

# **VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

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**vancechurch.org**

November 26, 2023 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



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

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 ~ Psalm 100

Ephesians 1:15-23 ~ Matthew 25:31-46

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

*Open the Eyes of My Heart, GtG 452*

CALL to WORSHIP (from Psalm 100)

**Liturgist:** Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth

**All: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.**

**Liturgist:** Know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us, and we are God's.

**All: We are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.**

**Liturgist:** Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise.

**All: Give thanks to God; bless God's name.**

**Liturgist:** For the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever

**All: God's faithfulness is from generation to generation. Let us worship God!**

OPENING PRAYER (Glory to God #82/83, v.2) - Sung

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone; By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.**

⌘OPENING HYMN of PRAISE

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above, GtG 645*

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

(from Ezekiel 34:11-12)

**Leader:** Thus says the Lord our God: "I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out the scattered sheep, so I will seek out my people." Trusting that God is indeed seeking us, let us confess our sin together:

**All: Shepherding God, you have called to us, but we have not answered. You have sought us out, but we have continued to wander. You have tenderly gathered us together and cared for us, but we have not extended that same care and mercy to others. Forgive us. Remind us. Teach us. Set us free from sin that we might turn toward your love and justice for the whole world. Guide us so that, tentative step after tentative step, we may walk your way.**

## SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE      *The King of Love My Shepherd Is, GtG 802 v.1*  
**All: The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.**

## DECLARATION OF PARDON (from Ezekiel 34:15-16)

**Liturgist:** Thus says the Lord our God: "I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak."

**All: The relentless grace of Jesus Christ always finds and forgives us.  
Thanks be to our ever-seeking 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**

### The ANTHEM

#### *A Jubilant Celebration*

Words by J. Paul Williams

(including "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" by Isaac Watts)

Music by Joseph M. Martin

#### REFRAIN:

Glory to God in the Highest!  
Lift up your voices with jubilant praise.  
Sing unto God a song of thanksgiving.  
This is the day that the Lord has made.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Lord, in your promise our hope is reborn.  
Alleluia. Alleluia. Lord, by Your Spirit, our faith is restored.

Let ev'ry steeple ring. Let all the people sing.  
Sing with joy evermore.

#### REFRAIN...

Let us bring jubilant praise. Alleluia.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

From everlasting You are God, from age to age the same.  
Lord, we come in gratitude, Your wonders to proclaim.

Glory, we sing in the highest!  
Lord, You are holy in all of Your ways.  
Lord, You are God, the King of creation.  
Lord, You are worthy of all our praise.

Blessing and honor and power and glory  
and worship and jubilant praise, jubilant praise;  
let there be jubilant praise!

### The SCRIPTURE

#### HEBREW TESTAMENT READING:

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

#### NEWER TESTAMENT READING:

Matthew 25:31-46

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

### MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Erica L. Harley

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

### **Sacrament of Baptism**

⌘PRESENTATION

⌘PROFESSION OF FAITH

⌘APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only son, our Lord; who was conceived by the  
Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third  
day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and  
sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence  
he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the  
Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the  
forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life  
everlasting. Amen.**

⌘THANKSGIVING OVER WATER

⌘BAPTISMS

⌘WELCOME

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION

*Amazing Grace, **GtG 649***

⌘INVITATION to the OFFERING

**Leader:** Jesus calls us to reach out and care for our neighbors in need.  
One way we do that is together as the church: the corporate body of  
Christ. Let us offer our gifts to God for God's work in our community.

The OFFERTORY: 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.

⌘ **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**

**Generous God, we bless your name because you have called us and claimed us and sent us into the world to do your will. Receive now this offering, both of our money and our lives. Through these gifts, may the hungry be fed, the thirsty quenched, the naked clothed, and the stranger welcomed. In Jesus' 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**

*O For A World, GtG 372*

⌘ **BENEDICTION**

⌘ **BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

VANCE CHOIR

⌘ **POSTLUDE**

⌘ Please stand if able.

**GtG**=Glory to God Hymnal

Songs used with CCLI License # 1223079

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

Today's worship service liturgy is written by Ginna Bairby  
and provided for free distribution by *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2023.

## *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.
- Attendance in worship last Sunday was 73. Giving for the month of October was \$20,901.
- We thank Stephanie Ross for serving as liturgist today.
- We are again partnering with The House of The Carpenter to assist local families with Christmas for their children. We have agreed to accept a few more families, and are now up to 9 children who need sponsored for Christmas. You will find the sign-up sheet and names of the children and their requests in the Narthex. Unwrapped gifts are due to Vance by Sunday, December 10.
- "A Christmas Gift", A Concert Celebrating the Birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, will be held Tuesday, December 5, 2023, 6:30 p.m. at Ickes Family Life Center, 67880 Friends Church Road, St. Clairsville, Ohio.
- Do you know how easy, safe, and convenient it is to use our new E-giving for your tithe or offering? Very easy indeed! Just go to the church website [www.vancechurch.org](http://www.vancechurch.org) and click on the "GIVE" button on the front page. A new page will "pop-up" with a giving form you can fill out with your offering amount and payment method. You can make one-time gifts or set-up recurring gifts that will automatically withdraw from your bank account. Tithing is the foundation of giving and E-giving makes it easy to give whenever the Holy Spirit moves you toward generosity.

# Vance Calendar

Week of November 26 through December 03, 2023

## Sun. Nov. 26

- **9am, Called Session Meeting, Wheeler Room**
- **10am, Worship Service with Baptisms, Sanctuary**
- 6pm, Washington Presbyterian Church Fellowship Group, *Robbie Clarke Room*

## Mon. Nov. 27

- 11am, Red Cross Blood Drive, *Fellowship Hall*
- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, *Wheeler Room*
- **12pm, Christian Education Commission Meeting, Robbie Clarke Room**
- 6:30pm, Cub Scouts Den Meeting, *Fellowship Hall & CE Classrooms, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor*

## Tue. Nov. 28

- 4:30pm, Susan Eison Bible Study, *Squibb Room*
- 7pm, Scouts Troop 6 Meeting, *Fellowship Hall*

## Wed. Nov. 29

- 6pm, Narcotics Anonymous, *Fellowship Hall*
- 7pm, Jr. League, *Junior League Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor*

## Thur. Nov. 30

## Fri. Dec. 01

- 5:30, Wedding Rehearsal, *Merriman Chapel*

## Sat. Dec. 02

- 12pm, Birthday Party, *Fellowship Hall*
- 3pm, Wedding, *Merriman Chapel*
- 6pm, WLSC American Choral Directors Association Christmas Concert, *Sanctuary*
- 8:30pm, Alcoholic's Anonymous, *Fellowship Hall*

## Sun. Dec. 03

- **9am, Children's Sunday School, CE Classrooms, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **9am, Adult "The Chosen" Study, Potter Chapel**
- **10am, Communion Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **11:15am, Adult "The Chosen" Study, Squibb 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.