

VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

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Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 05, 2024 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Acts 10:44-48 ~ Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6 ~ John 15:9-17

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

LET THE CHILDREN COME

GREETINGS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL to WORSHIP

Liturgist: We come to join with all the earth in praise:

All: to sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things, who has shown us steadfast love and faithfulness.

Liturgist: We praise the Lord with joyful noises joining the symphony of the earth:

All: the roar of the ocean, the call of the birds, the wind across the hills, people in every corner of the globe.

Liturgist: On this sabbath day of rest and gladness,

All: we greet you with joy, our living God!

OPENING PRAYER

⌘OPENING HYMN of PRAISE

Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather, GtG 311

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

Leader: There is nothing that can separate us from God's love. Therefore, let's confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and help us transform our lives.

All: Tender God, forgive us for our half-hearted faith that loves only when it is easy, and reaches out only to those who are like us, that ignores your less convenient commandments and fails to bear fruit anyone would rejoice in. How can a faith like that conquer the world? Nourish us again, to blossom with whole-hearted faith that abides in your love and shines forth with joy. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, 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: Hear the Good News! The only one who could judge us calls us friends.

All: Jesus chose us over his own life, so let us choose Jesus in the life we have now.

Liturgist: By the power of the Spirit, our sins are washed away, and we are made new.

All: Let us live as God's forgiven children. Alleluia! 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

In Christ There Is No East or West, GtG 318

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Preschool-aged children are dismissed to the nursery)

The ANTHEM

Sing to the Lord

Words and Music by Ken Medema

Words based on Psalms 47 and 34

Arranged by Jay Althouse

The SCRIPTURE

HEBREW TESTAMENT READING:

Psalm 98

NEWER TESTAMENT READING:

John 15:9-17

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

What a Friend We Have in Jesus, GtG 465

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

Leader: With gratitude for all God has given us, let us return our offerings to God. *(congregation may be seated)*

The OFFERTORY

I Then Shall Live

Words by Gloria Gaither

Music by Jean Sibelius

Arranged by Tom Fettke

I then shall live as one who's been forgiven.

I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid.

I know my name is clear before my Father;

I am His child and I am not afraid.

So greatly pardoned, I'll forgive my brother;

The law of love I gladly will obey.

I then shall live as one who's learned compassion.

I've been so loved, that I'll risk loving too.

I know how fear builds walls instead of bridges;

I dare to see another's point of view.

And when relationships demand commitment,

Then I'll be there to care and follow through.

Your Kingdom come around and through and in me;

Your power and glory, let them shine through me.

Your Hallowed Name, O may I bear with honor,

And may Your living Kingdom come in me.

The Bread of Life, O may I share with honor,

And may You feed a hungry world through 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

Generous God, we bring you our offerings today, and ask that you bless them. Bless the money in the plates that it might be saved, stewarded and spent in ways that honor you. Bless the tasks we will undertake this week that we might be coworkers in your coming kingdom. Bless the hours of our week – 167 until we meet again – that our lives may be our offering to you. Bless us to be blessings in this world. 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 the One 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.

All Sing *The Lord's Prayer,* The Celebration Hymnal #631.

Our Father, which 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, Amen.

Leader: Jesus said: I am the bread of life. Jesus also 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 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*, **GtG 526**

⌘ 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 Carol Holbrook Prickett 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.
- We thank Jeanne Finstein for serving as liturgist today.
- 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 is our Ice Cream Social in the Fellowship Hall from 6:00-7:30pm
- Our May Community Dinner is this week, May 9th, 5:00-6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. On the menu this week is Tacos!
- Flowers donated In Loving Memory of Ed Sloane, from The Sloane Family
- Do you know how easy, safe, and convenient it is to use our new E-giving for your tithe or offering? Very easy indeed! Just go to the church website www.vancechurch.org and click on the "GIVE" button on the front page. A new page will "pop-up" with a giving form you can fill out with your offering amount and payment method. You can make one-time gifts or set-up recurring gifts that will automatically withdraw from your bank account. Tithing is the foundation of giving and E-giving makes it easy to give whenever the Holy Spirit moves you toward generosity.

Vance Calendar

Week of May 05, 2024 through May 12, 2024

Sun. May 05

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

Mon. May 06

- 11am, Red Cross Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall
- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, Wheeler Conference Room
- 1pm, UOVP Peacemaking Committee, General Presbyters Office
- **4:30pm, Celebrate Recovery Step Study, Wheeler Room**
- 6:30pm, Cub Scouts Den Meeting,, Fellowship Hall & CE Classrooms

Tue. May 07

- 4:30pm, Susan Eison Bible Study, Squibb Room
- 7pm, Boy Scouts Troop 6 Meeting, Fellowship Hall

Wed. May 08

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

Thur. May 09

- **5:00pm, Community Dinner, Fellowship Hall**
- **6:30pm, Celebrate Recovery, Merriman Chapel**

Fri. May 10

- 7:30am, Synod of the Trinity Gathering, Fellowship Hall and Potter Chapel
- 10am, Red Cross Blood Drive, NA Room

Sat. May 11

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

Sun. May 12

- **9am, Children's Sunday School, C.E. Classrooms, 2nd Floor**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **11:15am, Adult Bible Study, The Chosen, Squibb Room**
- 6pm, Washington Presbyterian Church Fellowship Group, Robbie Clarke Room

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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.