

VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

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vancechurch.org

5th Sunday after Pentecost

July 13, 2025 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Amos 7:7-14 ~ Psalm 82

Colossians 1:1-14 ~ Luke 10:25-37

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

CALL to WORSHIP

Liturgist: Christ has set us free

All: Free to serve, free to welcome and include, and free to love our neighbors as ourselves.

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, open our eyes to see your hand at work in the splendor of creation and in the beauty of human life. Touched by your hand, our world is holy. Help us to cherish the gifts that surround us, to share our blessings with our sisters and brothers, and to experience the joy of life in your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

⌘ OPENING HYMN of PRAISE

O for a World, GtG 372

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

Leader: Our world and our human desires often lead us to oppose God's way. Before we hear the Word read and proclaimed, let us confess these sins before our God.

All: Spirit of the Living God, your fruit includes love, peace, patience and kindness but we are a divided, hateful people. We turn to violent means and violent words to settle our disputes. We are impatient with each other and fail to honor your commandment to love. Our idols fascinate and distract us from your rightful path. Forgive us. Turn us from our sinful ways. Set us free in Jesus Christ.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

Live in Charity, GtG 205

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: Christ has set us free. Claim your forgiveness. Rejoice in God's grace. Respond with love.

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 *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love, GtG 203*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Preschool children are dismissed to the Nursery)

The ANTHEM

El-Shaddai

Words and Music by Michael Card and John W. Thompson

As Recorded by Amy Grant

Arranged by Ed Lojeski

CHORUS: El-Shaddai, El Shaddai, El-Elyon na Adonai,
Age to age You're still the same, by the power of the name.
El-Shaddai, El-Shaddai erkamka na Adonai,
We will praise and lift You high, El-Shaddai.

1. Through Your love and through the ram, You saved the son of Abraham,
Through the power of Your hand You turned the sea into dry land.
To the outcast on her knees You were the God who really sees,
And by Your might You set Your children free. CHORUS...
2. Through the years You made it clear that the time of Christ was near,
Though the people couldn't see what Messiah ought to be.
Though Your Word contained the plan, they just could not understand.
Your most awesome work was done in the frailty of Your Son.

El-Shaddai, El Shaddai, El-Elyon na Adonai,
Age to age You're still the same, by the power of the name.
El-Shaddai, El-Shaddai erkamka na Adonai,
I will praise You 'til I die, El-Shaddai.

The SCRIPTURE

OLDER TESTAMENT READING

Amos 7:7-14

GOSPEL READING

Luke 10:25-37

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

MORNING MESSAGE

The Neighbor Shows Mercy

Rev. Erica Harley

Responding to God's Word

⌘ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (from the Belhar Confession)

All: We believe • that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells. • that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and

therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world; • that the credibility of this message is seriously affected and its beneficial work obstructed when it is proclaimed in a land which professes to be Christian, but in which the enforced separation of people on a racial basis promotes and perpetuates alienation, hatred and enmity; • that any teaching which attempts to legitimate such forced separation by appeal to the gospel, and is not prepared to venture on the road of obedience and reconciliation, but rather, out of prejudice, fear, selfishness and unbelief, denies in advance the reconciling power of the gospel, must be considered ideology and false doctrine.

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart, GtG 688

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

Leader: Paul reminds us that generosity is a fruit of the Spirit. Let us generously share of the gifts we have been given. Let us present our offerings to God.

The OFFERTORY

Let It Be Said of Us

Words and Music by Steve Fry

Arranged by Mary McDonald

Let it be said of us that the Lord was our passion,
That with gladness we bore every cross we were given,
That we fought the good fight, and we finished the course,
Knowing within us the power of the risen Lord.

CHORUS:

Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song,
By mercy made holy, by the Spirit made strong.
Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song
'Til the likeness of Jesus be through us made known.
Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song.

Let it be said of us, we were marked by forgiveness,
We were known by our love and delighted in mercy,
We were ruled by His peace, heeding unity's call,
Joined as one body that Christ would be seen by all.

⌘ 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

**Most generous God, you have blessed us with gifts to serve and share.
May the offerings we present today be used to further your Kin-dom
and build your beloved community. 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

What Is the World Like, GtG 771

⌘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 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 Jeanne Finstein for serving as liturgist today.
- Next week is as follows:
 - Greeter is Roger Cain
 - Ushers are Diane Crowl, Audrey Abraham, Sue Abraham, John Looney, Ann Bopp
 - Liturgist is Karen DiOrio

Vance Calendar

Week of July 13 through July 20, 2025

Sunday, July 13

- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **12:30pm, VBS Training, Christ United Methodist Church**
- **6pm, Youth Group, Robbie Clarke Room**

Monday, July 14

- **10am, VBS Imagination Station Meeting, Christ United Methodist Church**
- 12pm, YWCA STEM "Cosmetic Chemistry", Large Kitchen
- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, Wheeler Room
- **7pm, Session, Squibb Room**

Tuesday, July 15

- **10am, Staff Meeting, Church Office**
- 7pm, Scouts Troops 6 and 6000, Fellowship Hall & C.E. Classrooms

Wednesday, July 16

- 6pm, Narcotic Anonymous, Primary Chapel
- **6:15pm, EF&M Commission Meeting, Wheeler Room**
- 7pm, Junior League, Junior League Room, 3rd Floor

Thursday, July 17

- 4:30pm, Vets with Guitars, Merriman Chapel
- 5pm, Every Body Dances, Fellowship Hall
- **6:00pm, Celebrate Recovery Small Plate & Fellowship, Narthex**
- **6:30pm, Celebrate Recovery, Merriman Chapel**

Friday, July 18

Saturday, July 19

- **10:30am, Kidz Morning Out, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **1pm, VBS Decorating, Christ United Methodist Church**
- 7pm, Alcoholics Anonymous, Potter Chapel

Sunday, July 20

- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **5:30pm, Dinner & Vacation Bible School (6-8p), Christ United Methodist Church**
- 6pm, Washington Presbyterian Church Fellowship, 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.