



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



November 16, 2025 — 10:00 am

The Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost

Family Led Worship

The flowers adorning the Chancel and the Fellowship Hour are sponsored to celebrate kindness all over the world 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

Carter Mikes, Youth Liturgist

Gwen Salyer, Liturgist

Julie Carver, Pianist

Virginia Garner Cullison, Violinist

The Chancel Choir

Victoria Bonavita, Audio/Visual Technician

Greeters: Pat Gagliano & Barbara Hebert

Youth Acolyte: Sebastian Aguilar

Ushers: Pat Rose (Head Usher), Steve Blad,

Ben Hood, Anne Smith, Lynn Thomas, Joe Trees

Youth Ushers: Ayden & Olivia Carver

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 98

¹ O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

² The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

³ He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

⁵ Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

⁷ Let the sea roar and all that fills it, the world and those who live in it.

⁸ Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy

⁹ at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Prelude: A Trio of Familiar Hymns: "Just As I Am," "O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee," and
"Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

Virginia Garner Cullison, *Violin*

Announcements

Passing of the Peace

* The Call to Worship:

Sing praises to the Lord, for God has done gloriously;

Let us sing God's praises throughout all the earth.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, from the highest peaks, to the deepest caverns.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, from the tiniest creatures, to the greatest herds.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, in the midst of our joys and our sorrows.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, as we come to worship the God of all creation.

Let us worship God!

* Hymn #447: "Lead On, O King Eternal"

LANCASHIRE

1. Lead on, O King eternal,
The day of march has come;
Henceforth in fields of conquest
Thy tents shall be our home:
Through days of preparation
Thy grace has made us strong,
And now, O King eternal,
We lift our battle song.

2. Lead on, O King eternal,
Till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And holiness shall whisper
The sweet amen of peace;
For not with swords' loud clashing,
Nor roll of stirring drums;
With deeds of love and mercy
The heavenly kingdom comes.

Continued

**3. Lead on, O King eternal:
We follow, not with fears,
For gladness breaks like morning
Where'er Thy face appears;**

**Thy cross is lifted o'er us;
We journey in its light:
The crown awaits the conquest;
Lead on, O God of might.**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

God of peace we confess we are a people of fear. We have let anxiety rule our days and worry our nights. We have been distracted by nerves and focused on tension. We confess we have ignored your command to not be afraid. Forgive us, O God. Calm our hearts, settle our stomachs, and renew in us the ability to find our comfort in you. *(silence)* Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

The prophet Isaiah assures us: God is building a new heaven and a new earth; the former things will not be remembered or come to mind. Forgiven and freed, rejoice in what the Lord is creating in you, in me, in all creation.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Praise the Lord, and bless God's holy name forever.

*** 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 65:17-25

¹⁷ For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. ¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating, for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy and its people as a delight. ¹⁹ I will rejoice in Jerusalem and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it or the cry of distress. ²⁰ No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days or an old person who does not live out a lifetime, for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. ²¹ They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²² They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat, for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. ²³ They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD—and their descendants as well. ²⁴ Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. ²⁵ The wolf and the lamb shall feed together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 21:5-19

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, ⁶ “As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.” ⁷ They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸ And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them. ⁹ “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. ¹² “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: “The Time is Near”

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

*** The Affirmation of Faith**

From "A Brief Statement of Faith"

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to 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: "A Psalm of Praise"

Benjamin Harlan (b. 1954)

The Chancel Choir

Praise ye the Lord! Praise ye the Lord in the firmament of His power! Praise ye the Lord for His mighty acts and for His excellent greatness! With the sound of the trumpet praise Him! And with the sound of the harp! Praise Him with the timbrel and dance. With the stringed instruments and organ! With cymbals! With high sounding cymbals! With every breath praise ye the Lord! Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; His mercy is deep and His love so pure, The Lord is greatly to be praised. And as far as the east is from the west, And the mountains from the sea. Even so is our Father's great love for me; He is greatly to be praised!

Presentation of Estimates of Giving Cards

*** 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 and Pledge Dedication**

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 #464: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"**

HYMN TO JOY

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the gloom of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.
2. All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

3. Mortals, join the happy chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
Joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.

*** Commission and Blessing:**

Go out into the world in peace.

We will live fully. Build homes.

Plant vineyards. Give thanks.

We will work for what is right.

