



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 6, 2025 — 10:00 am — The Fifth Sunday in Lent

The flowers on the Chancel are donated in thanksgiving for the VPC family by an anonymous donor.

The Fellowship Hour is sponsored by the Worship, Music, and Liturgical Arts Team in honor of **Choirs Recognition Sunday TODAY!** Please plan to attend the Spring Concert next Sunday at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Hand Bells, Choir, Instrumental Chamber Ensemble performing works by Parry, Rutter, and McDonald.

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
Pat Rose, Liturgist
Julie Carver, Pianist
Susan Norbeck, Flutist
The Chancel Choir

Victoria Bonavita, Audio/Visual Technician
Greeters: Jan Fern & Dianne Townsend
Ushers: Greg & Julie Borden (Head Ushers), Ron & Linda Addaman, Lynn Thomas, Terri Wilding
Communion Servers: Joan Butler, Karen Chappler, Joe & Sharon Doggett, Jill Dunn, Jerry Grandey, Price & Carol Lindsay, Jane Repp, Tim Riggers, Ellen Tanner

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 126

¹ When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

² Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with shouts of joy, then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

³ The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

⁴ Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

⁵ May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

⁶ Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

Prelude: "In the Garden"
"Pastorale"

arr. Brent Olstad
Johannes Donjon (1839-1912)

Susan Norbeck, *Flute*

Announcements

A Moment for Endowment

Julie Borden — Endowment

The Call to Worship

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,

We were like those who dream.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter and shouts of joy.

We rejoiced: "The Lord has done great things for us."

May those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing.

Come home with joy, carrying their sheaves.

Let us worship God!

* Hymn #339: "Be Thou My Vision"

SLANE

1. Be Thou my vision,
O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me,
save that Thou art--
Thou my best thought,
by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping,
Thy presence my light.

2. Riches I heed not,
nor vain empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance,
now and always:

Thou and Thou only,
first in my heart,
Great God of heaven,
my treasure Thou art.

3. Be Thou my wisdom,
and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee
and Thou with me, Lord;
Heart of my own heart,
whatever befall,
Still be my vision,
O Ruler of all.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

Purifying God, we grow comfortable with the way things are in our lives, in the church, and in the world. We do not always welcome the new life you offer in Christ, for you overturn our notions of power and protocol. Sure of our own righteousness, we are critical of others. Wanting to control our assets, we hoard the gifts you give us. Forgive us, we pray, for seeking our gain at the expense of others. Help us bend our lives toward your own life of self-giving and sacrifice. Fill us, our homes and churches, the whole world, with the abundant love of Christ until all are made new. In Christ's name, we pray. (silence) Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

The apostle Paul reminds us that we do not make ourselves righteous. Our righteousness comes through faith in Christ, who has made us his own. Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. The old life has passed away — and a new life has begun.

Forgetting what lies behind, and straining forward to what lies ahead, we press on toward the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. Amen.

* 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 43:16-21

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down; they cannot rise; they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. ¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰ The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

⁴ even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh. If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "Straining Forward"

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: "Remember" from "My Savior's Love"

Mary McDonald (b. 1956)

The Chancel Choir

Note: This is one movement from the multi-movement work for choir and chamber orchestra that the choir is singing in the concert next week, April 13th at 4 .p.m. Please plan to attend!

How sorrow casts a painful light on all these words you said; and now the bread that's broken here has filled our hearts with dread. Remember, the hour is drawing near. Remember, that love was spoken here. How can you kneel to wash our feet and seek to calm our fear? How do you gather us to drink amidst this veil of tears? I look at you and see the Father; he looks at you, his only Son. The cup you face is overwhelming. You'll finish now what you've begun. You kiss the hand that dips the bread; you bow your head to pray; you speak a word, a last goodbye, and darkness has its way.

*** 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: A Medley of Familiar Hymns

Prayer after Communion

Giving God, living Lord, you have fed us with your body. You have poured out your life that we might live. We thank you, for we have tasted your goodness in this meal. Fed, we are strengthened; filled, we are renewed to share the abundance of your love with a hungry world. Amen.

*** Hymn #101: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"**

HAMBURG

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride. | 3. See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown? |
| 2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood. | 4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all. |

*** Commission and Blessing:**

*May the Spirit of the triune God strengthen and sustain you,
throughout these forty days and into the life that is to come.*

Go now, in peace,

We shall proclaim the message of reconciliation God has entrusted to us.

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: "Allegro"

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

Susan Norbeck, *Flute*

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

April 13, 2025 — 8:00 & 10:00 am — Palm Sunday

Family Led Worship (10am only)

Sermon: "Listening to the Stones"

First Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel Reading: Luke 19:28-40

April 13, 2025 — 4 p.m.

