

# Vanderbilt

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### 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*



### February 18, 2024 10:00 am — The First Sunday in Lent

**Thank you to The Rev. Doug Pratt for serving as our Guest Pastor this morning. Rev. Pratt is Pastor Emeritus of First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs, where he has served since 2004; he is a native of Pittsburgh, PA.**

The flowers on the chancel are sponsored in loving memory  
of my father, Bob Swain, by Mike Swain.

The Fellowship Hour is sponsored in appreciation of the Parish Life Team for making  
Fellowship Hour enjoyable every week by Nancy Diederich and Joe Hodgson.

### Worship Participants

**The Rev. Doug Pratt**, *Guest 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*  
**Mary Lynn Myers**, *Liturgist*

**Julie Carver**, *Pianist*  
**The Chancel Choir**  
**Victoria Bonavita**, *Audio/Visual Technician*  
**Greeters:** CC Waskey and Geri Payne  
**Ushers:** Karen Chappler (Head Usher), Joe  
Trees, Sonja Cookson, Gisela Yingst, Mike Swain,  
Gwen Salyer

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Psalm 25:1-10

<sup>1</sup> To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup> O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

<sup>3</sup> Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

<sup>4</sup> Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

<sup>5</sup> Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

<sup>6</sup> Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

<sup>7</sup> Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

<sup>8</sup> Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

<sup>9</sup> He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way.

<sup>10</sup> All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,  
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

**Prelude:** Meditation on "Wondrous Love"

John Barr (b. 1938)

### Announcements

### Moment for Mission

Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance

### \* Call to Worship:

*From water to wilderness:*

**God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.**

*On stone and in hearts:*

**God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.**

*From the ancestor of nations to the Son lifted up:*

**God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.**

*We follow Jesus on the Lenten path,*

**For where he is we would be also.**

*Let us worship God.*

**Hymn #84:** "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

RATHBUN

**1. In the cross of Christ I glory,  
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;  
All the light of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime.**

**2. When the woes of life o'ertake me,  
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
Never shall the cross forsake me:  
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.**

**3. When the sun of bliss is beaming  
Light and love upon my way,  
From the cross the radiance streaming  
Adds more luster to the day.**

**4. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,  
By the cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there that knows no measure,  
Joys that through all time abide.**

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

**God of mercy, we begin this Lenten season in confession. We do not live according to your ways, but according to our own. We condone violence, participate in systems of injustice, and use power to our own advantage at the expense of others. Forgive us we pray, when we are tempted to follow paths other than those you set before us. *(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 9:8-17

*<sup>8</sup> Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup> "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you <sup>10</sup> and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup> I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." <sup>12</sup> God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup> I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup> When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup> I will remember my covenant that is between*

*me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup> When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” <sup>17</sup> God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”*

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Second Reading**

Romans 7:15-8:2

*<sup>15</sup> I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. <sup>21</sup> So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup> but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup> Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am enslaved to the law of God, but with my flesh I am enslaved to the law of sin. <sup>8</sup> <sup>1</sup> Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.*

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Message: “Living in the Gap”**

The Rev. Doug Pratt

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

From a Brief Statement of Faith

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!” Amen.**

## **Offering**

## **Offertory: “Blessed Are They”**

David Haas (b. 1957)

The Chancel Choir

**\* 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 #85: "What Wondrous Love is This?"**

WONDROUS LOVE

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. What wondrous love is this,<br>O my soul, O my soul,<br>What wondrous love is this, O my soul!<br>What wondrous love is this<br>that caused the Lord of bliss<br>To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my<br>soul, To bear the heavy cross for my soul! | While millions join the theme,<br>I will sing, I will sing;<br>While millions join the theme, I will sing!   |
| 2. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,<br>To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;<br>To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,   | 3. And when from death I'm free,<br>I'll sing on, I'll sing on.<br>And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;<br>And when from death I'm free,<br>I'll sing and joyful be,<br>And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on.<br>And through eternity I'll sing on. |

**\* Commission and Blessing:**

*May the God of covenant faithfulness enfold you;*  
**The beloved Son encourage you;**  
*And the Holy Spirit descend upon you in blessing;*  
**This day and forever.**  
*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 G Minor

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

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

### SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

**February 25, 2024 — The Second Sunday of Lent**

**Sermon:** "The Reason Why"

**First Reading:** Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 — **Gospel Reading:** Mark 8:31-38

### Join the VPC Book Club!



Our February 19th meeting  
will be a discussion of  
**"Someone Else's Shoes"**  
by Jojo Moyes.  
We meet at 1:30pm  
in Harp Hall at VPC.

For more information,  
email Peggy Landon  
[mlandon711@gmail.com](mailto:mlandon711@gmail.com)

**Sunday, February 18** representatives from the Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance will present our Moment for Mission during worship. You can learn more about IFHA at Fellowship Hour following worship.

**YOUR HEART BUILDS HOMES** Now and For Generations to Come

**HELP US PROVIDE HOUSING** for the Community's Most Vulnerable Residents

### Pastor's Bible Study

JOIN US AS WE STUDY THE UPCOMING READINGS FOR WORSHIP.  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO REFLECT ON THE WORD OF GOD!



