

VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

Church Telephone: (304) 232-0980

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vancechurch.org

19th Sunday after Pentecost

October 19, 2025 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Jeremiah 31:27-34 ~ Psalm 119:97-104

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 ~ Luke 18:1-8

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 (Psalm 121 and 2 Timothy 4)

Liturgist: We lift up our eyes to the hills — from where will our help come?

All: Our help comes not from the hills, but from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

Liturgist: I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable;

All: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

Liturgist: With endurance, expectation, and joy, let us worship the living God!

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations. Preserve the works of your mercy, that your church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your name; 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

Seek Ye First, GtG 175

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

Leader: If we say we have no sin, the truth is not in us. And yet, we want to be people of truth and love. So we come to the baptismal font seeking a new start; a new day; an opportunity to join God's work of building and planting. With confidence that God hears our prayers and loves us unconditionally, let us confess our sins:

All: God of the covenant, you promise to write your law in our hearts, that we might be faithful people who know you and your will for us. Still we stray from your ways, we fail to tell the truth, we mirror the world around us more than the good news of the gospel, and we fail to acknowledge that you are our God. Forgive us, and by your Spirit renew us. Engrave your covenant upon us once more. Grant us courage and faith that we might begin again to live what it is we say we believe.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying, GtG 469

DECLARATION OF PARDON (Jeremiah 31:34)

Leader: No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

All: Hear and believe this good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

⌘ 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 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus, GtG 465*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Preschool children are dismissed to the Nursery)

The ANTHEM

O Day of Peace that Dimly Shines

Lyrics by Carl P. Daw, Jr.

Hymn Tune: JERUSALEM; Music by C. Hubert H. Parry

Arranged by Jantz A. Black

Please refer to **GtG 373**.

The SCRIPTURE

OLDER TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 31:27-34

GOSPEL READING

Luke 18:1-8

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

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Erica L. Harley

Responding to God's Word

⌘ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (The Confession of 1967, Inclusive Language edition)

All: The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love

others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace. The new life does not release people from conflict with unbelief, pride, lust, and fear. They still have to struggle with disheartening difficulties and problems. Nevertheless, as they mature in love and faithfulness in their life with Christ, they live in freedom and good cheer, bearing witness on good days and evil days, confident that the new life is pleasing to God and helpful to others.

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart, GtG 688

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

Leader: Out of gratitude for all that God has provided for us and with hope for a future that continues to unfold toward God's promised end, we bring our tithes and offerings for God's work among us in this time and place.

The OFFERTORY

Believer's Prayer

Words by John Parker

Music by Joel Raney

Renew my mind that I may think of you.
Unloose my tongue to sing your praise.
Inspire my thoughts to write a song of joy!
Guide my feet to walk in your ways.

Tune my heart and I will lift my voice;
Plant my life, I will bloom for thee.
Bless my hands so I may bring a gift.
Illumine your Word that I may see!

Breathe through me; I will proclaim your love!
Fashion me, I will comply.
Take my life that I may live for you!
Live through me, Lord, that I would die.
Amen.

⌘ 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

We give you thanks, Creator of heaven and earth and all that is within them, for the gift of this day, this moment of worship, and your word which is engraved upon our hearts. Receive and bless these gifts that we return to you, as a symbol of the dedication of our entire lives, that we as your church might be ever more faithful in your work of reconciliation, love and joy. In Christ's name we pray. 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 *Change My Heart, O God, GtG 695*

⌘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 Matthew A. Rich, 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 Karen DiOrio for serving as liturgist today.
- Trunk or Treat is coming October 31st! See the sign-up in the Narthex!
- Next week is as follows:
 - Welcome Center is John Hargleroad
 - Ushers are Ed Gustkey, Frank Provence, Bob Mead, Bob Kanter, Jeanne Finstein
 - Liturgist is Jeanne Finstein
 - Fellowship Snacks is Bob Kanter

Vance Calendar

Week of October 19, 2025 through October 26, 2025

Sunday, October 19

- **8:30am, Men's Study, Merriman Chapel**
- **9am, Children's Sunday School, C.E. Classrooms**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **11:15am, Deacon's Meeting, Wheeler Room**

Monday, October 20

- 11am Red Cross Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall
- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, Wheeler Room
- 6:30pm, Cub Scouts Den Meeting, Fellowship Hall & CE Classrooms
- **7pm, Session Meeting, Squibb Room**

Tuesday, October 21

- **10am, Staff Meeting, Church Office**
- 4pm, Susan Eison Bible Study, Squibb Room
- 7pm, Scouting America Troop 6, Fellowship Hall & CE Classrooms

Wednesday, October 22

- **5pm, Nourish to Flourish, Robbie Clarke Room**
- 6pm, Narcotic Anonymous, Primary Chapel
- **6:15pm, EF&M Commission Meeting, Wheeler Room**
- 7pm, Scouting America Troop 6000, Fellowship Hall
- 7pm, Junior League, Junior League Room, 3rd Floor

Thursday, October 23

- 4:30pm, Vets with Guitars, Merriman Chapel
- **6:00pm, Celebrate Recovery Small Plate & Fellowship, Narthex**
- **6:30pm, Celebrate Recovery, Merriman Chapel**
- 6:30pm, PEO Meeting, Robbie Clarke Room

Friday, October 24

Saturday, October 25

- 1pm, Birthday Party, Fellowship Hall
- 7pm, Alcoholics Anonymous, Potter Chapel

Sunday, October 26

- **8:30am, Men's Study, Merriman Chapel**
- **9am, Children's Sunday School, C.E. Classrooms**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **10am, Worship Service/Reformation Sunday, Sanctuary**
- **6pm, Youth Group, Fellowship Hall**
- 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.

The PASTOR and CHURCH STAFF  
Rev. Erica L. Harley ~ Senior Pastor  
Janet Hart ~ Clerk of Session  
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



Trunk or Treat is a fun program planned to introduce the children and youth of our community to Vance Church. **From 6-8pm on October 31<sup>st</sup>**, kids from the community will have an opportunity to trick or treat in our church parking lot and then come inside to the Fellowship Hall for food, games, and prizes. This is one of the most fun and joy-producing community events for a church. We will need help with car trunks decorated in the parking lot for trick or treaters, with people in the kitchen to help with the food, and with folks to interact with the kids playing games and having fun. **We will also need lots and lots of candy!!! See the sign-up in the Narthex!**