



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
 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



May 5, 2024 — 10:00 am The Sixth Sunday of Easter

The flowers on the chancel are given in loving memory of my friend, Myron Boksha, by Lewis Bevan.

The Fellowship Hour is sponsored by Arnie Alexander.

Worship Participants

The Rev. Michael Butler, *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*
Susie Hilton, *Liturgist*
Julie Carver, *Pianist*
Susan Norbeck, *Flutist*
Sherry Hardgrove, *Soprano*

The Chancel Choir
Victoria Bonavita, *Audio/Visual Technician*
Greeters: Beth Lee & Dick Clark
Ushers: Jerry & Mari-Bea Warnken (Head
 Ushers), Barbara Hebert, Carolyn Magarro,
 George Morton, Joe Trees
Communion Servers: Joe & Sharon Doggett, Jill
 Dunn, Jan Fern, Jerry Grandey, Tom Hauschild,
 Price & Carol Lindsay, Mary Lynn Myers, Pete
 Rodino, Pat Rose

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 101

¹ I will sing of loyalty and of justice; to you, O LORD, I will sing.

² I will study the way that is blameless. When shall I attain it?

I will walk with integrity of heart within my house;

³ I will not set before my eyes anything that is base.

I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me.

⁴ Perverseness of heart shall be far from me; I will know nothing of evil.

⁵ One who secretly slanders a neighbor I will destroy.

A haughty look and an arrogant heart I will not tolerate.

⁶ I will look with favor on the faithful in the land, so that they may live with me;

whoever walks in the way that is blameless shall minister to me.

⁷ No one who practices deceit shall remain in my house;

no one who utters lies shall continue in my presence.

⁸ Morning by morning I will destroy all the wicked in the land,

cutting off all evildoers from the city of the LORD.

Prelude: "In the Garden"

arr. Brent Olstad (b. 1960)

Susan Norbeck, *Flute*

Announcements

* Call to Worship:

Sing to our God a new song.

God has done marvelous things!

Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Let the sea roar and all that fills it.

Let the world and its people sing together for joy!

Let us worship God.

* Hymn #341: "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine"

ASSURANCE

1. **Blessed assurance: Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.**

Refrain:

**This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.**

2. **Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels, descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain***

3. **Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with His goodness, lost in His love. *Refrain***

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

Loving God, we have not loved you or each other with our whole hearts. Forgive us, we pray, and lead us toward wholeness, that we may be filled with your joy. In Jesus' name we pray.
(silence) Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

This is 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

1 John 5:1-6

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴ for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵ Who is it who conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

arr. Joel Raney (b. 1956)

Sherry Hardgrove, *Soprano*

The Gospel Reading

John 15:9-17

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "Love In Action or Love Inaction"

The Rev. Michael Butler

*** The Affirmation of Faith**

from the Belhar Confession

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the Church, as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the Church of Jesus Christ. We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another, and that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another. Jesus is Lord. Amen.

Offering

Offertory: "Sing to the Lord a New Song"

Willis L. Barnett

The Chancel Choir

Sing to the Lord a new song. Enter his presence with thanksgiving and praise. Sing praise to his holy name. Sing and rejoice before the Lord. Give thanks and bless his holy name. Worship and bow before the Lord for God is worthy of all praise.

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

HYFRYDOL

- 1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.**
- 2. Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find that second rest;**

- Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.**
- 3. Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.**

Continued

4. Finish, then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee;

Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

* **Benediction and Blessing**

* **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: "Allegro in F Major"

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

Susan Norbeck, *Flute*

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.