WEDNESDAY  
EVENINGS AT 6PM  
IN THE LIBRARY

**BEGINNING  
FEBRUARY 21, 2024**

PSALM 119:105

*"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."*



**February 25, 2024 — 4 p.m.**

### The 239 Quartet

featuring Lexi DeLaRosa, vocalist  
Christian Snedeker, Music Director & Drums  
Fortunato Occhino, Tenor Sax, Andrew Tannus, Bass  
Daniel Tenbush, Piano



Highlights of this jazz concert include: "Grace" by Occhino, "Smash" by Cohen, "What a Little Moonlight Can Do" by Woods, "All of Me" by Marks and Simons.

### STEPHEN MINISTRY

"The Lord is close to the  
brokenhearted and  
saves those who are  
crushed in spirit."  
~Psalm 34:18. God  
holds us in His loving  
hands, even when we  
feel unlovable.





### OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY

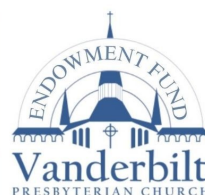
- **WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIGHTS:** **Wednesday, February 21 at 5:30pm** in Fellowship Hall.
- **PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY:** **Wednesday, February 21 at 6pm** in the Library. All are welcome as we study the upcoming readings for worship.
- **SERAPHIC FIRE CONCERT:** **Thursday, February 22 at 7pm** in the Sanctuary. Enlightenment Festival: A Visit with Haydn - featuring the Lord Nelson Mass. Get your tickets at [www.seraphicfire.org](http://www.seraphicfire.org).
- **WINTER CARNIVAL:** **Friday, February 23 at 5:30pm** in the parking lot - Come support our Vanderbilt Learning Center at this fun fundraiser!
- **CHURCH TOUR:** **Sunday, February 25 following worship** - Look for members of the Membership and Involvement Team (in the **blue** shirts) after worship. Join us! You might learn something new about your church!
- **READ TO STUDENTS IN THE VLC!** **February 26-March 1** is Read Across America Week! You are invited to email Jennifer Crossan [jcrossan@vlcnaples.org](mailto:jcrossan@vlcnaples.org) and schedule a time to come and read an age-appropriate book to our wonderful students!
- **VLC OPEN HOUSE:** **Wednesday, February 28 at 10am** - at the Vanderbilt Learning Center. Email Pete Rodino for more information or to sign up [pvrodino@aol.com](mailto:pvrodino@aol.com).
- **VANDERBILT LADIES WHO LUNCH:** Vanderbilt single ladies...would you be interested in getting together once a month for luncheon at a restaurant for conversation and friendship? Reach out to Barbara Hebert for more information or if you are interested. [barbillsr@aol.com](mailto:barbillsr@aol.com).

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR MISSIONS

- **CAFÉ OF LIFE:** **Friday, February 23 at 9am** - Leitner Park in Bonita Springs - join us to help serve a meal to the hungry. For more information, email Eliza Nevin [elizanevin@comcast.net](mailto:elizanevin@comcast.net).
- **NEW HORIZIONS:** **Sunday, February 25** - Representatives from New Horizons will present the Moment for Mission as well as the children singing in the worship service.
- **COLLIER HARVEST:** **Monday, February 26** - 4451 Mercantile Ave. Naples - join us to help pack non-perishable food. For more information, email Pete Rodino [pvrodino@aol.com](mailto:pvrodino@aol.com).
- **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING:** Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. Envelopes are in the Narthex. Payable to Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church memo OGHs - through **March 31, 2024**.

**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](http://www.vpcnaples.org) | 239-597-5410



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

### VANDERBILT ENDOWMENT FUND

#### 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.

## 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.

Angel Barillas	Tarie Curtiss	Sandra Johnson	Joni Poposki
Ron Bartlett	Emily DeBaun-Orr	The John Kennedy Family	Sam & Marilyn Scheller
Linda Bauer	Rita Distad	Robbie Landon	Bob Schmalzbauer
Jackson Bell	Yana Drebyshhev & mother	Bob & Doris Martin	Ron Shaffer
Mimi Braun	Jay Ducharme	Tom Messmore	The Family of Harold Soule
Warren Brunsting	The Everson Family	Joan Mountford	Yvonne & Tony Van Rooyen
Carmen Campbell	Jean & Alan Fletcher	Cathy Nathan	Margaret Waters
Adriana Caruso	Darius Gajano	Joe Negri	Don Westall
Bob & Jan Conrad	The Dave Glynn Family	Ivana Novelli	Joanne & Bill Whitman
Dick Creviston	Lynn & Gerry Greenblatt	Joanna O'Kelley	Dot Williams
Don Cullison	Anne Hiie	Laura Piipponen	Chris Wood and Family

### Happy Birthday!

Patty Shields	2/18	Andrea Daggett	2/23
*Heather Mikes	2/18	Thomas Loughran	2/23
Heidi Holley	2/18	Dave Windley	2/23
Dick Creviston	2/19	*Emily Beynon	2/24
Chuck Lewis	2/19	Yvonne Van Rooyen	2/24
Jan Conrad	2/20	Joseph Hodgson	2/24
Margaret Leonard	2/20		
Clive Ozard	2/21		
John Miles	2/22		

### Happy Anniversary!

There are no anniversaries this week.

*We are saddened to announce the death of **Marlene Everson** on February 10, 2024 at the age of 85. Marlene and her loving husband, Jim, have been affiliate members of VPC for over 22 years. Please keep her family in your prayers. Her memorial service was held in Ohio. To send a card: Jim Everson, 9228 N Shore Dr NE, Mineral City, OH 44656*

**\*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](mailto: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/](http://www.vpcnaples.org/live/) to view our Livestreamed worship.