

VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

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vancechurch.org

12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 2025 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Jeremiah 2:4-13 ~ Psalm 81:1, 10-16

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 ~ Luke 14:1, 7-14

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: Gathered to worship God,

All: we are all right where we belong.

Liturgist: Called to this celebration of worship by God's Spirit,

All: we approach God with joy in our hearts.

Liturgist: Nourished by the love of Jesus, God's Son,

All: we gladly feast at this banquet of grace.

OPENING PRAYER

O God, you invite the poor and the sinful to take their place in the festive assembly of the new covenant. May your church always honor the presence of the Lord in the humble and the suffering, and may we learn to recognize each other as brothers and sisters, gathered together around your table. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

⌘OPENING HYMN of PRAISE

Gather Us In, GtG 401

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

Leader: Our God is a generous God, bestowing grace immeasurably, loving us beyond what we can imagine, and forgiving us before we know to ask. To this God of generosity, love and forgiveness we now turn as we confess our sins.

All: Holy God, we compare ourselves with others, wondering if we are better than them. We judge one another, trying to justify ourselves. We seek to establish our superiority by assuming positions of honor. Forgive us, we pray. Free us to see ourselves truthfully and to love one another with humble, gracious spirits.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

Help Us Accept Each Other, GtG 754

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: God alone has the authority to judge, and by the grace of Jesus Christ, God has declared that we are forgiven of all our sin.

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

Blest Be the Tie That Binds, GtG 306

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Preschool children are dismissed to the Nursery)

The ANTHEM

We Are Called

Words and Music by David Haas

Choral Setting by Mark Hayes

Based on Micah 6:8

Please refer to GtG 749.

The SCRIPTURE

OLDER TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 2:4-13

GOSPEL READING

Luke 14:1, 7-14

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

MORNING MESSAGE

"Room for All at the Table"

Rev. Erica L. Harley

Responding to God's Word

⌘ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (Book of Common Worship, Philippians 2:5-11)

All: Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION

For Everyone Born, GtG 769

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

Leader: As a response to God's Word, which we have heard read and proclaimed, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

The OFFERTORY

People Need the Lord

Words and Music by Greg Nelson and Phill McHugh

Arranged by Mary McDonald

Every day they pass me by; I can see it in their eyes,
empty people filled with care headed who knows where.
On they go through private pain, living fear to fear;
Laughter hides their silent cries only Jesus hears.

People need the Lord, People need the Lord.
At the end of broken dreams, he's the open door.
People need the Lord. People need the Lord.
When will we realize people need the Lord?

We are called to take his light to a world where wrong seems right.
What could be too great a cost for sharing life with one who's lost?
Through his love our hearts can feel all the grief they bear.
They must hear the words of life only we can share.

People need the Lord. People need the Lord.
At the end of broken dreams, he's the open door.
People need the Lord. People need the Lord.
When will we realize that we must give our lives?
For people need the Lord!

⌘ 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

**Gracious God, we offer to you these gifts, both as signs of our
gratitude and as instruments of your reign. Use these gifts, and us,
that your way of love and peace, transformation and hope might
flourish in this place. 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 *Jesu, Jesu, Fill us with Your Love* **GtG 203**

⌘ 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 L. Roger Owens, 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.
- The Men's Bible Study (33 The Series) will begin on October 5, 8:30am, in the Merriman Chapel.
- We thank Karen DiOrio for serving as liturgist today.
- Next week is as follows:
 - Greeter is Andy Barger
 - Welcome Center is Janet Hart
 - Ushers are Diane Crowl, Audrey Abraham, Sue Abraham, John Looney, Ann Bopp
 - Liturgist is Gail Looney

In the month of September, Vance will offer new member classes for those who want to officially join in membership with the Church. September 14 will be the first class where we will talk about Presbyterianism. September 21 will be a meeting with the officers of Vance Church to learn more about this congregation, and September 28 will be a meeting with the Church Session. If you have questions, please talk to Erica. We look forward to seeing you.

Vance Calendar

Week of August 31, 2025 through September 07, 2025

Sunday, August 31

- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **12noon, Kidz Morning Out Pool Party, Home of Russ & Amber Green**
- 6pm, Washington Presbyterian Church Fellowship, *Robbie Clarke Room*

Monday, September 01 Labor Day

- **Church Office Closed for Labor Day Holiday**
- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, *Wheeler Room*
- 1pm, UOVP Peacemaking Committee Meeting, *General Presbyter's Office*
- 6:30pm, Cub Scouts Den Meeting, *Fellowship Hall & CE Classrooms*

Tuesday, September 02

- **5pm, Marketing Task Force, Squibb Room**
- 7pm, Scouting America Troops 6 and 6000, *Fellowship Hall & CE Classrooms*

Wednesday, September 03

- **4:30pm, Building & Property Commission Meeting, Wheeler Room**
- **5pm, Nourish to Flourish, Robbie Clarke Room**
- 6pm, Narcotic Anonymous, *Primary Chapel*
- **6pm, W&M Commission Meeting, Squibb Room**
- 7pm, Junior League, *Junior League Room, 3rd Floor*

Thursday, September 04

- 3pm, UOVP Executive Round Table, *UOVP Resource Center*
- 4:30pm, Vets with Guitars, *Merriman Chapel*
- **6:00pm, Celebrate Recovery Small Plate & Fellowship, Narthex**
- **6:30pm, Celebrate Recovery, Merriman Chapel**
- 6:30pm, UOVP Committee on Ministry, *ZOOM*

Friday, September 05

Saturday, September 06

- 7pm, Alcoholics Anonymous, *Potter Chapel*

Sunday, September 07

- **10am, Communion Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **4pm, Youth Group Pool Party, Home of Russ & Amber Green**
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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.