

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



December 1, 2024 — 10:00 am

The First Sunday of Advent

The flowers on the chancel and the Fellowship Hour are sponsored in loving memory of Michael Regan by Russell and Kathleen Vance.

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*
Reid, Susie & Grant Lennertz, *Advent Readers*
Molly Godley, *Liturgist*
Julie Carver, *Pianist*
The Chancel Choir

David Curtiss, *Audio/Visual Technician*
Greeters: Bob & Dianne Townsend
Ushers: Greg & Julie Borden (Head Ushers), Sonja Cookson, Judy Davis, Henry Gaylord, Ben Hood
Communion Servers: Janie Ballurio, Karen Chappler, Sharon Doggett, Jerry Grandey, Ben Hood, Price & Carol Lindsay, Jane Repp, Tim Riggers, Jack & Ellen Tanner

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 132:1-12

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

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

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

⁴ Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

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

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

⁷ 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!

⁸ Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

⁹ He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way.

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

Prelude: "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

Announcements

Advent Candle Litany

Reid, Susie & Grant Lennertz

From deep in the past, Jeremiah calls to us, "The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah" (Jeremiah 33:14). Beloved, the days are surely coming when the yearning of the land; the longing of the sun, moon, and stars; the desperate need of the people of earth for flourishing and peace will receive their fulfillment.

While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God's grace already at work in our midst.

We light this candle of hope as a sign of our commitment to pay attention and prepare for the days that are surely coming and are already here—the days when God's kingdom of love, justice, and mercy will reign. Amen.

* **Hymn #8:** "Lift Up Your Heads"

TRURO

**1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates,
Behold, the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near;
The Savior of the world is here!**

**3. Redeemer, come! I open wide
My heart to Thee: here, Lord, abide.
Let me Thy inner presence feel;
Thy grace and love in me reveal.**

**2. Fling wide the portals of your heart;
Make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heaven's employ,
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. (silence) Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

* 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

Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 21:25-36

25 "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. 26 People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27 Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. 28 Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." 29 Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; 30 as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. 31 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 32 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 34 "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, 35 like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 36 Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "Preparations"

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: "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

The Chancel Choir

The text is found on page 48 of the hymnal.

* 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

Gracious God, how can we thank you for such a gift? For you have met us, fed us, drawn us to you, and bound us one to another. Now send us out to share your love and proclaim our hope until Christ comes again. Amen.

*** Hymn #5: "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"**

PICARDY

- 1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded,
for, with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.**
- 2. King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood.
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav'nly food.**
- 3. Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.**
- 4. At His feet the six-winged seraph,
cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord Most High!"**

*** Commission and Blessing:**

Go in peace, live in love,

Seek to be holy in all that we do.

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: "Noel Angevin"

César Franck (1822-1890)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

December 8, 2024 — 10:00 am

The Second Sunday of Advent

Sermon: "The Preparations Continue"

First Reading: Philippians 1:3-11

Gospel Reading: Luke 3:1-6

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Minister's practice the ministry of presence.

They are fully present with their care receivers - physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.

"I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong." - Romans 1:11

A.I.M.

Adventures In Membership

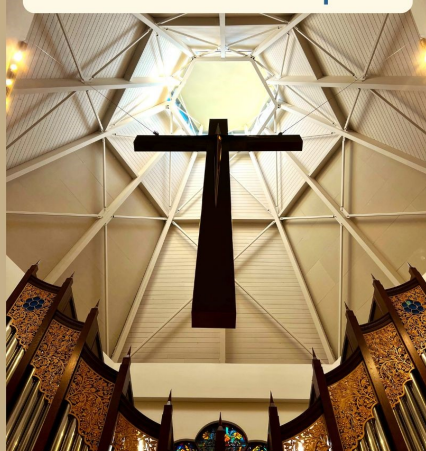
Are you interested in joining our church family?

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

*childcare provided

December 1 - 11:15am

Join us "Under the Spire!"



JOY TO THE WORLD

Ladies Christmas Tea
Saturday, December 14, 2024
at 11:00 a.m.

All girls, young women and ladies are invited in their Christmas finest. Sign up today!

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4 AT 12 P.M.

ADVENT NOONTIME CONCERT

SUSAN NORBECK, FLUTE & JIM COCHRAN, PIANO

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 AT 4 P.M.

ANNUAL CHOIRS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11 AT 12 P.M.

ADVENT NOONTIME CONCERT

GORDON BLACK & JULIE CARVER, ORGAN & PIANO

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16 AT 6 P.M.

