

VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia, 26003

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vancechurch.org

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

1 Samuel 16:1-13 ~ Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14 ~ John 9:1-41

Vance Memorial Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
is a welcoming, active, community-oriented,
theologically Reformed congregation where
all people are celebrated and valued
as we worship the Triune God, engage in mission,
and serve our community and beyond.

Gathering around God's Word

PRELUDE

CHIMES

GREETINGS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign and pass the fellowship pad to the inside aisle.

PREPARATION for WORSHIP

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light, GtG 377

(Please ALL sing together.)

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: God does not see as mortals see. We look on the outward appearance; God looks on the heart.

All: Jesus, Light of the World, give us eyes to see as you see!

Leader: Once we lived in darkness, but now—as children of light, we are called to what is good and right and true.

All: Jesus, Light of the World, give us eyes to see as you see!

OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, why is it that we look, but do not see? Bring us again and again into your light until your ways become visible to us, and bear fruit in us. Touch us so that we are utterly changed, a “before” and “after,” a “now” and “then”; that we may also say, “One thing I do know, and though I was blind, now I see.” Lord, we believe; help our unbelief. In Christ’s light we pray. Amen.

⌘OPENING HYMN of PRAISE

Open My Eyes, That I May See, GtG 451

CONFESSION and time of self-examination (*congregation may be seated*)

Leader: As children of God’s light, we are called to do what is pleasing to the Lord: to participate in what is good and right and true, and expose what is unfruitful and evil. Knowing that we turn from the light, we bring our confession to God, so that what is hidden in us becomes visible, and the shadows of our hearts may be illuminated by grace.

All: Gracious God, we are people who still love darkness rather than light. We keep shameful deeds secret, but flaunt our occasional acts of virtue. We see ourselves as blameless, but pass judgment on others. We do not stand firmly enough with those who are vulnerable, but step back, protecting ourselves. Forgive us, we pray. Bring us into your light that we may see ourselves rightly. Bring us into your light that we may know ourselves loved. Bring us into your light that we may live more

fruitful lives. Keep raising us, we pray, from the deadness of sin, and shine upon us with your grace. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

Oh, How He Loves You and Me

Oh how He loves you and me!

O how He loves you and me!

He gave His life; what more could He give?

O how He loves you; O how He loves me;

O how He loves you and me!

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: The psalmist assures us that God's goodness and mercy will follow us, even pursue us, all the days of our life. As God's forgiven people, receive this goodness and mercy, and live a new life in the grace of Jesus Christ.

All: We will live as children of the light for Christ shines on us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

⌘ GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father, GtG 581

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.

⌘ PASSING the PEACE of CHRIST

May the Peace of Christ be with you! **And also, with you!**

Encountering God's Word

⌘ SONG for ILLUMINATION

Open the Eyes of My Heart, GtG 452

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Jane Schockey

(Preschool children are now excused to the Church Nursery)

The ANTHEM

Shepherd Me, O God (Psalm 23), GtG 473

Text and Music by Marty Haugen

(please sing the refrain as on screen)

The SCRIPTURE

NEWER TESTAMENT GOSPEL READING:

John 9:1-41

NEWER TESTAMENT EPISTLE READING:

Ephesians 5:8-14

The word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God!**

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Erica L. Harley

Responding to God's Word

⌘ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and life everlasting. Amen.

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION *Be Thou My Vision, GtG 450*

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

Our lives overflow with the goodness of God. Sharing what we have so abundantly received, we bring now our tithes and offerings to God, with gladness and gratitude. *(congregation may be seated)*

The OFFERTORY

Lead Me, Guide Me, GtG 740

Text and Music by Doris Akers

Arranged by Richard Smallwood

(please sing the refrain as on screen)

Verse 2:

Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
I am putting all my trust in thee.
Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.

Verse 3:

I am lost if you take your hand from me,
I am blind without thy Light to see,
Lord, just always let me thy servant be.
Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.

⌘ DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow, GtG 606*

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.

⌘ PRAYER of DEDICATION

In gratitude, O God, we come to your table, into your presence, into your house. For all that you have done for us, most especially, for bringing us into the light of Jesus Christ, we offer our thanks and praise. We long to live as children of light, doing what is pleasing to you and bearing the fruit of the light through Jesus Christ, who awakens those who sleep, and raises those who are dead to new life. In his name we pray. Amen.

(congregation may be seated)

MORNING PRAYER & OUR 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!**

Taking God's Word out, into our Worlds

⌘ CLOSING HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness, GtG 39

LENTEN WREATH: A Service of Diminishing Lights

A Gospel story of the Feeding of the 5,000

Extinguishing of the Candle

Tree of Life, fourth verse for the fourth Sunday of Lent

(choir and congregation sing together)

Give us eyes to see you clearly, Make us children of your light;
Give us hearts to live more nearly As your gospel shining bright.

⌘ BENEDICTION

⌘ BENEDICTION RESPONSE

VANCE CHOIR

⌘POSTLUDE

⌘ Please stand if able.

GtG=Glory to God Hymnal

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10:00 a.m. Service of Worship regularly broadcast over WKWK-FM 97.3

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Advance News Weekly

Sunday, March 22, 2020

- Welcome to Vance Memorial Presbyterian Church, a traditional church with Spirit, serving the greater Wheeling community and beyond! We welcome our radio congregation listening to our live worship on 97.3 WKWK-FM. Radio listeners can go to vancechurch.org, select the "News" tab and choose "Bulletin" to follow along with a PDF of the worship service. If you ever need prayer or would like home communion, please contact the church office at 1-304-232-0980.
- Good Morning! Please fill-out, sign and pass the Pew Pad to fellow worshippers and place it in the pew rack near the center aisle. Please place today's slip in the offering plate as it passes.
- Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available at the Welcome center in the Narthex. Inquire with an usher and they will assist you.
- Our Church Nursery is available every Sunday during worship for infant through pre-school children. Pre-school children are encouraged to stay in worship until after the children's sermon.
- Pick up your FREE Lenten Devotionals at the Welcome Center in the Narthex. *Treasure in Jars of Clay* is for families, *From Suffering to Salvation* is for adults, and *Behold the Lamb of God* is for children. Compliments of the Christian Education Commission.
- We thank Michelle John for serving as our liturgist in worship.
- We thank The Cain Family for serving as our Lenten Wreath readers in worship.
- Bag packing for the Woodsdale weekend food program is cancelled for March 25.
- Today is the last day for Bible donations. We have already collected 117 Bibles for the Appalachian Easter Project.
- If you would like to join our Handbell Choir, please contact Debbie Breiding at dpbar243@aol.com or 1-740-632-2999.
- Attendance in worship last Sunday was 45.