*We are saddened to announce the death of **Elsie Fessler** on April 20, 2024 at the age of 94. Elsie was a member of Vanderbilt for over 21 years. Please keep her family in your prayers. Memorial arrangements are unknown at this time.*

***June Peterson** passed away on April 28, 2024 at the age of 97. June was an active member of Vanderbilt for over 31 years. Please keep her family, Jill Peterson, Pete DeBaun and Drake DeBaun, in your prayers. We will announce the date of her memorial service when the family has made arrangements. To send a card: 527 Cypress Way E., Naples, FL 34110*



If you have a student graduating or moving up to a new school, let us know! This includes grandchildren! Send us a picture and short paragraph including their name, school and grade they are graduating/moving up from and the school they are heading to. Please include family information and tell us something fun about your graduate. We will honor them on Graduation Sunday, May 19. Please email submissions by May 5 to Heather Mikes at hmikes@vpcnaples.org

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

May 12, 2024 10:00 am

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Tom Grundstrom, Guest Preacher

Sermon: "Embracing What's Next"

First Reading: Psalm 1:1-6

Second Reading: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

LUNCH BUNCH

Sign up to join us for lunch!
Small groups gather at a local restaurant to enjoy lunch at 12pm. Sign up on Sunday mornings during Fellowship Hour or call the office.

Our next date is:
May 12, 2024



TODAY - WALK INS ARE WELCOME!
CAN YOU SPARE A DROP?

Vanderbilt Ladies Who Lunch

Single Ladies!
Join the Vanderbilt Ladies Who Lunch at a different restaurant each month.

The next luncheon will be
Monday, May 13 at 12:00pm.

Email Barbara Hebert at
barbillsr@aol.com

VBS Needs Y-O-U!

Share God's love with children this summer
July 22-26, 9am-12pm! Vacation Bible School is loads of fun and full of lasting impact for everyone involved. There are lots of opportunities for every level of giftedness and availability. **So many ways to serve: adults, collegiate, rising middle school and high school students.**

<https://vbspro.events/p/scuba-vpc>

Please consider sending donations directly to our team. Email Heather for more information:

hmikes@vpcnaples.org

Join Us!
Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 11:30am
The Vanderbilt Learning Center
Spring Concert & Graduation

THANK YOU MICHAEL BUTLER!

We welcome The Rev. Michael Butler to our pulpit today. Michael Butler is a retired United Methodist Pastor who has served United Methodist churches in Ohio, Indiana, and Florida. He and Pastor Rob serve together on the Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance Board of Directors.

Take a moment to stop by the office bulletin board to see some important updates from our mission partners. The **Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance** has just broken ground on it's second building! There are also lots of ways to do good with your hands and hearts at **Grace Place**. Help us share God's love in the neighborhood.



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.

Ron Bartlett	Sandra Johnson	Ron Shaffer	Judy Varian
Christy Bauer	Chester & Janet	Rev. Louis Thompson	John Vaughn
Linda Bauer	Kauffman	Bob Townsend	Laura Warnken
Alexis Bevan	Doris Martin	Rosemary Ufheil	Dan Westerlund
Carmen Campbell	Rick Miles	Yvonne & Tony	Joanne & Bill Whitman
Adriana Caruso	The Newman Family	Van Rooyen	Chris Wood & Family
Bob & Jan Conrad	Ivana Novelli		
Jordan Cornell	Tami Oelkrug		
Dick Creviston	Linda Parker		
Yana Drebyshv & Family	The Peterson &		
The Fessler Family	DeBaun Families		
The Getman Family	Laura Piipponen		
Lynn & Gerry Greenblatt	Joni Poposki		
Kate Hafner	The Riley Family		

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Many grieving people find it difficult to pray. Although, this is a normal response to grief, it makes life more difficult. Stephen Ministers are trained to help grieving souls find their way back to prayer. Simply, prayer is communication and necessary in healing a broken heart.

Happy Birthday!

Alice Lebo	5/5	*Rich Yovanovich	5/8
Clifford Swaby	5/5	*Leah Ray	5/9
*Lillian Day	5/5	Harley Ruppert	5/9
Stacia Hinkler	5/5	*Mary Hart	5/10
*Judy Peabody	5/6	Zachary Woodring	5/10
Bruce Muddell	5/7	Victoria Franklin	5/11
Naseem Yousaf	5/7	Caitlin Whittington	5/11
*Pierson Day	5/7		

Happy Anniversary!

Tom & Ann Grundstrom	5/6
David & Larissa Gibson	5/11

***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.