



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



January 12, 2025 — 10:00 am — The Epiphany of the Lord Family Led Worship

The flowers on the chancel and the Fellowship Hour are sponsored in honor of Steve Kutler's 90th birthday by his loving 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*
Evva & Lena Crown, Evangeline Mikes, *Three Wise People*
Addison Acx, *Youth Liturgist*
Gwen Salyer, *Liturgist*

Avery Acx, *Youth Acolyte*
Julie Carver, *Pianist*
Gordon Black, *Guest Organist*
The Chancel Choir
Victoria Bonavita, *Audio/Visual Technician*
Greeters: Geri & Bill Payne
Ushers: Becky Wheat (Head Usher), Steve Blad, Jane Repp, Anne Smith, Ellen & Jack Tanner
Youth Ushers: Ayden Carver & Sydney Carver

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

- ¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.
²May he judge your people with righteousness and your poor with justice.
³May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.
⁴May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.
⁵May he live while the sun endures and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
⁶May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.
⁷In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute;
May the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.
¹¹May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.
¹²For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.
¹³He has pity on the weak and the needy and saves the lives of the needy.
¹⁴From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight.

Prelude: "The March of the Magi Kings"

Roland Diggle (1885-1954)

Gordon Black, *Organist*

Announcements

The Call to Worship

Arise, shine; for your light has come.

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Come, worship the Lord of glory.

Proclaim God's praise among the nations.

Let us worship God.

Procession of the Three Wise People 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 a far,
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

Merciful God, you have given light to the world in Jesus Christ, but we have preferred to live in darkness. Your justice protects the weak and the distressed, yet we seek the shelter of privilege and power. Your righteousness redeems the poor and the needy, yet we seek the status of wealth and possessions. Your peace upholds the oppressed and the defenseless, yet we seek the security of weapons and retribution. Forgive us our sins, and lead us to true repentance, that we may trust you in all things; through Jesus Christ we pray. *(silence)* Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

This is the good news: Christ is the light of the world, who grants forgiveness and healing of our sins.

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

Isaiah 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples, but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together; they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you; the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music: "Carol of the Light"

David Barton (b. 1983)

The Chancel Choir

In a world which seems so dark; in a world which seems so lost; May the light of Christ this Christmas, be a beacon, be a light. May the light of Christ be a beacon, May the beacon light your way. May the light send you forth, May it journey at your side, May the love of the Christ-child be your guide. In the cold of the night, in the warmth of the day, in the stillness of a newborn child;

When we can't comprehend, why our wars never end: May the peace of Christ enfold you this year. May the love of Christ flow among you, May it hold the weak and strong: May that love never cease, May it offer signs of peace; May the love of the Christ-child hold you strong.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "Taking the Other Road"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

***Affirmation of Faith:**

from A Brief Statement of Faith

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. 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!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Stephen Leader Commissioning

Offering

Offertory: "Look at the World"

John Rutter (b. 1945)

The Chancel Choir

Look at the world, everything all around us. Look at the world, and marvel every day. Look at the world, so many joys and wonders. So many miracles along our way. Praise to thee O Lord for all creation. Give us thankful hearts that we may see all the gifts we share and every blessing. All things come of thee. Look at the earth, bringing forth fruit and flowers. Look at the sky, the sunshine and the rain. Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains, valley and flowing river, field and plain. Think of the spring, think of the warmth of summer. Bringing the harvest before the winter's cold. Everything grows, everything has a season. 'Til it is gathered to the father's fold. Every good gift, all that we need and cherish comes from the Lord in token of his love. We are his hands. Stewards of all his bounty. His is the earth and his the heavens above.

* 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 #63: "As with Gladness Men of Old"

DIX

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| 1. As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to Thee. | 3. As they offered gifts most rare
At that manger rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy,
Pure, and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King. |
| 2. As with joyful steps they sped
To that lowly manger bed,
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heaven and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek Thy mercy seat. | 4. Holy Jesus, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Thy glory hide. |

*** Commission and Blessing:**

Let us go forth rejoicing in the light of God's love.

Thanks be to God.

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: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"

Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

January 19, 2025 — 10:00 am — The Second Sunday after Epiphany

Sermon: "Should We Be Concerned"

First Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 — Gospel Reading: John 2:1-11



Sign up in
Fellowship Hall
or call the office
at 597-5410.

