

# 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](http://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*



**October 11, 2026—10:00 am**

### **The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

The flowers on the Chancel are given in honor of Dr. Augustine Sobeng, our new Director of Music, by Steve and Priscilla Kutler.

Fellowship Hour is sponsored by an anonymous donor.  
Join your church family in Fellowship Hall!

### **Worship Participants**

**The Rev. Robert J. Marrow**, *Pastor*  
**Dr. Augustine Sobeng**, *Director of Music & Organist* playing the **Richard & Patricia Fors Organ** given to the glory of God  
**Heather Mikes**, *Director of Christian Education*  
**James Cochran**, *Director of Music Emeritus*  
**Susie Hilton**, *Liturgist*

**The Chancel Choir**  
**Victoria Bonavita**, *Audio/Visual Technician*  
**Greeters:** Priscilla Kutler & CC Waskey  
**Ushers:** Joe Trees (Head Usher), Steve Blad, Karen Chappler, Sonja Cookson, Barbara Hebert, Carol Lindsay

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Psalm 23

- <sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;  
<sup>3</sup> he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.  
<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil,  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.  
<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  
<sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

**Prelude:** Antienne, Op. 39 No. 4 (I: Andante)  
Prelude in E flat major Op. 41 No. 1

Alexandre Guilmant (1827-1911)

### Announcements

### Moment for Stewardship

Michael Bevilacqua

### Passing of the Peace

#### \* The Call to Worship:

*You have been called to the banquet.*

**This is the feast.**

*You have been summoned to the wedding.*

**This is the feast of life and light.**

*From the streets and the byways, God has invited us.*

**We have come to the banquet that has no end. Alleluia! Amen!**

*Let us worship God!*

#### \* Hymn #341: "Blessed Assurance"

ASSURANCE

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

#### *Refrain:*

This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight:  
Angels descending, bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

#### *Refrain*

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

#### *Refrain*

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

**You invite us to your feast, O God, and we do not come. You beg us to give thanks for life, and we fail in our thanksgiving. You have made for us a wonderful earth, and we neglect the gift. Forgive us for what we have done and for abandoning the pathway you desire for us. Be our guide and conscience. Turn our feet and hands to your will, that all we do might give glory to you. (silence) Amen.**

### Affirmation of Forgiveness

*The God of peace, who calls all creation to live in unity, hears your plea. In the spirit of feasting and thanksgiving, you are forgiven! For the sake of Christ Jesus, our Savior, who died and rose from the dead to destroy the shroud of despair, rejoice!*

**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

Philippians 4:1-9

*<sup>1</sup> Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. <sup>2</sup> I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. <sup>3</sup> Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life. <sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to everyone.*

*The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup> As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.*

*Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **The Gospel Reading**

Matthew 22:1-14

*<sup>1</sup> Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup> "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup> He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup> Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' <sup>5</sup> But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup> while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. <sup>7</sup> The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. <sup>8</sup> Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup> Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' <sup>10</sup> Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests. <sup>11</sup> "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, <sup>12</sup> and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup> Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' <sup>14</sup> For many are called, but few are chosen."*

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** "Plans Change"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

### **\* Affirmation of faith**

from A Declaration of Faith

**We are certain that Jesus lives. He lives as God with us, touching all of human life with the presence of God. He lives as one of us with God. Because he shares our humanity and has bound us to himself in love, we have an advocate in the innermost life of God. We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life. His lordship is hidden. The world appears to be dominated by people and systems that do not acknowledge his rule. But his lordship is real. It demands our loyalty and sets us free from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us. We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life. Jesus is Lord. He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord. Amen.**

## Offering



*Let us with gladness present our gifts and offerings to the Lord.*

*Gifts may be placed in the offering plates, given online, or by scanning the QR code.*

## Offertory: "A Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester"

L. J. White

The Chancel Choir

O holy Jesus, most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clearly,  
love thee more dearly and follow thee more nearly. Amen.

## \* 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 #442: "The Church's One Foundation"

AURELIA

### 1. The Church's one foundation

**Is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is His new creation  
By water and the word.  
From heaven He came and sought her  
To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her  
And for her life He died.**

**2. Elect from every nation,  
Yet one o'er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation  
One Lord, one faith, one birth;**

**One holy name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses,  
With every grace endued.**

**3. Though with a scornful wonder  
This world sees her oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder,  
By heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping;  
Their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping  
Shall be the morn of song.**

*Continued*

4. Mid toil and tribulation,  
And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace evermore;  
Till with the vision glorious  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great church victorious  
Shall be the church at rest.

5. Yet she on earth has union  
With God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them, the meek and lowly,  
May live eternally.

**\* Commission and Blessing**

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice!*

**We will let our gentleness be known to everyone.**

*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: "Gigue" Fugue in G major, BWV 577**

**J. S. Bach (1685-1750)**

*Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK**

**October 18, 2026—10:00 a.m.**

**Family Led Worship**

**Sermon: "Pay the Cheese Tax"**

**First Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:15-22**

**REMINDERS**

- The Deacon's Sunday Letters are in the Narthex for your participation.
- The Blood Drive is today in the parking lot. Walk-in donors are always welcome!

