

# **VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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**vancechurch.org**

**Christ the King Sunday**  
**27<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
November 24, 2024 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



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

2 Samuel 23:1-7 ~ Psalm 132:1-12

Revelations 1:4b-8 ~ John 18:33-37

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

PREPARATION for WORSHIP

*Thanks Be to God*

Arranged with Words by Sheldon Curry

Music: FINLANDIA by Jean Sibelius

There is a hand whose touch creates all beauty:  
the snow-capped height, the river's quiet flow.  
And that same hand, which fashioned all creation  
calms troubled hearts and soothes the wounded soul.  
Thanks be to God whose mercy knows no measure,  
whose righteous way His wond'rous works applaud.

There is a Shepherd for each valley's shadow;  
unfathomed grace joins ev'ry trial we meet.  
God's loving kindness bears our ev'ry weakness;  
for such a sure and steadfast love is He.

Give thanks to God for faithful friends and family,  
those near and far whose lives define our own.  
And praise God's goodness past all comprehension;  
God is our source, our pleasure, and our home.  
Thanks be to God whose mercy knows no measure,  
whose righteous way His wond'rous works applaud.

Thanks be to God! Thanks be to God! Thanks be to God!

CALL to WORSHIP (based on Revelation 1:5-6)

**Liturgist:** What brings us together in this place?

**All: To worship Christ, who loves us, who freed us from our sins  
and who made us into a kingdom, priests serving God the Father.**

**Liturgist:** To Christ be glory and dominion forever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

**Liturgist:** Let's prepare our hearts and minds to worship Jesus Christ,  
our king.

OPENING PRAYER

**Eternal God, you set Jesus Christ to rule over all things, and made  
us servants in your kingdom. By your Spirit empower us to love the  
unloved, and to minister to all in need. Then at the last bring us to  
your eternal realm where we may worship and adore you and be  
welcomed into your everlasting joy; 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

*Rejoice, the Lord Is King!*, **GtG 363**

**CONFESSION and time of self-examination** (based on Hebrews 4:15-16, but with a little twist echoing John 18:33-37) (*congregation may be seated*)

**Leader:** Christ sympathizes with our weaknesses. The one we call King in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**All: Lord, however much we call you king, we fail to follow your call to us. We succumb to the temptations of this temporary world, seeking power and security while you call us to service and hospitality, consuming your creation while you call us to care for it, hating our neighbors, who you call us to love. In our failure to claim you, we identify more with the nations on our passports than with your kingdom. We pray that you reclaim us as your people, forgive us as your children, and continue to be our Lord and our hope for salvation.**

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

*At the Name of Jesus, GtG 264*

DECLARATION OF PARDON (based on Psalm 93:5, Revelation 1:5)

**Leader:** Hear the good news: Jesus Christ loves us and has set us free from our sins. In the name of Jesus Christ, and by the certainty of God's decree, know that we are forgiven!

**All: Thanks be to God!**

⌘ 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

*Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun, GtG 265*

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

(Preschool Children are dismissed to the Nursery)

#### **The ANTHEM**

Presented by VANCE VOICES of the VALLEY

#### *Pilgrims' Hymn*

Words by Michael Dennis Browne

Music by Stephen Paulus

Even before we call on Your name

To ask You, O God.

When we seek for the words to glorify You,

You hear our prayer.

Unceasing love, O unceasing love,  
Surpassing all we know.

Glory to the Father,  
And to the Son,  
And to the Holy Spirit.

Even with the darkness sealing us in,  
We breathe Your name,  
And through all the days that follow so fast,  
We trust in You.

Endless Your Grace, O endless Your Grace,  
Beyond all mortal dream.

Both now and forever,  
And unto ages and ages,  
Amen.

### The SCRIPTURE

### MORNING MESSAGE

The Rev. Dr. Michael Linger

## **Responding to God's Word**

⌘ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (excerpts from The Theological declaration of Barmen)

**All: Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death. The Christian Church is the congregation... in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord in Word and Sacrament through the Holy Spirit. As the Church of pardoned sinners, it has to testify in the midst of a sinful world, with its faith as with its obedience, with its message as with its order, that it is solely his property, and that it lives and wants to live solely from his comfort and from his direction in the expectation of his appearance.**

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION *Soon and Very Soon, GtG 384*

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING (based on Revelation 1:8)

**Leader:** The Lord God is Alpha and Omega, the one who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty. All that is, all that was, and all there will be belongs to God. Let us now return to God in part what is God's in whole.

### The OFFERTORY

#### *The Yearning*

Music by Craig Courtney

Words by Susan Bentall Boersma

There is a yearning in hearts weighed down  
by ancient grief and centuries of sorrow.  
There is a yearning in hearts that in darkness hide  
and in the shades of death abide,  
a yearning for tomorrow.