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: "March on "Hymn to Joy"

Hal H. Hopson (1933-2025)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

November 23, 2025 10:00 am

Sermon: "Father Forgive Them"

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Gospel Reading: Luke 23:33-43

REMINDERS FOR TODAY

Fellowship Hour will be held in the Student Center.
Don't forget to sign the letters of joys and concerns
which are found on the long table in the Narthex.

**Join us as we gather together to ask
the Lord's blessing at our**

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 26, 2025

at 6pm in the Sanctuary

Scripture and music of gratefulness

Solomon Eichner, Pianist

Sunday, November 16, 2025 at 4:00 pm



Free will offering

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church 2026 ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP



“Freely you have received, freely give.”

-Matthew 10:8

ADULT EDUCATION & MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

- “Echoes of Wisdom: Ancient Truths for Modern Souls” — Tom Grundstrom, Facilitator—
Sunday, November 16 at 11:30am or **Monday, November 17 at 6:30pm** (Harp Hall) Ecclesiastes
- VPC Book Club—**Monday, November 17 at 1:30pm** in Harp Hall
- Pastor’s Bible Study—**Wednesday, November 19 at 6pm** (Library)
- Family Led Bible Study—**Sunday November 16 at 11:30am** (Library)
- Chancel Choir—**Wednesdays at 7pm** (Cochran Hall)



Christmas

COOKIE
EXCHANGE

SAVE THE DATE!!

Bring your favorite homemade cookies, share the joy of baking, and leave with an assortment of festive treats to sweeten your holiday season. Everyone is invited!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2025

1:00-3:00PM - HARP HALL

Wednesday Night Lights! WNL Gratitude Potluck 2025!

For dinner on Wednesday, November 19th, we will be having a Thanksgiving Feast and celebrating our blessings. Please sign up to bring an entree, side dish or dessert to share. ALL children and adults are welcome to stay for dinner at 5:30pm in the Student Center! Come early for Alleluia Choir at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary! Be sure to bring an unwrapped toy for the Christmas toy drive. Thank you!

Email Heather to sign up
hmikes@vpcnaples.org.



Join us as we decorate the church for Advent and Christmas!

Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, November 23, 2025 after worship.

Enjoy a festive time with your church family, as we work together to decorate our campus and prepare our hearts for Christmas!

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

- Collier Harvest—**Monday, November 17 at 4:15pm**—4451 Mercantile Ave.
- Café of Life—**Friday November 28 at 9am**—Leitner Park 26724 Nomad Dr. Bonita

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.

Loraine Atkinson	Dick Creviston	Sandra Johnson	Mary Ann Portman
Chuck & Kristi Beattie	Ron Davis	Carolyn Mackie	Twila Rowe
Russel Blad	Debbie Dawley	Eugene McGuigan	Sam & Marilyn Schellar
Joan Butler	Joyce Dersch	Sr. Markolette Madden	Fred Schulz
Carmen Campbell	Martha Gates	Doris Martin	Pete Schwiers
Trisha Gould Champion	Lorna Giblin	Nancy Miller	Bill Shouldice
Adriana Caruso	Mark Giersch	Donna Mullins	Dr. Lou Thompson
Pat Colby	The Grider Family	Nancy Myers	Yana and family in Ukraine
Bob & Jan Conrad	Jim & Mary Hart	Ivana Novelli	Susanne VanderStarre
Sonja Cookson	Charles Irvin	Audrey Olsen	Bill & Sue Van Fossen
Richard Crawford	June Johnson	Pocket Patterson	Yvonne & Tony Van Rooyen

Happy Birthday!

Jack Ballurio	11/16
Mary Giles	11/17
*Janet Minch	11/17
Linda Swihart	11/17
Gordon Black	11/18
*Pete Rodino	11/20
Dave Hinkler	11/21

Happy Anniversary!

**Jane & Joe Higdon	11/17
Ted & Jane Beisler	11/19

IN SYMPATHY

*We are saddened to announce the death of **Charles "Chuck" Henry** on July 19, 2025 at the age of 88. Chuck and his wife, Barbara, have been members of Vanderbilt for over six years.*

Cards may be sent to:
Barbara Henry, 10034
Florence Cir, Naples, FL 34119

FRONT DESK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We're looking for volunteers to help at the front desk, greeting visitors, answering calls, and providing a warm presence throughout the week: it's a great way to serve and connect with people from your church family! Please call Barbara Bonavita at 239-597-5410 or sign up on Sundays in the Narthex. We are deeply grateful for you!

* **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% 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)
SGT Wesley Kennedy
USMC - Ft. Myers, FL

1st LT Tyler Olbrich
US Army - South Carolina
(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)