*All Church
Potluck Dinner*

Friday, January 17, 2025
at 6pm

Join us for fun,
food and
fellowship!

January 19, 2025 — 4 p.m.

Duo Arpeggione

Catherine Lan, Pianist & Claudio Jaffe, cellist



You will hear Chopin's and Saint-Saëns' gorgeous sonatas as well as a lovely musical depiction of a butterfly. Join us for this incredible concert!

**Pick up a brochure for a full list of concerts.
Copies are available in the Office or the Narthex.**

STEPHEN MINISTRY

The best way to help a person in crisis is to show up, listen and listen some more. This is what Stephen Ministers are trained to do.



Join the VPC Book Club!

Our next meeting is

Monday, January 20, 2025

at 1:30pm at the church.

We will be discussing

The Frozen River

by Ariel Lawhon.



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



Celebrate your milestones with your church family!

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!



**Join us! Our next
lunch is on Sunday
January 12th!**

Join the Quilting Sisters of Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church!

The Quilting Sisters of Vanderbilt Presbyterian will resume meetings on January 10, 2025 at 9:30am in Fellowship Hall.

We will meet every other week.

We have everything needed to make a quilt, including working machines.

We are welcoming and we teach.

All skill levels of sewing are welcome to make a quilt.

We welcome new sewers to join our prayer and sewing circle.

JOIN US!



WORSHIP. EQUIP. SERVE.

Plug In To Family Led Worship

January 12 - Procession of the Magi,
February 9 & March 23
10:00 a.m.



Adult Education Opportunities Mark your calendars!

Opportunity 1: A ten week Study of the Book of James.
Sunday mornings from 11:30am-12:15pm in Harp Hall
Starts January 12, 2025

OR

Monday evenings from 6:30-7:30pm in the Library
Starts January 13, 2025

Opportunity 2: A seven week Study on Chapters 2 & 3 of Revelation.
Tuesdays mid day 11:30am-12:30pm in Harp Hall
Starts January 14, 2025

Opportunity 3: An eight week Topic Study on "It's All About Me."
Monday mornings 11:00am-12:00pm in Harp Hall
Starts January 13, 2025

Tom Grundstrom, Facilitator

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.

Betty Angulo & Aguilar Family	Sandra Johnson	Vaughn Siegenthaler
Susan Aufderhaar	Doris Martin	Ron Sieling
Adriana Caruso	Joan Mountford	Jocelyn Stein
Pat Colby	Don Neer	Erik Strandwitz
Bob & Jan Conrad	Ivana Novelli	Bruce & Heidi Stryker
Dick Creviston	Stacey & Jared Perone	Yana and family in Ukraine
Sigrid "Siggi" Deneke & Family	Laura Piipponen	Yvonne & Tony Van Rooyen
Lynn & Gerry Greenblatt	Jodi Reckmeyer	Jay Wilson
Kate Hafner	Father Monty Sayers	Chris Wood & Family
Elaine Hinkle	Marilyn & Sam Schellar	
Tom Hurley	Ron Shaffer	



Happy Birthday!

Joan Mountford	1/12	Joe Doggett	1/17
*Clark Leaming	1/13	*Kay Hurley	1/18
Sydney Carver	1/14	Isabelle Rockhold	1/18
*Evva Crown	1/15		
*Lena Crown	1/15		
Shanna Davies	1/15		
Kristin Day	1/15		
Renee Bertone	1/16		
Helen Bechthold	1/17		
John Weiss	1/17		



* **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)	MAJ Allen Fujinaka US Army (LaVerne Perrollaz's granddaughter's husband)	CPTN Devon Hennessey Korea (Toni Hubbard)
MSgt Kristopher Chesslo USAF (Jay & Mary Chesslo's nephew)	COL Jessica D. Grasseti (Claudia Polzin's niece)	SGT Wesley Kennedy USMC - Ft. Myers, FL
LT Wyatt R. Dawley US Navy Intel/SEAL Team (Debbie Dawley's grandson)	E4 Brian Guzman USAF - Colorado (Cesar Guzman's son)	MAJ Rex Rafferty USAF—Alabama (Norm & Linda Parker's granddaughter's husband)
PVT E2 Joshua Fowler, US Army, Columbus, GA (Joe & Sharon Doggett's grandson)	SGT Jacob Guzman US Army-Tennessee (Cesar Guzman's son)	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**