



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 25, 2025 - 10:00 am

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

The flowers on the Chancel are donated in celebration of Amber Grider's birthday by the Grider Family and in celebration of our 66th wedding anniversary by Robert & Doris Martin.

The Fellowship Hour is sponsored to congratulate all the recent graduates by the Grider 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

Julie Borden, Children's Moment

Gwen Salyer, Liturgist

Julie Carver, Pianist

The Chancel Choir

Victoria Bonavita, Audio/Visual Technician

Greeters: Barbara Hebert & Becky Wheat

Ushers: Bill & Geri Payne (Head Ushers), Nancy Guthy, Jack & Ellen Tanner, Joe Trees

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 67

- ¹ May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,
² that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.
³ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.
⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
⁶ The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.
⁷ May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

Prelude: Chorale Prelude on "Shall We Gather at the River?"

Dale Wood (1934-2003)

Announcements

* The Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.

Let the peoples praise you, O God.

Let all the peoples praise you.

Let us worship God.

* Hymn #561: "My Country, 'Tis of Thee"

AMERICA

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside,
Let freedom ring! | 3. Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees,
Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong. |
| 2. My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills,
Like that above. | 4. Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King. |

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

Loving God, we confess that we are an anxious people who deny your blessing and fail to keep your word. Forgive us, we pray, for these and all our sins, that we might live in peace and reflect your love in the world; through Jesus Christ we pray. *(silence)* Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Let your hearts be still, for God loves you and forgives all your wrongdoing.

Beloved, receive the peace of Christ.

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

Julie Borden

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 16:9-15

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. ¹¹ We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to

what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

John 14:23-29

²³ Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me. ²⁵ "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "Finding Peace"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

*** The Affirmation of Faith**

from the Confession of Belhar

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; We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain, We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways. Amen.

Installation and Ordination of Officers

Offering

Offertory: "O How Amiable"

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

The Chancel Choir

O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord! My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, And the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: Even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: They will be always praising thee. The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us: Prosper thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper thou our handiwork. O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.

*** 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 #564: "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"**

MATERNA

- | | |
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| <p>1. O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!</p> <p>2. O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness!
America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law!</p> | <p>3. O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved,
And mercy more than life!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness
And every gain divine.</p> <p>4. O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!</p> |
|---|--|

*** Commission and Blessing:**

Live in love, abide in peace, and serve the Lord, for God is ever present.

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: Chorale Prelude on "Sent Forth With God's Blessing"

Wood

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK — June 1, 2025 - 10:00 am

Sermon: "Becoming Completely One"

First Reading: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17 — **Gospel Reading:** John 17:20-26

May 25, 2025 — 4 p.m.

Marywood
UNIVERSITY

Reap College of Creative & Professional Studies
Insalaco School of Visual & Performing Arts
Department of Music, Theatre, and Dance
marywood.edu/mtd

2025 Spring Tour

Marywood University Chamber Singers

Rick Hoffenberg, conductor

TODAY

**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.

Remember that your Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church family loves you! If you have any prayer requests, upcoming surgeries or health concerns, please reach out to the office staff so they can inform the Pastor, Deacons and Stephen Ministers or just add your name to our prayer list.

Feel the love of Christ through your VPC family.

CONNECTION CUPS

Are you looking to connect with other members of Vanderbilt? We have Fellowship Hour following worship every Sunday morning. Everyone is invited to join us in Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation. Use of a red coffee mug indicates that you are open to conversation with others. We encourage you to connect with someone new each week. Be on the lookout for the red mugs!



*Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord, and let perpetual light
shine upon them. May they
rest in peace. Amen.*



IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY, THE
OFFICE AT VANDERBILT PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY,
MAY 26, 2025

CHAMBER MUSIC *FREE CONCERT*

29
MAY

THURSDAY

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church
1225 Piper Blvd. Naples, FL 34110

7:00 PM



To obtain your free tickets
go to www.artisnaples.org

Congregational Meeting Notice



JOIN US

The Session has approved a request of the
Congregational Nominating Committee
to call a meeting of the congregation on
June 8, 2025

for the purpose of electing an officer to fill
an unexpired term.

The meeting will be held in the Sanctuary
around 11am immediately following the
10am worship service.



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

June 1 – 11:15am

Fred Guttshall's memorial
service will be held on
Saturday, **May 31 at 11am** with
a reception in Fellowship Hall
afterwards.



Joan Mountford's memorial
service will be held on
Saturday, **June 7 at 11am** with a
reception in Fellowship Hall
afterwards.

Adult Education Opportunities

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.

Parables from the Gospel of Luke

May 25: No Class

June 1: The Faithful Servant
June 8: The Good Samaritan
June 15: The Friend at Night

Tom Grundstrom,
Facilitator

Adult Education



STEPHEN MINISTRY

*"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us
consider how we spur one another toward love and good deeds." — Hebrews 10:23*

Stephen Ministers provide support and hope through love and good deeds.

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.



David Aufderhaar	Pat Colby	Elaine Hinkle	Cindy Smarge
John Baird	Bob & Jan Conrad	Sandra Johnson	Yana and family in Ukraine
Chuck & Kristi Beattie	Sonja Cookson	Doris Martin	Russell Vance
Denis Borque	Dick Creviston	Ivana Novelli	Yvonne & Tony Van Rooyen
Joan Butler	Patricia DeStefano	Leah Ray	Anita Wade
Adriana Caruso	Louise Eliot	Jodi Reckmeyer	Diane Westerlund
Dick Clark	Dan Gagliano	Twila Rowe	Jay Wilson
	Max Gould	Sam & Marilyn Schellar	Chris Wood & Family
	Kate Hafner	Lora Scott	
	Jim & Mary Hart	Pete Schwiers	

Happy Birthday!

*Cohen Vayda	5/26
Alicia Farman	5/26
Jayce Wood	5/27
*Stephen Schock	5/27
Annelise Whittington	5/27
Sara McConnell	5/28
Anne Christensen	5/28
Bill Whitman	5/30
Bee Getman	5/31



Happy Anniversary!

Brian & Julie Carver	5/25
Robert & Jan Conrad	5/28
Adam & Kristin Day	5/28
Bob & Doris Martin	5/30

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

A Memorial Day Prayer

Gracious God, we remember and honor those who have given their lives in service to our nation. We are deeply grateful for their courage, their sacrifice, and their unwavering commitment to defending our freedom. We ask for your comfort and peace for the families who have lost loved ones. May they find strength in your love and the knowledge that their loved ones are remembered and cherished. We also pray for the peace and security of our nation, and for the continued protection of those who serve in our armed forces. Lord, may we always remember the cost of freedom and the importance of honoring those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Amen.