



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



January 7, 2024 10:00 am — The Baptism of the Lord

The flowers on the chancel are sponsored in celebration of Steve and Priscilla Kutler's birthdays.

Fellowship Hour is sponsored by Stephen Ministry.

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
Ayden Carver, Carter Mikes, Jack Roberts:
Three Wise Men

Devon Grider, *Audio/Visual Technician*
Greeters: CC Waskey & Geri Payne
Ushers: Becky Wheat (Head Usher), Carline Lobban, Sonja Cookson, Steve Blad, Jane Repp, Carolyn Magarro
Communion Servers: Michael Bevilacqua, Karen Chappler, Joe & Sharon Doggett, Jill Dunn, Jerry Grandey, Tom Hauschild, Price & Carol Lindsay, Pete Rodino, Pat Rose

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 29

¹ Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

² Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.

³ The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

⁶ He makes Lebanon skip like a calf and Sirion like a young wild ox.

⁷ The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

⁸ The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁹ The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl, strips the forest bare, and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

¹⁰ The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.

¹¹ May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Prelude: "Voluntary in D Major"

William Boyce (1711-1779)

Announcements

Moment for Mission

Stephen Ministry

* Call to Worship:

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

And God saw that it was good.

Jesus was baptized by John. The heavens opened, and the Spirit descended like a dove;

Then God said: This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Let us worship God.

Procession of the Three Wise Men for Epiphany

* **Hymn #66:** "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

1. **We three kings of Orient are,**
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

Refrain: **O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light!**

2. **Born a King on Bethlehem's plain**
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign. *Refrain*

3. **Frankincense to offer have I:**
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, we are raising,
Worshipping God Most High. *Refrain*

4. **Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume**
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb. *Refrain*

5. **Glorious now behold Him arise,**
King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Sounds through the earth and skies. *Refrain*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

God of all glory, you look down from heaven and see us as we are — not worthy to kneel at your feet, not ready to welcome your way. Forgive us, gracious God. In Christ, stoop down to save us; loosen the ties that bind us to sin and set us free to love and serve you; in Jesus' name.
(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

Genesis 1:1-5

¹ When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Mark 1:4-11

⁴ so John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." ⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. ¹¹ And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: **Sermon Series:** *Becoming the People of God*

Sermon: "And There Was Morning"

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: "Sing to the Lord a New Song"

Robert Lau (b. 1943)

The Chancel Choir

People and tongues of every nation, sing to the Lord a new song! Bring Him a song of jubilation, sing to the Lord a new song! All God's creatures, old men and children, voices raise in hymns of love. He crowns the humble with salvation. Sing to the Lord a new song! Mountains and hills and all creation! Join in a hymn of adoration. Praise His name, sing Alleluia! Praise Him for His mighty deeds. This is our song, our supplication. Praise Him, shining stars, and praise Him highest heavens. Oh, all kings and princes praise His holy name! Angels above make melody to him. Now lift your voice, Lift up your heart, and sing, and sing! Come, Christians all, now raise your voices! Praise and thanksgiving be your choices! Sound the trumpet! Play on the lute and harp; Dance your dance, and shout for joy! Make music now as heaven rejoices! Sing! Sing! Sing a new song!

* 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

**We give you thanks, O God, for every blessing and spiritual gift you have poured out upon us.
Let the gifts of our lives be a source of blessing in your world, all to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

*** Hymn #70: "Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized"**

Sung to the Tune: AZMON

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Christ, when for us You were baptized,
God's Spirit on You came,
As peaceful as a dove and yet
As urgent as a flame.</p> <p>2. God called You "My beloved Son,"
The suffering servant true,
Sent You the kingdom to proclaim,
God's holy will to do.</p> | <p>3. Straightway and steadfast until death
You then obeyed God's call
Freely as Son of Man to serve
And give Your life for all.</p> <p>4. Baptize us with Your Spirit, Lord,
Your cross on us be signed,
That, likewise in God's service, we
May perfect freedom find.</p> |
|--|---|

*** Commission and Blessing**

Go forth in the light and love of God,

Giving glory to God in all that you do.

Beloved children of God

All the blessings of heaven are yours.

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"

David N. Johnson (1922-1987)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.



SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

January 14, 2024 — Second Sunday After Epiphany

Sermon Series: *Becoming the People of God* — Sermon: "Your Servant is Listening"

First Reading: I Samuel 3:1-10 — Gospel Reading: John 1:43-51

To the congregation of Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church,



We come to work each day knowing that we are part of a larger group of caring people that work toward sending love and light into the world. We all feel truly blessed to work at such an amazing church and with such thoughtful colleagues and loving church members. Thank you for your incredibly generous Christmas gift. We are all so fortunate to work for Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church. Merry Christmas to you all.

Love, the staff of VPC

Today, we celebrate our VPC Stephen Ministry Team.

"Beloved, since God loves us so much, we also ought to love one another... God lives in us, and His love is perfected in us." - 1 John 4: 11-12



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.



Stephen Ministry is based on God's love for us.

