



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 26, 2025 — 6:00 p.m.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship



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

Colin Gerlach, Violin
The Chancel Choir
Heather Mikes, Director of Christian Education
Victoria Bonavita, Audio/Visual Technician

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude: "The Ash Grove"

arr. Garth M. Williams

Colin Gerlach, *Violin*

***Call to Worship**

We dwell in a land God has loaned to us.

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.

We come with gladness to worship God.

We enter God's presence with joyous song.

The first fruits of our labor belong to God.

Rejoice in the privilege of sharing God's bounty.

We thank God for steadfast love to sustain us.

We praise God for faithfulness to all generations.

Let us worship God.

***Hymn: #559: "We Gather Together"**

KREMSER

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| 1. We gather together to ask
the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens
His will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now
cease from distressing,
Sing praises to His name;
He forgets not His own. | 2. Beside us to guide us,
our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining
His kingdom divine;
So from the beginning
the fight we were winning;
Thou, Lord, wast at our side;
all glory be Thine! | 3. We all do extol Thee, Thou
leader triumphant, And
pray that Thou still our
defender will be.
Let Thy congregation
escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised!
O Lord, make us free! |
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Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O God, we like to think that we have nothing to confess. If our thoughts are pure, our actions kind, and our thanksgiving genuine, have we not lived up to your standards? Yet you call us to put you first in all things, and we have not done that. You call us to be peacemakers, but we do little more than try to avoid conflict. You call us to passionate faith and compassionate sacrifice, and both are difficult for us. Feed us, God, with food that endures for eternal life, and answer our thirst with life-giving water. Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***Gloria Patri**

**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!**

Scripture Reading

Sermon

The Rev. Robert Marrow

Anthem: "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!

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

God of all blessings, source of all life, giver of all grace:

We thank you for the gift of life:

**for the breath that sustains life, for the food of this earth that nurtures life,
for the love of family and friends without which there would be no life.**

We thank you for the mystery of creation:

**for the beauty that the eye can see, for the joy that the ear may hear,
for the unknown that we cannot behold filling the universe with wonder,
for the expanse of space that draws us beyond the definitions of our selves.**

We thank you for setting us in communities:

**for families who nurture our becoming, for friends who love us by choice,
for companions at work, who share our burdens and daily tasks,
for strangers who welcome us into their midst,
for people from other lands who call us to grow in understanding.**

We thank you for this day:

**for life and one more day to love,
for opportunity and one more day to work for justice and peace,
for neighbors and one more person to love and by whom to be loved,
for your grace and one more experience of your presence,
for your promise: to be with us, to be our God, and to give salvation.**

For these, and all blessings, we give you thanks, eternal, loving God.

Amen!

(Prayer by Rev. Vienna Cobb Anderson)

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 #551: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"**

ST GEORGE'S WINDSOR

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| 1. Come, ye thankful people, come,
Raise the song of harvest home:
All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide
For our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come,
Raise the song of harvest home. | 4. Even so, Lord, quickly come
To Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in,
Free from sorrow, free from sin;
There forever purified,
In Thy presence to abide:
Come, with all Thine angels come,
Raise the glorious harvest home. |
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***Commission and Blessing**

The bread of heaven gives life to the believer.

We will turn to God daily for nourishment.

The bread of heaven gives life to the church.

We will share the bread and share our lives.

The bread of heaven gives life to the world.

We will bless the world with acts of love.

This is our highest thanksgiving to God.

Alleluia!

Amen!

Postlude: "Now Thank We All Our God"

Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