VANDERBILT LEARNING CENTER CHRISTMAS CONCERT

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18 AT 12 P.M.

ADVENT NOONTIME CONCERT

SHERRY HARDGROVE, SOPRANO & JIM COCHRAN, PIANO

Annual Choirs Christmas Concert
Sunday, December 8, 2024 — 4 p.m.

This year's Christmas Concert features "O Holy Light - A Cantata for Christmas" by Mary McDonald. Our choir will be joined by a small chamber orchestra and vocal soloists Michele Byrd and David Curtiss. The Carillon Ringers will also be playing. There will be a Christmas cookie reception in Fellowship Hall following the concert, and everyone is invited to attend!



Pick up a brochure or go online for a full list of concerts. Copies are available in the Office or the Narthex. www.vpcnaples.org

- **ADVENT DEVOTIONALS:** Printed copies are available in the Narthex and online in the Week at Glance.
- **CHRISTMAS JOY:** The Christmas Joy Offering honors God's gift of Jesus Christ by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools equipping communities of color. Envelopes in the Narthex.
- **HEIFER FAIR: Sunday, December 8** in Fellowship Hall after worship! Our projects provide animals, training, education and basic necessities to help families lift themselves out of poverty.
- **CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE!** Bring a new, unwrapped toy to help us bring Christmas to deserving children. Take a tag from the tree for Mision Peniel toy donations and a bag from under the tree in the wooden crates. The tree is located in the Narthex. Then place the gift in the bag and return it to the church by **December 10**. You can also donate to the Salvation Army Toys-for-Tots.
- **WEEKEND POWER PACK: Thursday, December 12 at 10:30am** in Fellowship Hall will be our next packing event. We also need donations for this worthy mission.
- **MISION PENIEL: Friday, December 13 at 1pm** - We will meet at the church to caravan to Mision Peniel to spend the day working. Email Karen Chappler for information (kchappler@aol.com).

Coming Soon!

New Adult Education opportunities will begin in January 2025!

Tom Grundstrom, Adult Education Coordinator, will present a Moment for Education on **Sunday, December 8** at the 10am worship service.

Please check your email for a special survey on **Tuesday, December 3**.

Your survey answers will help choose the best day, time and subject matter.



We need your input! Please take the survey so we can plan accordingly.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. - Proverbs 9:10

Bill Dersch's memorial service will be held on Saturday, **December 7 at 2pm** with a reception in Fellowship Hall afterwards.

CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24

Family Service

Christmas Pageant

3:30pm arrive to get a costume

4pm Family Service

Traditional Service

Candlelight and Carols

7pm



CHRISTMAS PAJAMA PARTY & GAME NIGHT

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

DECEMBER 4, 2024
5:30P

Join us for a festive and cozy Christmas Pajama Party. Enjoy breakfast for dinner and get ready for a night of holiday cheer and fun!

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.

Alexis Bevan	Sigrid "Siggi"	Ivana Novelli	Yana and family in Ukraine
Lew Bevan	Deneke & Family	Ada Nuhn	Russell Vance
Hudson Boyd	Joe Felipe	John Paalman	Yvonne & Tony Van Rooyen
Joan Butler	Lynn & Gerry Greenblatt	Laura Piipponen	Marion Wayenberg
Steve Carsten	Kate Hafner	Mary Ann Portman	Chris Wood & Family
Adriana Caruso	Elaine Hinkle	Father Monty Sayers	
Tom Clark	Sandra Johnson	Marilyn & Sam Schellar	
Bob & Jan Conrad	Doris Martin	Jocelyn Stein	
Dick Creviston	Joan Mountford	Bruce & Heidi Stryker	
	Donna Mullin	Jodi Reckmeyer	



Happy Birthday!

Oscar Lowe	12/1
Ruth Bethem	12/1
Judy Davis	12/3
*Adam Day	12/3
*Jean Rawson	12/5
Judy Deme	12/7

Welcome to our new Birthday Club Member!

* Ben Hood 11/15

THANK YOU!



Happy Anniversary!

Richard & Haley Hood	12/2
Noel & Shanna Davies	12/3
Joseph & Christine Bostater	12/4
Dave & Stacia Hinkler	12/7

* **Birthday Club Members** give one dollar for each year of their life and ** **Anniversary Club Members** give two dollars for each year of their marriage to celebrate or commemorate these special events. 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)

PVT E2 Joshua Fowler,

US Army, Columbus, GA
(Joe & Sharon Doggett'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-Tennessee
(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](tel:239-597-5410)