

VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

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vancechurch.org

EASTER SUNDAY

April 20, 2025 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Acts 10:34-43 ~ Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

1 Corinthians 15:19-26 ~ Luke 24:1-12

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

CHORAL PRELUDE

They Could Not

Words and Music by Ron Harris and Claire Cloninger
Arranged by Gary Hallquist incorporating *Christ Arose*

With STRING QUARTET:

Ben Podolski and Laura Grube, violins;
Derek Pavlic, viola;
Molly Williams, cello

They looked at Him and saw a simple man,
a carpenter with healing in His hands.
They saw Him calm the sea, and heal a dying man;
they saw, but could they really understand?
They could not, they could not,
though they tried they could not.
He was just a simple carpenter with healing in His hands,
and could they really understand? They could not.

They listened to the teaching that they heard.
They wondered at the myst'ry of His word.
They wondered what He meant about a Father's plan;
they heard, but could they really understand?

They could not, they could not,
though they tried they could not.
They listened to His teaching about a Father's plan,
but could they really understand? They could not.

So finally upon a rugged cross,
they killed the man who would not suffer loss.
And when at last they took what willingly He gave,
He died, but could they keep Him in the grave?

Death cannot keep his prey, Jesus, my Savior!
He tore the bars away, Jesus, my Lord!

They could not, they could not!
Praise God, they could not!
And when at last they took from Him what willingly He gave,
could they keep Him in the grave?
Could they keep Him in the grave?
Could they keep Him in the grave?
They could not!
They could not!

EASTER SUNDAY HYMN PRELUDE for ALL

Christ Arose, Celebration Hymnal 357

1. Low in the grave He lay ~ Jesus, my Savior!
Waiting the coming day ~ Jesus, my Lord! *REFRAIN...*
2. Vainly they watch His bed ~ Jesus, my Savior!
Vainly they seal the dead ~ Jesus, my Lord! *REFRAIN...*
3. Death cannot keep his prey ~ Jesus, my Savior!
He tore the bars away ~ Jesus, my Lord! *REFRAIN...*

REFRAIN:

Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes.
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

CHIMES

GREETINGS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION for WORSHIP

Morning Has Broken, GtG 664

CALL to WORSHIP (from the hymn "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" GtG 232)

Leader: Jesus Christ is risen today!

All: Alleluia!

Leader: Our triumphant and holy day!

All: Alleluia!

Leader: Praise our God, ye heavenly host!

All: Alleluia!

OPENING PRAYER

God of glory, fill your church with the power that flows from Christ's resurrection, that, in the midst of the sinful world, it may signal the beginning of a renewed humanity, risen to new life with Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

⌘ **OPENING HYMN of PRAISE** *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today, GtG 232*

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

Leader: Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ, not even death. Trusting in this Good News, let us turn to God to honestly confess our sins.

All: You call us to hope, Savior God, but we despair. You call us to work for peace, but we doubt its power. You call us to community, but we judge and shun. Transform us, Holy One, by the joy of this Easter. Let us celebrate this day as a new beginning and a new life.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

Spirit, Open My Heart, GtG 692

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Liturgist: Christ conquered death to restore us to life. Believe this good news. Live this resurrection. Hope in God's promise because we are forgiven in Jesus Christ.

All: 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 of ILLUMINATION

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!, GtG 591

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The ANTHEM

Worthy Is the Lamb

Words and Music by Pepper Choplin

Clothed in righteousness, robed in glory, holy is the Lord of Hosts.
Blessing and honor, glory and power to Him who reigns upon the throne.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain

to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive honor and praise forevermore.

I heard the voice of many angels, they were gathered 'round the throne.

They were ten thousand times ten thousand, all the angels joined as one.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain

to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive honor and praise forevermore.

Bring Him honor and praise forevermore. Amen.

The SCRIPTURE

HEBREW TESTAMENT READING:

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

GOSPEL READING:

Luke 24:1-12

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

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Erica L. Harley

Responding to God's Word

⌘ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (Book of Romans)

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION

The Day of Resurrection!, **GtG 233**

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

Leader: With glad and generous hearts, let us give from what we have received. (*congregation may be seated*)

The OFFERTORY

VANCE VOICES of the VALLEY

Shut De Do

Words and Music by Randy Stonehill

Shut the door, keep out the devil,
Shut the door, keep the devil in the night,
Shut the door, keep out the devil,
Light the candle everything's alright,
Light the candle everything's alright...

⌘ 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

God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as tokens of our gratitude and bless Christ's ministry with these offerings. Amen.

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

Thine Is the Glory, **GtG 238**

⌘ BENEDICTION

⌘ BENEDICTION RESPONSE & POSTLUDE

VANCE CHOIR

⌘ Please stand if able.

GtG=Glory to God Hymnal

Songs used with CCLI License # 1223079

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

Today's worship service liturgy is written by Teri McDowell Ott
and provided for free distribution by *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2025.

