

# **VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

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**vancechurch.org**

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 27, 2020 ▪ 10:00 a.m.**



## **Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:**

Exodus 17:1-7 ~ Psalm 78:1-4,12-16

Philippians 2:1-13 ~ Matthew 21:23-32

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

*Change My Heart, O God, GtG 695*

CALL to WORSHIP

**Liturgist:** Praise the Lord who is our provider.

**All: The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.**

**Liturgist:** God brought us out of bondage and has made us free.

**All: The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.**

**Liturgist:** Glorious are the deeds of our God, and mighty are his acts.

**All: The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.**

OPENING PRAYER

**Gracious God, we thank you for being ever present with us. We know that we are never alone. Your mercies have been faithful and rich. Pour out your Spirit upon us, that we might do the work of your will. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

⌘OPENING HYMN of PRAISE

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing, GtG 475*

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

**Liturgist:** Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor, trusting in the promise of forgiveness.

**Congregation: Almighty God, we have been wandering in the wilderness of sin. We have complained in the face of your mercy. We have been selfish and conceited in the face of your sacrifice. We have not done your will. Teach us humility. Teach us gratitude. Infuse your spirit into our beings so that we might be reconciled to you in Jesus' name we pray.**

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

*Seek Ye First, GtG 175, verse 1*

## DECLARATION OF PARDON

**Liturgist:** People of God, our sins are forgiven. The Lord is loving and we are reconciled to God. Therefore, let us humble and surrender ourselves to the will of God for the glory of the 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

*Our God, Our Help in Ages Past, GtG 687*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### The ANTHEM

*Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land*

Text: Traditional; Tune: WEARY LAND

Music: Newly composed by Kyle Johnson

*"Strike the rock, and water will come out of it,  
so that the people may drink." ~ Exodus 17:6*

Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land;  
my Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in the time of storm.

No one can do like Jesus, not a mumbling word he said;  
he went walking down to Lazarus' grave, and he raised him from the dead.

When Jesus was on earth, the flesh was very weak;  
he took a towel and girded himself and he washed his disciples' feet.

Yonder comes my Savior, him whom I love so well;  
he has the palm of victory, and the keys of death and hell.

### The SCRIPTURE

GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 21:23-32

HEBREW BIBLE READING:

Exodus 17:1-7

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      *O God, Who Gives Us Life, GtG 53*

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

**Leader:** The works of the Lord are wondrous indeed. Let us offer back to God a portion of what has been given to us, for the glory of God's name. *(congregation may be seated)*

### The OFFERTORY

*Peace*

Words and Music by Patricia Mock  
Arranged by Richard A. Nichols

Oh, Lord, through the strife bring your peace.  
Where worry prevails, give release.  
As the shadows linger all around,  
to our troubled minds and broken land.  
Let there be peace...

Oh, Lord, through the dark shine your light.  
Where truth seems unclear, help our sight.  
Lift the veil that covers blinded eyes;  
Give a vision of you, only wise.  
Let your light shine...

Lord of all mercy and grace,  
rain down your love in this place.  
In a world where hatred seems so strong,  
may your grace right the wrong.

Give your peace, Lord, give your peace...

⌘ **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, use these gifts to do your will in the world and prepare us for your coming kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray. 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 the Spirit, Guide and Guardian, GtG 303*

⌘ **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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# 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](http://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 35.
- Giving for the month of August was \$24,962.78.
- 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*