There is a yearning, a yearning for the promised One,  
the Firstborn of creation.

There is a yearning for the Lord who visited His own,  
and by His death for sin atoned,  
to bring to us salvation.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.

There is a yearning that fills the hearts  
of those who wait the day of His appearing.

There is a yearning when all our sorrows are erased  
and we shall see the One who placed  
within our hearts the yearning.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.

⌘ **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** (a light allusion to Daniel 7:13-14)

**Holy One, we pray that you take these gifts of our labor, our wealth,  
our time, and our lives and use them to express your everlasting  
kingdom of love in this world. 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**

*Bring Forth the Kingdom* by Marty Haugen\*

1. You are salt for the earth, O people: Salt for the Kingdom of God!  
Share the flavor of life, O people: Life in the Kingdom of God! *REFRAIN...*
2. You are a light on the hill, O people: Light for the City of God!  
Shine so holy and bright, O people: Shine for the Kingdom of God!  
*REFRAIN...*
3. You are a seed of the Word, O people: Bring forth the Kingdom of God!  
Seed of mercy and seeds of justice, Grow in the Kingdom of God!  
*REFRAIN...*
4. We are a blest and a pilgrim people: Bound for the Kingdom of God!  
Love our journey and love our homeland: Love is the Kingdom of God!  
*REFRAIN...*

*REFRAIN:* Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy, Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;  
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice, Bring forth the City of God!

## ⌘BENEDICTION

## ⌘BENEDICTION RESPONSE & POSTLUDE

⌘ Please stand if able.

**GtG**=Glory to God Hymnal  
Songs used with CCLI License # 1223079  
CCS License #11957

**10:00 a.m. Service of Worship regularly broadcast over WKWK-FM 97.3**

Today's worship service liturgy is written by Walter Canter, and provided for free distribution by *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2024.

\*Hymnist Marty Haugen has given permission to all his students to use his works with his blessing. As Vance's permanent pastor was once a student of Mr. Haugen's, *Bring Forth the Kingdom* is used by permission.

## *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.*
- *For the month of October 2024 the Congregation supported the Church with contributions of \$32,900, which included Tithes, Offerings, Woodsdale School, Organ, and Food Pantry. For the first 10 months of 2024 the AVERAGE utilities expenses were \$6,310.*
- *We thank Michelle John for serving as liturgist today.*
- *We are again sponsoring children from The House of The Carpenter for Christmas this year. Please bring ALL unwrapped gifts to the Church Office no later than Sunday, December 01, 2024.*
- *Today we welcome The Rev. Dr. Michael Linger to the Vance pulpit. An ordained elder in the United Methodist Church, Mike will serve as the Executive Director of The House of the Carpenter until his retirement in June.*

# Vance Calendar

Week of November 24, 2024 through December 01, 2024

## Sun. November 24

- **9am, Children's Sunday School, CE Classrooms**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **9:30am, Children's Christmas Play Practice, Merriman Chapel**
- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **11:15am, Beginning of Sanctuary Christmas Decorating**
- 6pm, Washington Presbyterian Church Fellowship, *Robbie Clarke Room*
- **6pm, Youth Group, Fellowship Hall**

## Mon. November 25

- 9:30am, YWCA Parenting Class, *Robbie Clarke Room*
- 11am, Red Cross Blood Drive, *Fellowship Hall*
- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, *Wheeler Room*
- **12pm, Christian Education Commission Meeting, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **2pm, Celebrate Recovery Step Study, Pastor Erica's Office**
- 6:30pm, Cub Scouts Den Meeting, *Fellowship Hall & C. E. Classrooms*

## Tue. November 26

- 7pm, Scouts Troops 6 and 6000, *Fellowship Hall & C.E. Classrooms*

## Wed. November 27

- **5pm, NO Woodsdale School Food Bag Packing, Robbie Clarke Room**
- 6pm, Narcotic Anonymous, *Primary Chapel*
- 7pm, Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service, *Temple Shalom*
- 7pm, Junior League, *Junior League Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor*

## Thur. November 28 - Thanksgiving

- **Church Office closed for Thanksgiving**

## Fri. November 29

- **Church Office closed for Thanksgiving**

## Sat. November 30

- 7pm, Alcoholics Anonymous, *Fellowship Hall*

## Sun. December 01

- **9am, Children's Sunday School, CE Classrooms**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **9:30am, Children's Christmas Play Practice, Merriman Chapel**
- **10am, Communion Worship Service, Sanctuary**

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**Vance Church events are in bold type.**