

# VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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## Fifth Sunday of Easter COMMUNION

May 02, 2021 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



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

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

John 15:1-18 ~ 1 John 4:7-21

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.

CALL to WORSHIP

**Liturgist:** In the wilderness, water brings life.

**All: Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.**

**Liturgist:** In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

**All: Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.**

**Liturgist:** In the bread and wine, the body of our Savior nourishes everyone.

**All: Seek us out, O God, and give us yourself.**

**Liturgist:** Here is the water of life, the word that feeds, the food of eternity. Come and praise the vine that give all goodness.

OPENING PRAYER

**Wondrous Vinegrower, you make all things new in water and Word, feeding your people with love, joy, and peace. Lead us today and every day to the font of new beginnings. Teach us to love what you have commanded and to prune what does not nourish your creation, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

⌘OPENING HYMN of PRAISE

*Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*, **GtG 248**

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

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess to God and to one another our failure to love our neighbor.

**God of mercy, we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit. We have not loved others as you have loved us. We have denied the promises of baptism and cut ourselves off from you. Forgive us, restore us, that we may abide in your love and live out your mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.**

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

*Lord, Have Mercy*, **GtG 551**

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

**Liturgist:** You have already been cleansed by the word that God has spoken to you. In baptism God claimed you and joined you to Christ, as branches to a vine. Believe the promise given to you.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, 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

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God. Please greet your  
neighbor in love.

**Encountering God's Word**

⌘ SONG of ILLUMINATION *We Know That Christ Is Raised, GtG 485*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The ANTHEM

*Standing on the Promises*

(Based upon a traditional American hymn)

Words and Music by R. Kelso Carter

Arranged by Mark Hayes

*Please refer to GtG 838.*

The SCRIPTURE

GOSPEL READING:

Luke 15:1-8

NEW TESTAMENT READING:

Acts 8:26-40

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 *More Love to Thee, O Christ, GtG 828*

## ⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

**Leader:** Offering what we have for the sake of others is a discipline of pruning—letting go of our possessions, our time, and even ourselves—to extend the gospel witness into the world. Be generous in your ministry of giving. You need not fear; you abide in the vine.

*(congregation may be seated)*

### The OFFERTORY

#### *Taste and See*

Words and Music by James E. Moore, Jr.

*Please refer to GtG 520.*

## ⌘ 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

**Through our offerings, O God, give your loving Spirit to a world in need of comfort. Make our gifts one offering for the world; in the name of Jesus. Amen.** *(congregation may be seated)*

## The SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

### Invitation to the Lord's Table

**Leader:** This is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from north and south and from east and west to sit at table in the kingdom of God. According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. This is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast that he has prepared.

### Great Thanksgiving

**Leader:** The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**Leader:** Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

**Leader:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Leader:** Praise to you, O God, for all your works. You created the world and called it good and made us in your image to live together in love. You made a covenant with us, and even when we turned from you, you remained ever faithful. Therefore, with all creation we sing your praise:

**All sing GtG 552.** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest.

## Words of Institution

**Leader:** We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus on the night before he died, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way Jesus took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you and for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

**Leader:** Great is the mystery of faith:

**All sing GtG 553.** Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

**Leader:** Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

**All sing GtG 554:** Amen. Amen. Amen.

*Please join in singing* **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!

**Leader:** Jesus said: I am the bread of life. Jesus said: I am the vine, you are the branches. Come to me and never be hungry; believe in me and never thirst. The gifts of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of Cup

### Communion of the People

#### Prayer after Communion

**Leader:** God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## Taking God's Word out, into our Worlds

⌘ CLOSING HYMN *May the God of Hope Go with Us, GtG 765*

⌘ 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**

Today's service is reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*, 2014.

## *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. Radio listeners can go to [vancechurch.org](http://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
- If you are visiting with us today, please fill out the friendship pad in the pew rack so that we may obtain your contact information. Members need not fill out the friendship pads until the pandemic precautions have passed.
- Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available at the Welcome Center in the Narthex. Inquire with an usher and they will assist you.
- Masks, glove, and hand sanitizer is available at the Welcome Center in the Narthex.
- Attendance in worship last Sunday was 65; Giving for the month of April was \$18,095.
- The Organ Task Force will meet on Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the Squibb Room.
- We thank Jim Squibb for serving as worship liturgist.
- Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Jane McCamic by Jeremy McCamic.