

VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

Church Telephone: (304) 232-0980

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vancechurch.org

6th Sunday after Pentecost

July 20, 2025 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Amos 8:1-12 ~ Psalm 52

Colossians 1:15-28 ~ Luke 10:38-42

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

HYMN PRELUDE

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

Words and Music by Brian Wren and Carlton R. Young

1. This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.
2. For by the life and death of Jesus, love's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again.
3. Then let us, with the Spirit's daring, step from the past and leave behind
our disappointment, guilt, and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find.
4. Christ is alive, and goes before us to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new.

CHIMES

GREETINGS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL to WORSHIP

Liturgist: God calls us here to worship. We carry many worries and are distracted by many things, but here, in this time and place, we are invited to set them aside, to be fully present. Let's pause and take a deep breath. We remember who we are:

All: We are the body of Christ.

Liturgist: We remember whose we are:

All: We are God's beloved children.

Liturgist: We remember our chief purpose:

All: To glorify God and enjoy God forever.

Liturgist: Let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ and make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our daily lives, make us attentive to your voice and alert to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

⌘ **OPENING HYMN of PRAISE** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise, GtG 12*

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

Leader: Those who speak the truth from their heart abide in God's presence. Let us speak the truth now as we confess our sin together:

All: Holy God, we are pulled in many different directions. We are distracted by the news, quick to point fingers and pass judgment, but reluctant to examine the ways we benefit from the injustice in our world. We are distracted by our fears. We fear the loss of health,

safety, and financial security. Instead of proclaiming your abundance, we operate from a mindset of scarcity. We are distracted by our tasks, by calendars that shape our priorities, leaving us with less time and energy for what is most important. We confess our distraction, even as we acknowledge that sometimes we embrace it because it's easier than sitting at Jesus's feet, learning what it means to follow him. We confess that distraction is easier than discipleship. Forgive us. Help us discern and choose the better path as we seek to follow Christ, in whose name we pray.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive, GtG 444*

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: This good news will not be taken away: We are seen as God's beloved children, holy and blameless, reconciled to God through Jesus Christ.

All: Let us live into this good news: 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

May the Peace of Christ be with you! **And also, with you!**

Encountering God's Word

⌘ SONG of ILLUMINATION *Woman in the Night, GtG 161*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Preschool children are dismissed to the Nursery)

The ANTHEM

Grace

Adapted from John Newton (1725-1807)

EARLY AMERICAN MELODY

Arranged by Mark Hayes

Please see GtG 649, verses 1, 2, 3, and 5.

The SCRIPTURE

OLDER TESTAMENT READING

Amos 8:1-12

GOSPEL READING

Luke 10:38-42

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

MORNING MESSAGE

Be Attentive – not distracted – to Serving

Rev. Erica Harley

Responding to God's Word

REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I do.**

Who is your Lord and Savior? **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love? **I will, with God's help.**

LAYING ON OF HANDS

WELCOME

⌘ **SONG of AFFIRMATION** *Jesus, Priceless Treasure, GtG 830*

⌘ **INVITATION to the OFFERING**

Leader: In Christ, we have received the better part, which will not be taken away. We offer our gifts with joy and gratitude. Freely we have received; now freely let us give.

The OFFERTORY

Give Me Jesus

Traditional Spiritual arranged by Moses Hogan

Presented by Soloist Dr. Alan Cline

In the morning, when I rise, give me Jesus.

Dark midnight was my cry, give me Jesus.

Oh, when I comes to die, give me Jesus.

You may have all this world, give me Jesus.

⌘ **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**

Abundant God, we give thanks for your grace and provision in our lives. Use these gifts to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our community and the world. May they witness to your love and care for all people, as we offer our time and energy to do the same. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

and the glory forever. Amen!

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 Karen Seabright for serving as liturgist today.
- Next week is as follows:
 - Greeter is Audrey Abraham
 - Ushers are Drew Seabright, Russ Green, Tom John, Andy Barger, Roger Cain
 - Liturgist is Joanne Winters
 - Fellowship Snack Volunteer is Diane Crowl.

Vance Calendar

Week of July 20 through July 27, 2025

Sunday, July 20

- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **5:30pm, VBS Dinner (VBS 6-8pm), Christ United Methodist Church**
- 6pm, Washington Presbyterian Church Fellowship, *Robbie Clarke Room*

Monday, July 21

- 11am, Red Cross Blood Drive, *Fellowship Hall*
- **11:30am, Lunch for House of the Carpenter, House of the Carpenter**
- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, *Wheeler Room*
- 2pm, Ohio County Food Security Team Meeting, ZOOM
- **5:30pm, VBS Dinner (VBS 6-8pm), Christ United Methodist Church**

Tuesday, July 22

- **11:30am, Lunch for House of the Carpenter, House of the Carpenter**
- **5:30pm, VBS Dinner (VBS 6-8pm), Christ United Methodist Church**
- 6pm, Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery Meeting, *Rock Hill Presbyterian Church*
- 7pm, Scouts Troops 6 and 6000, *Fellowship Hall & C.E. Classrooms*

Wednesday, July 23

- **11:30am, Lunch for House of the Carpenter, House of the Carpenter**
- **5:30pm, VBS Dinner (VBS 6-8pm), Christ United Methodist Church**
- 6pm, Narcotic Anonymous, *Primary Chapel*
- 7pm, Junior League, *Junior League Room, 3rd Floor*

Thursday, July 24

- **11:30am, Lunch for House of the Carpenter, House of the Carpenter**
- 4:30pm, Vets with Guitars, *Merriman Chapel*
- **5:30pm, VBS Dinner (VBS 6-8pm), Christ United Methodist Church**
- **6:00pm, Celebrate Recovery Small Plate & Fellowship, Narthex**
- **6:30pm, Celebrate Recovery, Merriman Chapel**
- 6:30pm, PEO Meeting, *Robbie Clarke Room*

Friday, July 25

Saturday, July 26

- 6pm, Alcoholics Anonymous Anniversary Dance, *Fellowship Hall*

Sunday, July 27

- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **6pm, Youth 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.

|                      | <b>ELDERS</b>     |                     |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>2025</b>          | <b>2026</b>       | <b>2027</b>         |
| John Looney          | Elaine Strauch    | Jeanne Finstein (2) |
| Frank Provance (2)   | Zach Abraham      | Diane Crowl (2)     |
| Karen Seabright      | Scott Winters     | Amber Green         |
| Howard Monroe (2)    | Jill Flanagan     | Sue Abraham         |
|                      | <b>DEACONS</b>    |                     |
| <b>2025</b>          | <b>2026</b>       | <b>2027</b>         |
| Denise Williamson    | Janice Carenbauer | Audrey Abraham (2)  |
| Jennifer Shearer (2) | Cheryl Joseph     | Jane Hare (2)       |
| Andy Barger (2)      | Roger Cain (2)    | Joanne Winters      |
| Chase Burdick        | Alan Cline (2)    | Rowena Baker        |

**The PASTOR and CHURCH STAFF**

**Rev. Erica L. Harley ~ Senior Pastor**

**Janice Carenbauer ~ Church Office Administrator**

**Deborah Podolski Breiding ~ Director of Music**

**Jay Carenbauer ~ Head Custodian**

**Chaz Erasmus ~ Custodian**

**Keith Wilson ~ Sound, Video, and Media Coordinator**

**Michelle Harriman ~ Nursery Coordinator**

**~ MINISTERS of the CHURCH: ALL MEMBERS ~**

**MISSION PERSONNEL of OUR DIRECT CONCERN**

**Caleb and Claire (Seabright) Bermudez**