



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



April 27, 2025 - 10:00 am

The Second Sunday of Easter

The flowers on the Chancel and the Fellowship Hour
are sponsored by the Grider Family in celebration of Earth Day!

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

Janie Ballurio, Liturgist

Gordon Black, Pianist

JoAnne Lepore, Alto

The Chancel Choir

Victoria Bonavita, Audio/Visual Technician

Greeters: Ron & Linda Addaman

Ushers: Jerry & Mari-Bea Warnken (Head
Ushers), Gwen Salyer, Jack & Ellen Tanner,
Gisela Yingst

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 150

- ¹ Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!
² Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!
³ Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!
⁴ Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!
⁵ Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
⁶ Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

Prelude: "May Jesus Christ Be Praised"

Joseph Barnby (1838-1886) arr. Berry
Gordon Black, *Piano* & Jim Cochran, *Organ*

Announcements

* The Call to Worship

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Alleluia! Celebrate God in this sacred space! Celebrate God in all places under heaven!

Give praise for God's mighty deeds! Give praise for God's resurrecting power!

Praise God with a fanfare of trumpets. Praise God with tambourines and dancing!

Let everything with life and breath praise God!

Let us worship the living God.

* **Hymn #104:** "Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

HYMN TO JOY

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!
Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:
All creation is amazed.
In the desert all surrounding,
See, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding
Bring a taste of love unknown.</p> <p>2. Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
From the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning.
See what love can do and dare.</p> | <p>Drink the wine of resurrection,
Not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.</p> <p>3. Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
Nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
Where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
"Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us.
Sing Hosanna, everyone!</p> |
|--|---|

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

God of the empty tomb and our empty hearts, when we are afraid to speak our faith in the world, forgive us and help us to find our voice. When we are afraid to forgive and to love again, forgive us and give us the power to forgive. When we are afraid to stand up to misguided authority, join with the weak to make us all strong. When we are confined by our hurts, touch us with your wounded hands and set us free. When we are locked behind our doubts and fears, pass through our barricades, open our hearts, and give us peace. *(silence)*
Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Christ comes with healing light into our locked places and shadowy hurts, resurrecting our spirits and breathing into us new life. As God's own forgiven people, go to bring peace, forgiveness, and new life to the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

In Jesus Christ we 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.**

Baptism of Macalister Noel Davies

Congratulations to the parents of Macalister (Noel & Shanna) and sisters (Callahan & Capriana) on his baptism today.

Special Music: "Bless the Beasts and the Children"

Barry DeVorzon

JoAnne Lepore, *Alto*

Bless the beasts and the children, for in this world they have no voice, Bless the beasts and the children for the world can never be the world they see. Light their way when the darkness surrounds them. Give them love, let it shine all around them. Bless the beasts and the children, give them shelter from a storm. Keep them safe, keep them warm.

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

Acts 5:27-32

²⁷ When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "We Bear Fruit"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

Stephen Ministry Commissioning

*** The Affirmation of Faith**

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. Amen.

Offering

Offertory: "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

Donald Fishel (b. 1950)

The Chancel Choir

The text for this anthem is found on page 106 in 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**

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 #108: "Christ is Alive!"**

TRURO

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die. | 4. In every insult, rift, and war,
Where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
And lives, where even hope has died. |
| 3. Not throned afar, remotely high,
Untouched, unmoved by human pains,
But daily, in the midst of life,
Our Savior in the Godhead reigns. | |

*** Commission and Blessing:**

Go to celebrate all that God has done as Christ breathes new life into you, sending you out with the Spirit of Jesus Christ, God's faithful witness, who loves us and sets us free.

Alleluia!

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: "The Heavens are Telling"

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

Gordon Black, *Piano* & Jim Cochran, *Organ*

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

May 4, 2025 - 10:00 am

Guest Minister: Doug Pratt

Guest Preacher: Tom Grundstrom

Sermon: "Easter Changes Everything"

First Reading: Acts 9:1-9

Gospel Reading: John 21:1-19

STEPHEN MINISTRY:

"I want to know Christ -yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death."

Philippians 3:10

Through the resurrection of Jesus we have the promise of eternal life, when our earthly life is over.

IN SYMPATHY

Sadly, our church family has lost three faithful members in the last week. Please hold their families in prayer during this difficult time.

Bruce Stryker at the age of 96. Bruce and his wife, Heidi, have been members of Vanderbilt for over 34 years. To send a card: Heidi Stryker, 1000 Arbor Lake Dr. Naples, FL 34110.

Joan Mountford, on April 18, 2025 at the age of 85. Joan and her husband, Terry, have been members of Vanderbilt for over 23 years. To send a card: Terry Mountford, 21796 Masters Circle, Estero, FL 33928
Joan's memorial will be held on Saturday, June 7 at 11am at Vanderbilt.

