knees;**

**Refrain**

**3. Let us praise God together on our knees;  
Let us praise God together on our knees;**

**Refrain**

**\* Commission and Blessing**

*We are God's servants, sent on a mission.*

*Let us make God's deeds known among the people.*

**Where two or three gather, God is with us.**

**We seek to live honorably in the spirit of Christ.**

*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: "Joyful Recessional"**

Phil Lehenbauer (b. 1960)

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

**Extended Communion for Homebound Congregants**

If you are unable to attend church and would like to receive communion at home, please call Michael Bevilacqua at 612-803-0767.

If you are an ordained Elder or Deacon and would be willing to help with this important ministry, please contact Michael to volunteer.



Other questions?  
Call the office - 597-5410



*Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them.*

JOHN 6:56, NRSV

**SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK**

**September 17, 2023**

**Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Sermon: "We Are Accountable"**

**First Reading: Romans 14:1-12**

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35**

Are you interested in joining our church family?

**Adventures In Membership**

Sunday, September 10 - 11:15am

Join us for worship and stay in the sanctuary with Pastor Rob for a brief Q&A, as we chat about Vanderbilt and what it means to be involved in the ministry of Christ's church. \*Childcare Available



Have you signed up for Lunch Bunch yet? Join us! Our next lunch is on Sunday September 17th!

After Fellowship Hour, small groups will meet for lunch at a restaurant around noon.



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION

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. 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**.

*"Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on soda, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart."*

Proverbs 25:20

**Stephen Ministers** engage in ministries they're deeply passionate about and gifted for; the results are more and stronger Ministry happening in congregations.

**stephen**  
MINISTRY.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR MUSIC

Do you like to sing? Our **Chancel Choir** is always looking for new members to help us "Make a Joyful Noise" on Sunday mornings. Our mid-week rehearsals have begun. Join us on **Wednesdays at 7pm** in Cochran Hall. Questions? Email Jim at [jcochran@vpcnaples.org](mailto:jcochran@vpcnaples.org).

MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
FOR OUR FIRST WNL

YOU'RE INVITED

WEDNESDAY  
NIGHT  
LIGHTS

EMAIL  
HEATHER MIREK  
FOR MORE INFO  
[HMIREK@VPCNAPLES.ORG](mailto:HMIREK@VPCNAPLES.ORG)

CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023  
FELLOWSHIP HALL 5:30-7:15PM

DINNER  
STUDY  
SERVE  
PRAY  
PLAY




## OPPORTUNITIES FOR MISSIONS

- **MISSION PENIEL WORK DAY: Friday, September 15 at 1pm.** Email Karen Chappler [kchappler@aol.com](mailto:kchappler@aol.com). We would love to have more volunteers!
- **COLLIER HARVEST** packing event, **Monday, September 18 at 4:15pm.** Email Pete Rodino [pvrodino@aol.com](mailto:pvrodino@aol.com). Many hands make light work!
- **MISSION TEAM** meeting: **Tuesday, September 19 at 7pm.** Email Toni Keefer at [tonimkeefer@hotmail.com](mailto:tonimkeefer@hotmail.com) or Becky Wheat at [sportbroad@comcast.net](mailto:sportbroad@comcast.net). The Mission Team is always looking for more interested members to help. Contact Toni or Becky to get the Zoom link and join our meeting!
- **WEEKEND POWER PACK: Thursday, September 28th at 10:30am** in Fellowship Hall. We are in need of *donations and volunteers* to be able to purchase the food that we pack for children in need.



## 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.

Loraine Atkinson	The Frimpter Family	Robbie Landon	Pete Schwiers
Katie Carpenter	Kimberly Gould-Blackwell	The Marrow Family	Shannon Simmons
Adriana Caruso	Lynn & Gerry Greenblatt	Nancy Miller	Lou Thompson
Molly Cochran	Phil & Cherry Jacobus	Brad Ponkratz	The Winemiller Family
Dick Creviston	Sandra Johnson	Mark Pratt	
Andrea Daggett	Warren Kargel	Leah Ray	
Nancy Diederich	Chester Kauffman	Donna Riley	
Marlene Everson	The John Kennedy Family	Sam & Marilyn Scheller	

### Happy Birthday!

*Marsha Reed	9/10
*Debra Bevilacqua	9/11
Paul Rowley	9/12
Martha Gates	9/13
Jonas Rockhold	9/14
Emilia Lawrence	9/15



*We are saddened to announce the death of **Kay Winemiller** on September 4, 2023 at the age of 77. Kay and her late husband, James, were members of VPC since 2019. Please keep her family in your prayers at this tender time. Cards may be sent to her daughter, Nancy Winemiller-Basinger, 3321 East 7635 South Salt Lake City UT, 841211*

### \*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!

### Happy Anniversary!

John & Anna Maria Miles	9/10
Jack & Ellen Tanner	9/12
Scott & Claudia Cunningham	9/12

## 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.

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

- Please let the office know if you are in the hospital. **239-597-5410**
- Go to [www.vpcnaples.org/live/](http://www.vpcnaples.org/live/) to view our Livestreamed worship.
- Questions? Check our weekly email: **"Week at a Glance!"** every **Monday** morning.