

VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

Church Telephone: (304) 232-0980

Fax: (304) 232-0982

vancechurch.org

15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 2020 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Exodus 14:19-31 ~ Psalm 114 *or* Exodus 15:1b-11,20-21

Romans 14:1-12 ~ Matthew 18:21-35

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

God's Peace

Come Away from Rush and Hurry

Words by Marva J. Dawn; Choral Setting by C. J. Adams

Come away from rush and hurry to the stillness of God's peace;
from our vain ambition's worry, come to Christ and find release.
Come away from noise and clamor, life's demands and frenzied pace;
come to join the people gathered here to seek and find God's grace.

Come, then, children, with your burdens, life's confusions, fears, and pain.
Leave them at the cross of Jesus, take instead his kingdom's reign.
Bring your thirsts, for he will quench them, he alone will satisfy.
All our longings find attainment when to self we gladly die.

Come away from rush and hurry to the stillness of God's peace.

CALL to WORSHIP

Liturgist: Give praise to God!

All: Praise the Lord, for it is God who saves....

Liturgist: It is God who forgives....

All: It is God who delivers....

Liturgist: Give thanks and praise to the Lord!

OPENING PRAYER

O God who is our strength, you have protected us from those who would seek to oppress us. You have shielded us from those who would seek to destroy the good gifts you have put in us. Your love and power never fail. Thanks and praise to you, our safety and stronghold. We exalt you, O God, majestic in holiness, for there is none like you. Amen.

⌘ OPENING HYMN of PRAISE

For Everyone Born, GtG 769

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

Liturgist: Let us confess our sins to God who forgives and saves.

Congregation: Gracious and loving God, you lived for us—we have not lived for you. You have forgiven us—we have not

forgiven others. You have loved us—we have not loved ourselves nor have we loved one another. Take pity on us and forgive us, God. Help us to forgive. Help us to live for you. Help us to love through Christ our Lord.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying, GtG 469*

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Liturgist: People of God, our sins are forgiven. God is merciful and gracious and is Lord of us all. Reconciled to the God who loved us, let us live and love through Christ our Lord.

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**

For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits, GtG 89 vv. 1&5

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The ANTHEM

Wade in the Water

Traditional Spiritual Arranged by Mark Hayes

Wade in the water, children, God's gonna trouble the water.

See that host all dressed in white.
The leader looks like the Israelite.

See that band all dressed in red.
Looks like the band that Moses led.

Look over yonder, what do you see?
The Holy Ghost a-comin' down on me.

If you don't believe I've been redeemed,
Just follow me down to Jordan's stream.

The SCRIPTURE

GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 18:21-35

HEBREW BIBLE READING:

Exodus 14:19-31

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

MORNING MESSAGE

Jane Schockey, UOVP Candidate

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 Life That You Have Given, GtG 717

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

Leader: God is unfailing in blessing and love. With thankful hearts, let us offer up to God a portion of what God has given us. *(congregation may be seated)*

The OFFERTORY

Father, We Worship You

Words and Music by Victor C. Johnson

Father, we lift our hearts to You in this holy place,
grateful for Your tender mercy, and Your plenteous grace.

Father, we lift our lives to You, our vow of love we bring,
given in true humility to our eternal King.

We lift our voice to honor You as we sing Your praise.
We bow before You, love and adore You, holy is Your name!

Father, we lift our prayers to You in this holy place,
Almighty God, we worship You, we lift our lives to You.

Father, we worship You.

⌘ **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**

**O God, we thank you for these gifts. Multiply them and enable
the world of love and the righteousness of your kingdom in the
world. We thank and praise you. 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** *For the Beauty of the Earth, GtG 14*

⌘ **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.
- 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 38.
- Giving for the month of July was \$24,926.78.
- Once again, the Deacons are collecting school supplies for our partner in education Woodsdale Elementary School all through the month of September. Please leave suggested donations from the list below in the food pantry collection boxes. *Clorox wipes/Lysol spray, Masks (Disposable), Dry erase markers (expo), Plastic sandwich baggies, Tissues, Glue sticks (Elmer's), Highlighters, Crayons (Crayola), Notebooks (1 and 3 subject), Pencils (pre-sharpened Ticonderoga is best), Scissors (Fiskars-blunt), Markers (Crayola), Plastic Folders*
- There will be a Board of Deacons meeting Sunday, Sept. 20. in the Squibb Room and via teleconference at 11:20 a.m.
- Flowers have been placed on the Chancel by Bill, Virginia and Diane Crawl.