**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

**October 11, 2026- 11:15am**

**The Parish Life Ministry Team is in need of more volunteers.**

**Can you help with Sunday morning Fellowship Hour?**

**We need more hands to help prepare and clean up.**

**Think about helping once a month - or more!**

**CAN YOU LEND  
A HAND?**

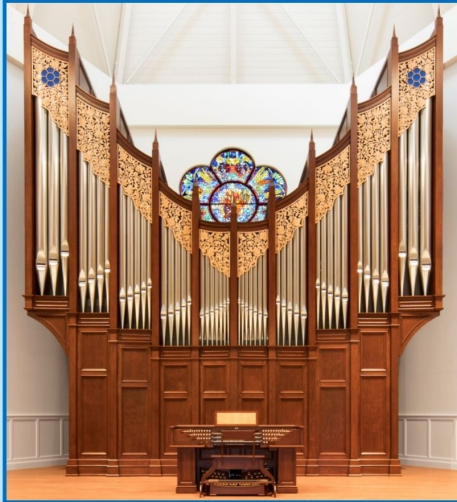
**Questions? 239-597-5410**

**You can always just show up in the kitchen on a Sunday  
morning too! Many hands make light work!**

## Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church 2026-2027 Concert Series

We have talented artists from our own neighborhood, and talented artists from around the globe! We have instrumental soloists, organ recitals, choir concerts and super-talented vocal soloists.

*Music Under the Spire!*



Mark your calendars!  
There is something for everyone!

Brochures available  
in the Narthex or  
online at  
[www.vpcnaples.org](http://www.vpcnaples.org)  
Worship - Music



**WE NEED USHERS!**

We have a small, but dedicated group of volunteers that usher for our worship services.

We need more people to help!

It is a wonderful way to meet church members and welcome visitors to VPC!

Call the office:  
597-5410 or  
email:

[vpcushers@gmail.com](mailto:vpcushers@gmail.com)  
to join!

**THANK YOU!**



**Vanderbilt**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**IS A**

**CHURCH ON A MISSION**

### BE A PART OF OUR MATCHING MISSION CHALLENGE!

**October 1 - November 15, 2026**

We are requesting donations for 3 of our mission partners - Cafe of Life, Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance and Mision Peniel. Every dollar raised will be matched, up to \$4000 per mission partner. Let's do our best to meet the challenge and help our neighbors!



To make a donation, go to [www.vpcnaples.org](http://www.vpcnaples.org) and click GIVE.

Go to the Mission section and mark "Challenge" in the memo - or specify a mission.

### ROOTED AND READY OPPORTUNITIES!

#### Pastor's Bible Study:

#### Studying readings for each Sunday

Wednesdays at 6pm in the Library

#### Book Study: Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible:

Sundays after worship in Harp Hall

11:30am—starting October 11

Jane Higdon-higdonj@msn.com

#### VPC Book Club: Culpability by Bruce Holzinger

Monday, October 19

1:30pm in Harp Hall

Peggy Landon - [Mlandon711@gmail.com](mailto:Mlandon711@gmail.com)

### Friends in Faith:

#### United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other

Wednesday, October 21—10am in Harp Hall

Lois Ann Folliard - [lafolliard@gmail.com](mailto:lafolliard@gmail.com)

#### Chili Cook-Off & Trunk or Treat

Wednesday, October 21—5:30—7:30pm

Student Center and West Parking Lot

#### SHINE: 2026 Medicare Open Enrollment Event

Friday, October 23—10am—2pm in Harp Hall

#### Italian Potluck

Thursday, November 5—Sign up in the Narthex!

## 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. Prayer requests will be kept in the bulletin for 30 days.

## PRAYER list

|                        |                     |                        |                  |
|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Justin Aquino & Family | Joe & Mary Lou Eddy | Sarah Martyniak        | Bill Shouldice   |
| Ridley Baird & Family  | Lori Godwin         | Paul J. Moore          | Mary Jane Stoner |
| Janie Ballurio         | Pat Gould           | Sally Muir             | Linda Surowiak   |
| Chuck & Kristi Beattie | Jim & Mary Hart     | David Nale             | Mike Swain       |
| Peg Black              | Liz Hart            | Ivana Novelli          | Larry Tatum      |
| Adriana Caruso         | Charles Irbin       | Audrey Olsen           | Barbara Thomas   |
| The Carver Family      | Sandra Johnson      | Peggy Paulsen          | Marianne Walsh   |
| Ron Davis              | Vanessa Lobban      | Jan Pomerico           | Yana & family    |
| Joyce Dersch           | Justin Loeffler     | Marsha Reed            | in Ukraine       |
|                        | Kenneth Loeffler    | Pat Rogge              |                  |
|                        | Carolyn Mackie      | Twila Rowe             |                  |
|                        | Bob & Doris Martin  | Sam & Marilyn Schellar |                  |

### Happy Birthday!

|                  |       |                |       |
|------------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| Jo-Ann Degelmann | 10/11 | Ann Windley    | 10/15 |
| Stan Swihart     | 10/11 | *Karen Rohde   | 10/15 |
| Sloane Mullen    | 10/11 | Tom Grundstrom | 10/15 |
| Gary Karnes      | 10/12 | Lynn Rosser    | 10/17 |
| Don Corcoran     | 10/12 | Craig Grider   | 10/17 |
| *Riley Mikes     | 10/12 | Joyce Hickmon  | 10/17 |
| *Chris Paciello  | 10/13 |                |       |



### Happy Anniversary!

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Greg & Linda Minck      | 10/15 |
| Paul & Kathryn Higbee   | 10/16 |
| Marie Walton            | 10/17 |
| Yari & Abraham Figueroa | 10/17 |

\* **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 request up to 5% for Youth & 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](mailto: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)

**E4 Brian Guzman**  
USAF - Colorado  
(Cesar Guzman's son)  
**Staff SGT Jacob Guzman**  
US Army-Ft. Campbell, KY  
(Cesar Guzman's son)  
**Staff SGT Wesley Kennedy**  
USMC - Ft. Myers, FL

**CPT Tyler Olbrich**  
US Army - South Carolina  
(friend of Karen Hiller)  
**LCPL Michael Russell**  
USMC - Camp Lejeune, NC  
(Heather Anderson's son)