Are you feeling a need to experience God's love?

Are you looking for a way to spread God's love to others?

If the answer to either of these questions

is "yes", contact our

Stephen Ministry Team

to see if you Stephen Ministry is for you.

Are you interested in joining our church family?



Adventures In Membership

Sunday,

January 7 - 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

Extended Communion for Homebound Congregants

If you are unable to attend church and would like to receive communion at home, please call Jill Peterson at 239-250-4483.

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

Join us for our next meeting on January 10.

We're celebrating what God has done in our lives over the past year, and looking ahead at the amazing things

God has in store for us in 2024! We will be eating burgers and making vision boards. Supplies will be provided, but please feel free to bring additional

supplies, as well as any pictures you might want to add to your board! See you Wednesday!



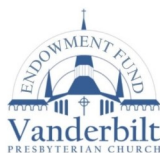
RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE.
ENSURE THE FUTURE OF VPC.
MAKE A PLANNED GIFT.

Contact Us | 1225 Piper Boulevard Naples, FL 34110 | www.vpcnaples.org | 239-597-5410

- CASH
- STOCK/GIFTS OF SECURITIES
- BEQUESTS
- REAL ESTATE
- LIFE INSURANCE
- RETIREMENT ASSETS

- IRA CHARITABLE TRUST ROLLOVER
- CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY
- CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST
- CHARITABLE LEAD TRUST

When we offer our resources to God's Kingdom, miraculous multiplication of ministry can occur. By offering what we have, no matter how insignificant it may appear, we are trusting that God will provide and will use our offering for abundant good.



January 7, 2024 — 4 p.m.

Duo Formosa

Huifang Chen, Violin
Catherine Lan, Piano



The concert will feature a variety of works, including Johann Strauss' *Sonata in E-flat major* for Violin and Piano, Op 18 and Max Bruch's *Scottish Fantasy* Op 46.

NEW 2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE IN!

If you requested GIVING ENVELOPES for 2024, please check the table outside the LIBRARY



for your new packet when you come for worship on Sunday. You can also pick them up on weekdays during normal business hours (9am to 4pm) by the front desk.

Please sponsor Chancel flowers or Fellowship Hour

Call Barbara at 597-5410 to schedule a date! Thank you in advance!

Questions?

Contact a member of the Endowment Fund Ministry Team: Steve Blad, Julie Borden, Chair, Debbie Dawley, Doug Dunn, Don Fern, Steve Kutler, Jon White & Jackie Woodring.



Have you signed up for Lunch Bunch yet? Join us! Our next lunch is on Sunday January 14th!

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.

The Albers Family	Jean & Alan Fletcher	Cathy Nathan	Chris Wood and Family
Ron Bartlett	Marie Geiser	Ivana Novelli	
Linda Bauer	The Dave Glynn Family	Joanna O'Kelley	
Linda Boyles	Lynn & Gerry Greenblatt	Andrea Paciello & Family	
Adriana Caruso	Kate Hafner	Laura Piipponen	
Molly Cochran	The Heitmann Family	Jack & the Rock Family	
Bob & Jan Conrad	Sandra Johnson	Sam & Marilyn Scheller	
Dick Creviston	The John Kennedy Family	Pete Schwiars	
Mindy Deliso	Doris Martin	Ron Shaffer	
Nancy Diederich	Jane Montana	Margaret Waters	
Jim & Marlene Everson	Joan Mountford	Dan Westerlund	



Happy Birthday!

	*Steve Kutler	1/11	
*Kay Beernink	1/7	*Mary Chesslo	1/11
*Priscilla Kutler	1/7	Joan Mountford	1/12
*Huguette Castaneda	1/7	*Clark Leaming	1/13
Marjorie Renth	1/8	Donna Riley	1/13
*Bob Bush	1/8		
Dee Gregg	1/8		
Cole Borden	1/9		

Happy Anniversary!

Terry & Joan Mountford	1/9
Michael & Debra Bevilacqua	1/10

*We are saddened to announce the death of **Bunny Heitmann** on January 2, 2024 at the age of 90. Bunny was a very involved and active member of VPC for over 27 years. Please keep her family in your prayers at this tender time. Her family is planning a memorial at a later date.*

***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)

COL Jessica D. Grassetti
(Claudia Polzin's niece)

E4 Brian Guzman
USAF - Colorado (Cesar Guzman's son)

Sgt Jacob Guzman
US Army-Seattle, WA (Cesar Guzman's son)

CPTN Devon Hennessey
Korea (Toni Hubbard)

SGT Wesley Kennedy
USMC - Okinawa, Japan

MAJ Rex Rafferty
USAF—Alabama
(Norm & Linda Parker's granddaughter's husband)

LCPL Michael Russell
USMC - Cape Lejeune, NC
(Heather Anderson's son)



NOTES FROM THE OFFICE:

- Please let the office know if you are in the hospital. **239-597-5410**
- Go to www.vpcnaples.org/live/ to view our Livestreamed worship.