



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



August 10, 2025 — 10:00 am

The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

The flowers adorning the Chancel are donated in honor of his birthday, and in loving memory of my husband, William "Bill" Hebert by Barbara Hebert.

Fellowship Hour is sponsored by the Grider Family in celebration of our children and with prayers for a successful school year for parents and children!

Worship Participants

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, Pastor

Tom Grundstrom, Guest Preacher

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

Jason Mikes, Children's Moment

Mary Lynn Myers, Liturgist

Julie Carver, Pianist

The Chancel Choir

Victoria Bonavita, Audio/Visual Technician

Greeters: Priscilla Kutler & Becky Wheat

Ushers: Greg & Julie Borden (Head Ushers),

Carol Lindsay, Gwen Salyer, Suzanne Sullivan,

Jerry & Mari-Bea Warnken

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 33:12-22

¹² Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

¹³ The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all humankind.

¹⁴ From where he sits enthroned he watches all the inhabitants of the earth—

¹⁵ he who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.

¹⁶ A king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

¹⁷ The war horse is a vain hope for victory, and by its great might it cannot save.

¹⁸ Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,

¹⁹ to deliver their soul from death and to keep them alive in famine.

²⁰ Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and shield.

²¹ Our heart is glad in him because we trust in his holy name.

²² Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

Prelude: Variations on “What God Ordains Is Best”

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Announcements

Passing of the Peace

* The Call to Worship:

Our soul waits for the Lord, who is our help and shield.

Our hearts are glad because we trust in God’s holy name.

Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,

Even as we hope in you.

Let us worship God.

* Hymn #307: “Fight The Good Fight”

DUKE STREET

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Fight the good fight with all thy might;
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right;
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Thy joy and crown eternally. | 3. Cast care aside, lean on thy guide;
God's boundless mercy will provide;
Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove
Christ is its life, and Christ its love. |
| 2. Run the straight race through God’s good grace,
Lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face;
Life with its way before us lies,
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize. | 4. Faint not nor fear, God's arms are near;
God changeth not, and thou art dear;
Only believe, and thou shalt see
That Christ is all in all to thee. |

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

Holy God, you promise us a life full of blessing, but we do not always believe. You incite us to hope, but we fall back into fear. You urge us to give freely, but we cling to what we have. You call us to watch at all times for you, but we grow lazy and self-absorbed. Forgive us. Increase our hope, enlarge our hearts, and keep us alert to the wonders you work in the world every day. For the sake of Jesus we pray. *(silence)* Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Hear the good news! By faith we have been saved, our guilty hearts washed clean. Refreshed, revived, and renewed, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we live as ones who are forgiven and freed, giving thanks to God.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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

Jason 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

Luke 12:32-40

³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ³⁵ "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. ³⁹ "But

know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. ⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." ¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "When Faith Feels Like an Exam"

Tom Grundstrom

*** The Affirmation of Faith**

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. 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: “Come Away with Me”

Horman/Keithahn

The Chancel Choir

Come away with me to a quiet place, apart from the world with its frantic pace, To pray, reflect, and seek God's grace. Come away with me. Come away. Come and pray with me on a gentle sea, on top of a hill in the Galilee, In gardens like Gethsemane. Come away with me. Come away. Come today with thoughts of the countless ways that God's steadfast love blesses all our days, And join with me in silent praise. Come away with me. Come away. Come away with me to a quiet place, to God's loving arms waiting to embrace All those who come in hope of grace. Come away with me. Come away.

* 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 #379: “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

SOLID ROCK

**1. My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

Refrain:

**On Christ, the solid Rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**2. When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain***

**3. His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.**

Refrain

**4. When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.**

Refrain

*** Commission and Blessing:**

God promises. Christ saves.

The Holy Spirit liberates us to love and serve.

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: "Toccata in C Major"

Pachelbel

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.



SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

August 17, 2025 10:00 am

Sermon: "A Closer Look"

First Reading: Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Gospel Reading: Luke 12:49-56

REMINDERS FOR TODAY

Due to the closure of Fellowship Hall, we have moved our Fellowship Hour to the Student Center on the West side of the campus. The letters of joys and concerns are on the long table in the Narthex.

**Blood
Drive**

Sunday, August 10

9am-12pm

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church

**1225 Piper Blvd.
Naples, FL 34110**

**TODAY!
WALK IN DONORS
WELCOME!**

Get a **specialty beach towel**
when you successfully donate
blood, while supplies last!

**CHURCH ON 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, August 25, 2025

4:15pm - unloading van (heavy lifting)

4:45-6pm - bagging food

at 4451 Mercantile Ave.



BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

Sunday,
August 17
at 10am

God's
got
your
back!



"Be strong and courageous." - Joshua 1:9

TEACHER COMMISSIONING

Sunday, August 17 at 10am

Teaching is my
+ Ministry

"Whatever you do,
work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord."
- Colossians 3:23

STEPHEN MINISTRY

"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groaning too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the Saints according to the will of God. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

- Romans 8:26-28

Stephen Ministers are here to help guide those who are grieving back to their spiritual calling.

Join us following worship on August 17
for a Back to School Celebration
in the Student Center and West parking lot!

PICNIC

FUN

ICE
CREAM



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.

John Baird	Annette Dietrich	Doris Martin	Dr. Lou Thompson
Ronan Bann	Keith Fern	Jim Mikes	Joe Trees
Chuck & Kristi Beattie	Martha Gates	Vicki Mobley	Yana and family in Ukraine
Trisha Gould Campion	Lorna Giblin	Donna Mullins	Yvonne & Tony Van Rooyen
Adriana Caruso	Lori Godwin	Nancy Myers	Anita & Bob Wade
Dick Clark	Joe Guzzo	Ivana Novelli	The Roger Walters Family
Molly Cochran	Jim & Mary Hart	Audrey Olsen	Diana Woodward
Pat Colby	Dave Jack	Pocket Patterson	
Bob & Jan Conrad	June Johnson	Twila Rowe	
Dick Creviston	Sandra Johnson	Sam & Marilyn Schellar	
Andrea Daggett	Carolyn Mackie	Fred Schulz	
Lillian Dansereau	Sr. Markolette Madden	Pete Schwiers	

PRAYER
list



Happy Anniversary!

John & Heather Monda 8/12

Happy Birthday!

Elizabeth Todd	8/12	Tim Hall	8/13
Chris Geiser	8/12	*Bill Beynon	8/14
Linda Burwinkel	8/12	John Pender	8/15
*Nancy Bell	8/13	Valerie Tomsic	8/15
Joanna Throckmorton	8/13	Shirley Daugherty	8/15
Joe Trees	8/13	Sue Van Fossen	8/15
Ohara Trees	8/13	Greta Corcoran	8/15

* **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 - Iraq
 (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)