

# **VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

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**vancechurch.org**

## **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

April 28, 2024 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



### **Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:**

Acts 8:26-40 ~ Psalm 22:25-31

1 John 4:7-21 ~ John 15:1-8

**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

PREPARATION for WORSHIP

*I Need Thee Every Hour,*

**GtG 735, verses 1 and 3**

CALL to WORSHIP

**Liturgist:** We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,

**All: for we are the church of Jesus Christ!**

**Liturgist:** We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,

**All: opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!**

OPENING PRAYER

**Gracious God, may your Holy Spirit open our hearts and minds to your words of love and grace this day. Amen.**

⌘ OPENING HYMN of PRAISE

*This Joyful Eastertide, GtG 244*

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

**Leader:** When we come before God, we remember and proclaim who God is: merciful, just, holy, and loving. We must also remember who we are, and we are a people who have not always been the people God has called us to be. We have not always been merciful, just, holy or loving. So let us confess our sin, trusting in God's goodness to forgive us and create us anew for our lives ahead.

**All: Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you. Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you. We pursue success, realizing it will never be enough. We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty. We turn toward the world and hope we will find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it. Forgive us, we pray, and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone.**

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

*In My Life: Lord, Be Glorified, GtG 468*

DECLARATION OF PARDON (from 2 Corinthians 5:17)

**Leader:** Hear the good news! In Christ, we are new creations. The old life is gone, thank God! A new life has begun. Know you are forgiven, and be at peace.

**All: 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 of ILLUMINATION

*Be Thou My Vision*, **GtG 450**

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

(Preschool-aged children are dismissed to the nursery.)

#### **The ANTHEM**

*From Generation to Generation*

*(Thou Art God)*

Tune: BUNESSAN ~ Traditional Gaelic Melody

Words by Gail McCoig Blanton

Arranged by Marty Parks

From generation to generation,  
to everlasting, Thou art God,  
blessing Thy children, steadfast and faithful;  
keeping each promise, Thou art God.

From generation to generation,  
Thy gracious favor, intimate God,  
welcomes the outcast, honors repentance,  
source of refreshing, Thou art God.

Thou art God! Thou art God!  
Everlasting, Thou art God!

From generation to generation,  
reign from Thy throne, omnipotent God.  
Perfect in justice, essence of mercy,  
hope for all ages, Thou art God!

From everlasting, Thou art God!

#### **The SCRIPTURE**

**HEBREW TESTAMENT READING**

**Psalm 22:25-31**

**NEWER TESTAMENT READING**

**John 15:1-8**

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

#### **MORNING MESSAGE**

Rev. Erica L. Harley

## **Responding to God's Word**

⌘ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (adapted from *Belonging to God: A First Catechism*)

**We are the church: the people who believe the good news about**

**Jesus, who are baptized, and who share in the Lord's Supper.**

**Through these means of grace, the Spirit renews us so that we may**

**serve God in love. We believe the good news that gives us comfort that we belong to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ, who died and rose again for our sake, so that nothing will ever separate us from God's love. We know this good news through reading the Bible and hearing it taught and preached. The Holy Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and helps us rely on its promises today.**

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION *Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me, GtG 703*

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

**Leader:** Having heard the good news and being assured of God's love and grace, our only response is one of gratitude. Let us give thanks with what we have and who we are. Let us give our offering.

### The OFFERTORY

*River of God's Love*

Words by Susan Naus Dengler

Music by Lee Dengler

quoting *I've Got Peace Like a River,*

*Like a River Glorious, and When Peace Like a River*

⌘ 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

**Gracious God, please accept these gifts and use them for the coming of your kingdom in this time and place. In gratitude for all we have and for your love for us, we pray with thanksgiving. 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 *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian, GtG 729*

⌘ BENEDICTION

⌘ BENEDICTION RESPONSE

VANCE CHOIR

⌘ POSTLUDE

⌘ 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 Tara Bulger and provided for free distribution by *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2024.

## *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.
- The March 2024 receipts to the congregational general budget were \$19,966. Expenses for March were \$73,335. Examples of the cost of maintaining our building during March are: utilities of \$8,229 along with repairs and maintenance expenses of \$13,650.
- Tonight at 6pm, our Youth Group will be Rock Climbing at the Highlands. Please meet at 5:45pm at the Highlands Sports Complex.
- **Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, we will be packing bags at the House of the Carpenter at 12:00 noon. Volunteers needed. Please meet at the House of the Carpenter on Wheeling Island.**
- Building & Property Commission meets this Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 4:30 in the Wheeler Room.
- Upcoming on May 9<sup>th</sup> is our Community Dinner in the Fellowship Hall. On our menu for this dinner is tacos! Invitation cards are available at the Welcome Center.
- Mark your calendar for Vacation Bible School to be held July 14-July 18 at Christ United Methodist Church from 6-8pm, for ages 3 through Fifth Grade.
- We thank Karen DiOrio for serving as liturgist today.

# Vance Calendar

Week of April 28, 2024 through May 05, 2024

## Sun. April 28

- **9am, Children's Sunday School, CE Classrooms, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **11:15am, Adult Bible Study, The Chosen, Squibb Room**
- **6pm, Youth Group Rock Wall Climbing, Highlands**
- 6pm, Wash. Presbyterian Church Fellowship Group, Robbie Clarke Rm

## Mon. April 29

- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, Wheeler Room
- **4:30pm, Celebrate Recovery Step Study, Wheeler Room**
- 6:30pm, Cub Scouts Den Meeting, Fellowship Hall & CE Classrooms

## Tue. April 30

- **12:00pm, Pack the Backpacks, House of the Carpenter**
- 4:30pm, Susan Eismon Bible Study, Squibb Room
- 7pm, Boy Scouts Troop 6 Meeting, Fellowship Hall

## Wed. May 01

- 1pm, Chamber of Commerce Sub Committee Meeting, Squibb Room
- **5pm, Pack the Bags for Woodsdale School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- 6pm, Narcotics Anonymous, Fellowship Hall
- 7pm, Jr. League, Junior League Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

## Thur. May 02

- 3:30pm, UOVP Executive Round Table, UOVP Resource Center
- **4:30pm, Building & Property Commission Meeting, Wheeler Rm**
- **5:30pm, Celebrate Recovery Soup & Bread, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **6:30pm, Celebrate Recovery, Merriman Chapel**
- 6:30pm, UOVP Committee on Ministry, ZOOM

## Fri. May 03

## Sat. May 04

- 5pm, NA Dance, Fellowship Hall
- 8:30pm, Alcoholic's Anonymous, NA Room

## Sun. May 05

- **9am, Children's Sunday School, CE Classrooms, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **10am, Communion Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **11:15am, Adult Bible Study, The Chosen, Squibb Room**
- **6:00pm, Fellowship – Ice Cream Social**

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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.