



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



September 28, 2025 — 10:00 am

The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

The flowers adorning the Chancel are sponsored in loving memory of Al Teti
by his wife and family and
to celebrate friendship by the Grider Family.

The Fellowship Hour is sponsored by the Mission Team in thankfulness for the VPC volunteers.

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

Gwen Salyer, Liturgist

Julie Carver, Pianist

Janie Ballurio, Soprano

Tom Grundstrom, Tenor

Eric Grundstrom, Violin

The Chancel Choir

Victoria Bonavita, Audio/Visual Technician

Greeters: Jan Fern & Priscilla Kutler

Ushers: Joe Trees (Head Usher), Bill & Geri
Payne, Anne Smith, Lynn Thomas, Jerry &
Mari-Bea Warnken

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 146

¹ Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

² I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

³ Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

⁴ When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.

⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God,

⁶ who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;

⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;

⁸ the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹ The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰ The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the LORD!

Prelude: "Prayer"

Julius Chajes (1910-1985)

Announcements

Passing of the Peace

*** The Call to Worship:**

*Happy are those whose help is in the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God.*

The Lord God reigns forever, for all generations.

Praise the Lord!

Let us worship God.

*** Hymn #455: "All Creatures of Our God and King"**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**1. All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**2. Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O sing ye! Alleluia!**

**Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**3. Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest man both warmth and light,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

We have sinned, O God, hoarding what we have, grasping for more, and ignoring those who hunger and thirst. We stay with our own kind; we are complacent in the face of systems that oppress. Forgive us; purify us; remake us; that we might love as you love. (silence) Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

The Lord welcomes all who return from the exile of greed and self-interest. Be at peace, for in Christ we find our way home again where all are forgiven, loved and restored.

In 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

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 Timothy 6:6-19

⁶ Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, ⁸ but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹ But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. ¹¹ But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. ¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music: “Holy Spirit” (with Gabriel’s Oboe)

Getty, Townsend, Morricone, arr. Campbell

Janie Ballurio, Soprano; Tom Grundstrom, Tenor; Eric Grundstrom, Violin

The Gospel Reading

Luke 16:19-31

¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house—
²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ ³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: “Open Your Eyes and See”

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

*** The Affirmation of Faith**

Adapted 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. 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: "I've Got Peace Like a River"

African-American Spiritual

The Chancel Choir

Text can be found on page 368 of The Hymnal.

* 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 #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. |

*** Commission and Blessing:**

Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness.

We take hold of the eternal life to which we were called.

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: "Prelude in D Minor"

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

October 5, 2025 10:00 am

Sermon: "Increase Our Faith"

First Reading: Lamentations 3:19-26

Gospel Reading: Luke 17:5-10

REMINDERS FOR TODAY

Due to the closure of Fellowship Hall, we have moved our Fellowship Hour to the Student Center.

Don't forget to sign the letters of joys and concerns which are found on the long table in the Narthex.

SIGN UP TO BE AN ELDER OR DEACON!

To learn more, go to our website vpcnaples.org/church-leadership and fill out the form. We need you!



"Give and it will be given to you."
— Luke 6:38



The Mission Team is excited to announce a matching grant fundraiser. The Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance Furnishing Effort is seeking donations to purchase furnishings for apartments and the Weekend Power Pack needs donations to purchase food for children at Sabal Palm Elementary. Every dollar raised will be matched – up to \$8,000. We hope to raise at least \$4,000 for each of these worthy mission partners – doubling our good work! Donate today!

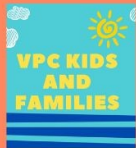


To donate to the matching grant fundraiser:

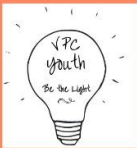
Note IFHA or WPP in the Note

- check to VPC
- online – Give – Mission
- cash – green envelope



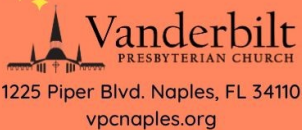


Do you have a heart for
ministry and love sharing
the Word of God?



WE NEED YOU!