AdVance Announcements

- *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 and to our Facebook Live congregation watching on facebook.com/VancePresbyterian. Remote 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.
- Worship guests are particularly welcome this morning. Please stop by the Welcome Center in the Narthex to receive a free gift and to leave us your contact information.
- We thank Karen DiOrio for serving as liturgist today.
- Next week is as follows:
 - Greeter is Rowena Baker
 - Ushers are Scott Winters, Zach Abraham, Ben Exley, Kevin Miller
 - Liturgist is Jeanne Finstein
 - Welcome Center Volunteer is Andy Barger
 - Fellowship Time is Drew & Karen Seabright

Vance Calendar

Week of April 20, 2025 through April 27, 2025

Sunday, April 20 Easter Sunday

- **7am, Sunrise Service, Oglebay Park**
- **10am, Easter Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary**

Monday, April 21

- 11am Red Cross Blood Drive, *Fellowship Hall*
- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, *Wheeler Room*
- **5pm, New Believers' Bible Study, Merriman Chapel**
- 6:30pm, Cub Scouts Den Meeting, *Fellowship Hall & CE Classrooms*

Tuesday, April 22

- 4pm, Susan Eismon Bible Study, *Squibb Room*
- 6pm, Ohio County Master Gardener's Meeting, *Wheeler Room*
- 6:30pm, Upper Ohio Valley Round Table, *Potter Chapel*
- 6:30pm, PEO Meeting, *Robbie Clarke Room*
- 7pm, Scouting America Troops 6 and 6000, *Fellowship Hall*

Wednesday, April 23

- **5pm, Pack the Bags for Woodsdale and Steenrod Schools, Robbie Clarke Room**
- 6pm, Narcotics Anonymous, *C.E. Chapel*
- 7pm, Jr. League, *JL 3rd Floor Room*

Thursday, April 24

- **4pm, Nominating Committee Meeting, Squibb Room**
- 4:30pm, Vets with Guitars, *Merriman Chapel*
- **5:30pm, Celebrate Recovery Small Plate & Fellowship, Narthex**
- **6:30pm, Celebrate Recovery, Merriman Chapel**

Friday, April 25

Saturday, April 26

- 8:30pm, Alcoholic's Anonymous, *Fellowship Hall*

Sunday, April 27

- **8:30am, Authentic Manhood, 33 The Series, Merriman Chapel**
- **9am, Children's Sunday School, CE Classrooms, 2nd Floor**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- 3pm, Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Closing Ceremony
- 6pm, Washington Presbyterian Church Fellowship Group, *Robbie Clarke*

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**Vance Church events are in bold type.**

Vance Church also houses the offices of Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery, Young Life, Junior League, Harmony House, and Wishing Well Learning Center.

*Sanctuary Flowers\* are donated by  
Vance Memorial Saints to the Glory of God and in  
Loving Memory and Honor of the following:*

*Given By*

*In Memory/Honor Of*

|                                         |                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Gustkey Family</i>                   | <i>Jean H. Gustkey</i>                                                                                                                |
| <i>Amy &amp; Bob Mead</i>               | <i>Family &amp; Friends</i>                                                                                                           |
| <i>Jeanne Finstein</i>                  | <i>Ernest &amp; Elizabeth Doughty</i>                                                                                                 |
| <i>Bill, Virginia &amp; Diane Crowl</i> | <i>Family &amp; Friends</i>                                                                                                           |
| <i>Robert Kanters</i>                   | <i>Petrus Kanters</i>                                                                                                                 |
| <i>Robert Kanters</i>                   | <i>Cornelia Kanters</i>                                                                                                               |
| <i>Robert Kanters</i>                   | <i>Helen Hartwick Kanters</i>                                                                                                         |
| <i>Brien &amp; Ginny Mudge</i>          | <i>Family</i>                                                                                                                         |
| <i>Tom &amp; Michelle John</i>          | <i>Our Mothers</i>                                                                                                                    |
| <i>Bill Johnson</i>                     | <i>Ireta Tebay</i>                                                                                                                    |
| <i>Abraham Family</i>                   | <i>Abraham &amp; Osborne Family<br/>Members</i>                                                                                       |
| <i>Janet Hart &amp; Stephanie White</i> | <i>Family</i>                                                                                                                         |
| <i>Diane Crowther</i>                   | <i>Family</i>                                                                                                                         |
| <i>Drew &amp; Karen Seabright</i>       | <i>Our Grandkids</i>                                                                                                                  |
| <i>John &amp; Gail Looney</i>           | <i>Family</i>                                                                                                                         |
| <i>Ann Bopp</i>                         | <i>Family</i>                                                                                                                         |
| <i>Anonymous</i>                        | <i>A flower of choice has been donated<br/>to honor the good work of each<br/>member of the Vance Memorial<br/>Presbyterian Staff</i> |

*\*If you purchased a flower plant, please take it  
with you after Easter Worship.  
(Those left will be shared with a shut-in.)*