



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



October 18, 2026—10:00 am

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost—Family Led Worship

The flowers on the Chancel and Fellowship Hour are sponsored by the Crown Family in gratitude to Heather Mikes and the education team for their outstanding leadership in our adult and children's ministries.

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*
Lena Crown, *Youth Liturgist*
Karen Chappler, *Liturgist*
The Chancel Choir

Victoria Bonavita, *Audio/Visual Technician*
Sebastian Aguilar, *Youth Acolyte*
Youth Greeters, Emmy, Colette & Cohen Vayda, Isabella Aguilar
Greeters: Joan Butler & Ruth Wade
Ushers: Ron & Linda Addaman (Head Ushers), Dick Clark, Barbara Hebert, Anne Smith, Gisela Yingst
Youth Ushers, HT & Margi Miller

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 96:1-9

- ¹ O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
² Sing to the LORD; bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.
³ Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.
⁴ For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.
⁵ For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.
⁶ Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
⁸ Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.
⁹ Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.

Prelude: Allegretto, from Five Short Pieces

Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)

Announcements

Passing of the Peace

* The Call to Worship:

Sing to the Lord and bless God's name.

Tell of God's saving power from day to day.

Worship the Lord in holy splendor.

Tremble before God, all the earth.

Let us worship God!

* Hymn #244: "Let Us with a Gladsome Mind"

MONKLAND

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Let us with a gladsome mind
Praise the Lord who is so kind:
For God's mercies shall endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure. | 3. All things living God does feed,
With full measure meets their need:
For God's mercies shall endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure. |
| 2. God, with all commanding might,
Filled the new-made world with light:
For God's mercies shall endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure. | 4. Let us with a gladsome mind
Praise the Lord, who is so kind:
For God's mercies shall endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure. |

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

What a debt we owe to you, O God. You have given us all things in Christ and yet we withhold from you the honor and glory that are yours. Instead, we pay tribute to empire, plot to entrap the innocent, mock your truth with empty praise, and put your patience to the test. Forgive us, O God, and by your grace restore in us the image of your face; through Christ Jesus our Lord.
(silence) Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice! Let the sea roar with laughter, the fields shout in celebration, and the forests sing with joy; in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

*** Gloria Patri**

Henry Greathouse (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

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers

in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: “Pay the Cheese Tax”

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

*** Affirmation of faith**

From the Confession of 1967

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God’s judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church’s own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God’s renewal of human life in society and of God’s victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and the Holy Spirit. 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: "There's a wideness in God's mercy"

Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

The Chancel Choir

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in his justice, which is more than liberty. There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good; there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in His blood. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven; there is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given. There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed; there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of the mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more faithful, we should take him at his word; and our life would be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

*** 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 #417: "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"**

REGENT SQUARE

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious,
Binding all the church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever,
And our confidence alone.</p> <p>2. To this temple, where we call You,
Come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
With Your wonted lovingkindness
Hear Your people as they pray.
And Your fullest benediction
Shed within its walls away.</p> | <p>3. Here bestow to all Your servants
What they ask of You to gain,
What they gain from You forever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Your glory
Evermore with You to reign.</p> <p>4. Laud and honor to the Father,
Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever one;
One in might and one in glory
While unending ages run.</p> |
|---|---|

*** Commission and Blessing**

Go forth to declare God's glory among all the nations.

We will share the good news so that God's wonderful work may be known to all.

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: Prélude, from Trois Pieces

Gabriel Pierné (1863-1937)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

October 25, 2026—10:00 a.m.

Sermon: "No Truer Words Have Been Said"

First Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:34-46

REMINDERS

The Deacon's Sunday Letters are in the Narthex for your participation.

Everyone's invited!

CHILI COOK-OFF & TRUNK OR TREAT

Wed., Oct. 21 • 5:30–7:30 PM • 1225 Piper Blvd.

Pick Your Fun!



Bring a Chili
Dinner starts at 5:30 PM!



Host a Trunk
We need YOU!



Just Come!
Treats start at 6:15 PM!

Scan to sign up!



Questions? (239) 597-5410
hmikes@vpcnaples.org

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church & Learning Center

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 to join!

THANK YOU!

ROOTED AND READY OPPORTUNITIES!

Book Study: Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible:

Sundays after worship in Harp Hall at 11:30am—Jane Higdon, higdonj@msn.com

VPC Book Club: Culpability by Bruce Holzinger

Monday, October 19—1:30pm in Harp Hall—Peggy Landon, Mlondon711@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



2026 Medicare Open Enrollment Event

Friday, October 23

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church (Harp Hall)



1225 Piper Blvd.
Naples, FL 34110



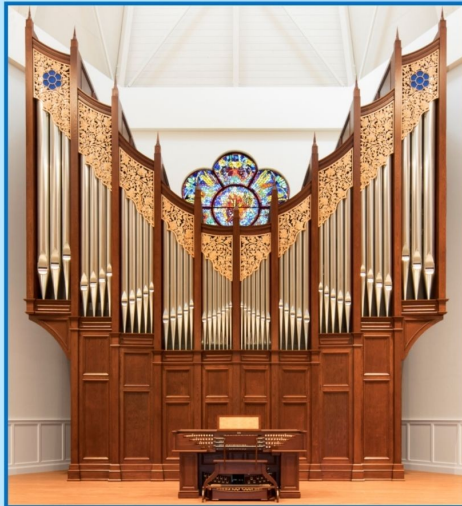
CAN YOU LEND A HAND?

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. You can always just show up in the kitchen on a Sunday morning too!

Announcing the 2026-2027 Concert Series at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church!

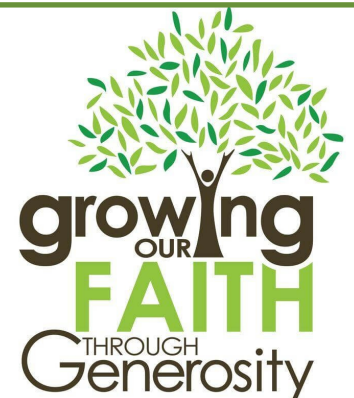
We have talented artists from our own neighborhood, and talented artists from around the globe! We have instrumental soloists, organ recitals, choir concerts and super-talented vocal soloists.

Music Under the Spire!



Mark your calendars!
There is something for everyone!

Brochures available
in the Narthex or
online at
www.vpcnaples.org
Worship - Music



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 and click GIVE.

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



Collier Harvest

Email Pete Rodino - pvrodino@aol.com
to volunteer!

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



Monday, October 26, 2026
4pm - unloading van (heavy lifting)
4:30-6pm - bagging food
at 4451 Mercantile Ave.



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

OCTOBER

Happy Birthday!

Ronald Davis	10/18
Rod MacLeod	10/18
Sharon Doggett	10/19
*Thomas Jablonski	10/22
Dale Dillingham	10/24

Happy Anniversary!

**Rob & Beth Marrow	10/21
Herb Nelson & Peggy Paulsen	10/23
Peter DeBaun & Jill Peterson	10/24
Bill & Chloe Cornell	10/24

Italian Potluck

Sign up in the Narthex

Thursday, November 5
A VPC Potluck Supper
with an Italian Flavor!
A very special evening
of delicious food,
entertainment, and
socializing with some
of your Vanderbilt
friends...present and
future!

* **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). 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)