We are hiring a Children's Ministry Assistant to
work with the Director of Christian Education,
Heather Mikes. Go to www.vpcnaples.org/ministry
to see the job description and apply.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

- Sunday, September 28** - final day to bring a costume or make a donation for the Halloween Costume Drive benefiting the Shelter for Abused Women & Children.



- Wednesday, October 22** - 5:30pm - The Chili Cook-Off & 6:15-7:00pm - Trunk or Treat - both in the Student Center and the West Parking Lot.

Announcing the 2025-2026 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.



Mark your calendars!
There is something for everyone!

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

Music Under the Spire!



ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

"Echoes of Wisdom:

Ancient Truths for Modern Souls"

Tom Grundstrom, Facilitator

Sunday, September 28 at 11:30am

Harp Hall

or **Monday, September 29 at 6:30pm** - Library

Overview and Themes of Job (Part II)

Check the Week at a Glance for the Zoom link.

Friends in Faith

Wednesday, October 8 at 10am - Harp Hall

This season we are studying

"Fruit of the Spirit" by Hazel Offner.

Pick up your copy at the office for \$10.

Questions? lafolliard@gmail.com

A.I.M.

Adventures In Membership

Join us "Under the Spire!"

October 5 - 11:15am

WEEKLY OFFERINGS FOR ADULTS

Pastor's Bible Study

6pm - Meet Pastor Rob in the Library

Chancel Choir

7pm - Come and sing in Cochran Hall



Collier Harvest

Monday, September 29 at 4pm

4451 Mercantile Ave - Naples

Contact: pyrodino@aol.com

Weekend Power Pack

Thursday, October 2 at 10:30am

in Harp Hall

Donate:

vpcnaples.org - GIVE - Mission - note WPP

Contact: sportbroad@comcast.net

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	Marta	Sam & Marilyn Schellar
Ronan Bann	Jill Dunn	Eugene McGuigan	Fred Schulz
Chuck & Kristi Beattie	Dan Gagliano	Sr. Markolette Madden	Pete Schwiers
Joan Butler	Jennee Garrett	Doris Martin	Dr. Lou Thompson
Carmen Campbell	Martha Gates	Nancy Miller	Joe Trees
Trisha Gould Campion	Lorna Giblin	Donna Mullins	Yana and family in Ukraine
Adriana Caruso	Richard Grady	Nancy Myers	Bill Van Fossen
Pat Colby	Jim & Mary Hart	Sue Norbeck	Yvonne & Tony Van Rooyen
Bob & Jan Conrad	Denise Hughra	Ivana Novelli	Anita & Bob Wade
Sonja Cookson	June Johnson	Audrey Olsen	Diana Woodward
Dick Creviston	Sandra Johnson	Pocket Patterson	
Nellie Cummins	Marie Laucella	Leslie Ramsey	
Lillian Dansereau	Carolyn Mackie	Twila Rowe	



Happy Birthday!

Laura Marzano	9/28	*Michael Swain	10/1
Carol Wood	9/28	*Margaret Mackie	10/2
Max Gould	9/28	Ted Beisler	10/3
*Mac McDonald	9/28	Ruth Wade	10/3
Virginia Garner		Joyce Dersch	10/4
Cullison	9/30	Gregory Skrabonja	10/4
*Mary Thompson	9/30		
*Patricia Rose	9/30		



Happy Anniversary!

Joe & Barbara Feddern	9/28
Gary & Brenda Karnes	10/3
David & Vicki Walker	10/4

*** 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)	COL Jessica D. Grassetti (Claudia Polzin's niece)	1st LT Tyler Olbrich US Army - Iraq (friend of Karen Hiller)
PVT E2 Joshua Fowler, US Army, Columbus, GA (Joe & Sharon Doggett's grandson)	E4 Brian Guzman USAF - Colorado (Cesar Guzman's son)	MAJ Rex Rafferty USAF—Alabama (Norm & Linda Parker's granddaughter's husband)
MAJ Allen Fujinaka US Army (LaVerne Perrollaz's granddaughter's husband)	Staff SGT Jacob Guzman US Army-Kuwait (Cesar Guzman's son)	LCPL Michael Russell USMC - Camp Lejeune, NC (Heather Anderson's son)
	SGT Wesley Kennedy USMC - Ft. Myers, FL	