Annual Choirs Spring Concert



The annual Spring concert will be a musical journey through Holy Week, beginning with music of Palm Sunday, moving through the music of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and concluding with joyful anthems of Easter. Organ, Timpani, Brass Ensemble and soloists will perform. Works by John Rutter, Mary McDonald and more.

STEPHEN MINISTRY:

"The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." - Psalm 34:18

God works through Stephen Ministers to help those who are grieving to find hope and healing. If you feel that you may be in need, please contact the church office to begin the process of pairing with a Confidential Stephen Minister.

Easter Lilies

Dedicate Easter lilies in honor or memory of your loved ones. Any amount is appreciated. Just complete the form, available in the Narthex on Sunday mornings, with your donation marked "Easter Lilies".

To be included in the bulletin, please return by April 13, 2025.

We would like to update our digital directory with new photographs of our members.

Tom and Ann Grundstrom will be in Fellowship Hall on April 13 (Palm Sunday) and April 20 (Easter) following worship.

Please plan to stop by and take a new photo for use in our online digital directory in Realm.

Community BloodCenter
Affiliate of NCH

**BE A GOOD EGG
GIVE BLOOD, SAVE LIVES**

**Walk-Ins
Welcome!**

**Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church
BLOOD DRIVE
Sunday April 6
9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

- Cholesterol & mini health screenings
- Photo ID is required
- Eat a meal before giving blood
- Be well hydrated on donation day
- Minimum weight: 110 pounds
- Minimum age: 16 with parent consent
- You are never too old to donate

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*

Join us "Under the Spire!"

April 6, 2025 – 11:15am

Holy Week **SCHEDULE**

***Palm Sunday** April 13 8:00 & 10:00 am
Worship includes Palm Processional with Children and Youth (10am)

Maundy Thursday April 17 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall
Dinner provided by Boston Beer Garden
Call the office by **April 14** to sign up 597-5410

***Good Friday** April 18 7:00 pm
Tenebrae with Chancel Choir

***Easter Sunday** April 20 8:00 & 10:00 am
Worship with special music. Sunday School for children & youth including Flowering of the Cross & Easter Egg Hunt (10am)

**Worship in the Sanctuary*

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.

Checks payable to Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church memo OGHS through April 20.

Palm Sunday Fellowship Hours
following the 8 & 10 am services

We need your help to make our Fellowship Hours spectacular! We expect many visitors on Palm Sunday and we want to have a beautiful spread for our fellowship together following worship.

Drop off your donations any weekday between 9am-4pm or on Sunday mornings!

Thank you in advance!

Weekend Power Pack!

Join us at our packing party!

Thursday, April 10

at 10:30am in Fellowship Hall.

We need financial donations in advance to purchase food!

Please send any amount put WPP in the memo www.vpcnaples.org.

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.



Bob & Jan Conrad	Elaine Hinkle	Jodi Reckmeyer
Sonja Cookson	Barbara Hurst & Family	Father Monty Sayers
Dick Creviston	Sandra Johnson	Sam & Marilyn Schellar
John Baird	Doris Martin	Matthew Skrip
Chuck & Kristi Beattie	Ellen Morton	Linda Surawiak
Alexis Bevan	Joan Mountford	Yana and family in Ukraine
Doris Bowman	Donna Mullin	Yvonne & Tony Van Rooyen
Adriana Caruso	Eliza Nevin	Jay Wilson
Dick Clark	Ivana Novelli	Chris Wood & Family
Pat Colby	Pocket Patterson	



Happy Birthday!

*Deborah Dawley	4/6	Mary Rench	4/10
Bill Lienemann	4/6	Claudia Aguilar	4/10
Pat Gagliano	4/6	Betsy Witte	4/11
Erin Klein	4/7	Dick Hardgrove	4/12
Heather Anderson	4/7	Wealtha Flick	4/12
Jill Peterson	4/9	Marian Cattrell	4/12
Fred Minter	4/9	Gayle Kaderly	4/12

Happy Anniversary!

Chris & Robert DeBruyckere	4/8
Margaret & Lance Waters	4/11
Rodger & Penny Jacob	4/12

* 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)

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)

Staff SGT Jacob Guzman

US Army-Kuwait
(Cesar Guzman's son)

CPTN Devon Hennessey

Korea (Toni Hubbard)

SGT Wesley Kennedy

USMC - Ft. Myers, FL

1st LT Tyler Olbrich

US Army - Iraq
(friend of Karen Hiller)

MAJ Rex Rafferty

USAF—Alabama
(Norm & Linda Parker's granddaughter's husband)

LCPL Michael Russell

USMC - Camp Lejeune, NC
(Heather Anderson's son)

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE:

Please let the office know if you are in the hospital. [597-5410](tel:597-5410)