Alan "Al" Fletcher, on April 20, 2025 at the age of 93. Al and his wife, Jean, have been members of Vanderbilt for over 17 years. The family will have a memorial service in Massachusetts at a later date.
To send a card: Jean Fletcher, 1001 Arbor Lake Dr. #207, Naples, FL 34110.

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

*With
Sympathy*

Collier Harvest

Join us to pack bags of healthy and nutritious food for our hungry neighbors across Collier County.

Email Pete Rodino
pvrodino@aol.com
to volunteer!

Monday, April 28, 2025

4:15pm - unloading van
(heavy lifting)

4:45-6pm - bagging food
at 4451 Mercantile Ave.



**Friday,
April 25, 2025**

9:00 am

Leitner Park

26724 Nomad Dr.

Bonita Springs 34135

Join Us

Email Eliza Nevin
elizanevin@comcast.net

Donations of food and
volunteers to serve are
needed.



FRIENDS IN FAITH

Wednesday,
April 30, 2025
at 10am
in Harp Hall
Study of
Sacred Encounters

Questions?
Lois Ann Folliard
lafolliard@gmail.com

*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!

THE ALLELUIA CHOIR NEEDS YOU!

Alleluia Choir will rehearse on Wednesdays
with Dr. Jim in the Sanctuary
from 5-5:30pm.

Join us! - **April 30th!**

Adult Education Opportunities

Adult Education



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

Summer 2025 Schedule

Summer Adult Education opportunities will
include one class on Sunday mornings after
worship and fellowship (11:45am-12:30pm) and
the same class again on Monday evenings at
6:30pm. A tentative schedule is outlined below.
All classes will have remote access (Zoom).

Tom Grundstrom,
Facilitator

Parables from the Gospel of Luke

May 4: The Prodigal Son
May 11: The Persistent Widow
May 18: No Class &
May 25: No Class
June 1: The Faithful Servant
June 8: The Good Samaritan
June 15: The Friend at Night

Parables from the Gospel of Matthew

June 22: No Class
June 29: The Workers in the Vineyard
July 6: New Cloth & New Wineskins
July 13: No Class
July 20: The Weeds
July 27: The Unforgiving Servant

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

Earth Night



April 30
5:30pm-7:00pm

We've Got the Whole World In Our Hands...

Extended Communion for Homebound Congregants

If you are unable to attend church and
would like to receive communion at
home, please call the office
at 239-597-5410.

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.

John Baird	Louise Eliot	Ellen Morton	Cindy Smarge
Chuck & Kristi Beattie	The Fletcher Family	The Mountford Family	The Stryker Family
Alexis Bevan	Dan Gagliano	Donna Mullin	Linda Surawiak
Doris Bowman	Fred Guttshall	Eliza Nevin	Yana and family in Ukraine
Adriana Caruso	Kate Hafner	Ivana Novelli	Yvonne & Tony Van Rooyen
Dick Clark	Jim Hart	Jodi Reckmeyer	Jay Wilson
Pat Colby	Elaine Hinkle	The family of	Chris Wood & Family
Bob & Jan Conrad	Barbara Hurst	Father Monty Sayers	
Sonja Cookson	& Family	Sam & Marilyn Schellar	
Dick Creviston	Sandra Johnson	Lora Scott	
Andrea Daggett	Doris Martin	Matthew Skrip	



Happy Birthday!

Chris Wood	4/28	Joanne Whitman	5/2
*Jim Hart	4/29	*Marie Jablonski	5/2
*Stephen Myers	4/30	*Lewis Bevan	5/3
Katherine		Bill Van Fossen	5/3
Barkley Willis	5/2	Joe Feddern	5/3
Barbara Hurst	5/2	Kyle Vayda	5/3

Happy Anniversary!

Tony & Yvonne Van Rooyen	4/29
Dennis & Alice Lebo	4/29
Ron & Linda Addaman	4/29
Clifford & Margaret Swaby	5/1

* **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.

LT Wyatt R. Dawley US Navy Intel (Debbie Dawley's grandson)	E4 Brian Guzman USAF - Colorado (Cesar Guzman's son)	1st LT Tyler Olbrich US Army - Iraq (friend of Karen Hiller)
PVT E2 Joshua Fowler, US Army, Columbus, GA (Joe & Sharon Doggett's grandson)	Staff SGT Jacob Guzman US Army-Kuwait (Cesar Guzman's son)	MAJ Rex Rafferty USAF—Alabama (Norm & Linda Parker's granddaughter's husband)
MAJ Allen Fujinaka US Army (LaVerne Perrollaz's granddaughter's husband)	CPTN Devon Hennessey Korea (Toni Hubbard)	LCPL Michael Russell USMC - Camp Lejeune, NC (Heather Anderson's son)
COL Jessica D. Grasseti (Claudia Polzin's niece)	SGT Wesley Kennedy USMC - Ft. Myers, FL	

Please let the office know if you are in the hospital. **597-5410**