

VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

Church Telephone: (304) 232-0980

Fax: (304) 232-0982

vancechurch.org

6th Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 2020 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Genesis 25:19-34 ~ Psalm 119:105-112

Romans 8:1-11 ~ Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

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

Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet, GtG 458

CALL to WORSHIP

Liturgist: Your word is a lamp to our feet

All: and a light to our path.

Liturgist: Your word is our heritage forever,

All: The joy of our hearts.

Liturgist: Come, let us worship God.

OPENING PRAYER

Author of Life, Living Word, Holy Breath, we have stumbled through the week and groped our way back to this place. Illumine the steps before us and write your word on our hearts, for we carry the name of Jesus and would walk in the light of his love. Amen.

⌘OPENING HYMN of PRAISE

All Creatures of Our God and King, GtG 15

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

Liturgist: The Scriptures are shot through with stories of people just like us: men who grieved, women who questioned, siblings who did not get along, parents who chose favorites. God's world of grace is meant for people just like us. There is no need for pretense in this place. Let us go to God in prayer.

Congregation: Patient and persistent God, we come, polished and presentable, to this comfortable room as if we knew what to expect, as if this were a safe and predictable place, as if we could simply observe. Holy One, forgive our tepid expectations. In the mystery of your love, overshadow us. Plant the seeds of our gospel in each of our hearts until we bloom and spill with your passion to serve in a world that is wasting.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

Oh How He Loves You and Me

Oh how He loves you and me!
Oh 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;
Oh how He loves you and me!

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Liturgist: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. The Spirit of God dwells in you. If you hear nothing else today, hear these words: there is no condemnation. In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.

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

I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry, GtG 488

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The ANTHEM

Ancient Words

Words and Music by Lynn DeShazo
Arranged by Mary McDonald

Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world,
they resound with God's own heart; oh, let the ancient words impart.

Words of life, words of hope give us strength, help us cope;
in this world where'er we roam, the ancient words will guide us home.

Ancient words ever true, changing me and changing you;
we have come with open hearts; oh, let the ancient words impart.

Holy words of our faith, handed down to this age,
came to us through sacrifice; oh, heed the faithful words of Christ.

The SCRIPTURE

GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

HEBREW BIBLE READING:

Genesis 25:19-24

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

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Erica L. Harley

Responding to God's Word

⌘ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: A Brief Statement of Faith: 11.3

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION

For the Healing of the Nations, GtG 346

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

Leader: We bring our gifts because tendrils of God's love have worked their ways into the soil of our hearts. Sisters and brothers, let us yield our lives to God's abundant harvest. *(congregation may be seated)*

The OFFERTORY

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Adapted and Arranged by Ed Lojeski

Refer to GtG 835.

⌘ 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

Giver of life, we do not want the cares of the world and the lure of wealth to choke your word among us. As the sower casts seeds abundantly, hopefully, so we long to participate in your seeding of the world. Receive these gifts as tokens of our lives. Send your cultivating Spirit to work among us until we yield and grow in grace, for we pray in the name of Jesus, who came out of love for the world. 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

God Be with You Till We Meet Again, GtG 542

⌘ BENEDICTION

⌘ BENEDICTION RESPONSE and 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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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, 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.
- Masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer is available at the Welcome Center in the Narthex.
- Attendance in worship last Sunday was 25.
- Giving for the month of June was \$29,225.62
- Temple Shalom will be holding its Annual Congregations for Caring Box Lunch Fundraiser! Options are corned beef, turkey, or tuna with chips, pickle, and fruit for \$10 a box. You must reserve your order in advance by calling the Temple office at 304-233-4870. Pick up your order on Sunday, July 12, 2020 from 11am-1pm. All checks should be payable to "Wheeling Health Right".