

# **VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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**vancechurch.org**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Communion**

December 06, 2020 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



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

Isaiah 40:1-11 ~ Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15a ~ Mark 1:1-8

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

Please sign and pass the fellowship pad to the inside aisle.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

*Jesus, the Light of the World*

*A Gospel Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony*

Words and Music by George D. Elderkin

Setting by Joel Raney

CHOIR ~ LITANY ~ CANDLE LIGHTING ~ CHOIR REFRAIN ~ CLOSING PRAYER

*Responsive Litany: Second Sunday ~ WATCH for the Light*

Advent is a time to watch.

**We watch, with hope, for the dawning light.**

Advent is a time to watch for hope in our despair.

**We wait, with hope, for the dawning light.**

Advent is a time to watch for grace and forgiveness.

**We wait, with hope, for the dawning light.**

Advent is a time to watch for peace in the midst of conflict.

**We wait in hope for the dawning light.**

Advent is a time to watch for the end of darkness.

**We watch for Jesus, the Light of the World.**

⌘ OPENING HYMN of PRAISE *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, **GtG 88, v. 3 & 4**

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

God does not want anyone to perish, but rather for all to come to repentance. Therefore, let us confess our sins, for God's salvation is at hand.

**Faithful God, we confess that we have not led lives of holiness. We suffer from impatience, apathy, and greed; we have not been at peace. We repent of these offenses and turn to you in love. Forgive our iniquity and pardon our sins, that we may walk in righteousness to the glory of your name.**

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

*Give Us Light*, **GtG 467**

*On this Second Sunday of Advent  
we wait for the Christmas promise of PEACE.*

*Please sing:*

Give us light; give us light; give us light, O Lord.

Give us peace; give us peace; give peace, O Lord.

Save us now; save us now; save us now, O Lord.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

**Leader:** Brothers and sisters, by the mercy of Christ, your sins are forgiven, for salvation is at hand for all who turn to God.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

⌘ GLORIA PATRI *Angels We Have Heard on High*, **GtG 113 refrain**

*Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

⌘ PASSING the PEACE of CHRIST

May the Peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

**Encountering God's Word**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### The ANTHEM

*How Shall We Sing Salvation's Song?*

*(A Song for Advent)*

Words by Susan Bentall Boersma

Music by Joseph M. Martin

How shall we sing? How shall we sing? How shall we sing salvation's song?

Where is our voice in sorrows deep? Not songs, but sighs to us belong.

Dry winds alone our heart-strings sweep.

How shall we sing? How shall we sing? As captives in a desert place,

we wait for One to set us free, to come, come with redeeming grace

to release the song of victory!

Valleys rise up, rise up to meet Him; mountains bow down, bow down to greet Him.

Earth and heaven, sing for joy! The melody has found a voice!

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel! Rejoice!

The Lord has opened heaven's door. Life to the desert He restores.

He has come to set us free. Sing the song, the song of triumph and victory,

song of victory, song of victory!

Valleys rise up, rise up to meet Him; mountains bow down, bow down to greet Him.

Sing to the Lord salvation's song, rejoice! Emmanuel, Rejoice!

How can we keep from singing? Rejoice!

### The SCRIPTURE

#### HEBREW TESTAMENT READING:

Isaiah 40:1-11

#### NEW TESTAMENT READING:

Mark 1:1-8

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

### MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Erica L. Harley

## Responding to God's Word

⌘ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostle's 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 life everlasting. Amen.**

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION

*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry, GtG 96*

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

Leader: The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

May your righteousness go before God and prepare a pathway for the Lord.

Let us offer our lives and labor to God and fulfill our vows to the Most High.

*(congregation may be seated)*

### 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 *O Come, All Ye Faithful, GtG 133 refrain*  
*O Come, let us adore him; O Come, let us adore him*  
*O Come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.*

⌘ PRAYER of DEDICATION

**All: Lord, we give you thanks that in the coming of Christ your steadfast love and faithfulness have met, and your righteousness and peace have kissed. May the gifts we offer this day lift up those in need and prepare the way of your salvation. Amen.** *(congregation may be seated)*

## The SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

### Invitation to the Lord's Table

**Leader:** This is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from north and south and from east and west to sit at table in the kingdom of God. According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. This is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast that he has prepared.

### Great Thanksgiving

**Leader:** The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**Leader:** Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

**Leader:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Leader:** Praise to you, O God, for all your works. You created the world and called it good and made us in your image to live together in love. You made a covenant with us, and even when we turned from you, you remained ever faithful. Therefore, with all creation we sing your praise:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

### Words of Institution

**Leader:** We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus on the night before he died, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way Jesus took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you and for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

**Leader:** Great is the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

**Leader:** Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

**All: Amen. Amen. Amen.**

### 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!**

**Leader:** Jesus said: I am the bread of life. Jesus said: I am the vine, you are the branches. Come to me and never be hungry; believe in me and never thirst. The gifts of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of Cup

#### Communion of the People

#### Prayer after Communion

**Leader:** God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

### Taking God's Word out, into our Worlds

⌘ CLOSING HYMN *Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice, GtG 163*

⌘ BENEDICTION

⌘ BENEDICTION RESPONSE & 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
- If you are visiting with us today, please fill out the friendship pad in the pew rack so that we may obtain your contact information. Members need not fill out the friendship pads until the pandemic precautions have passed.
- 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 are available at the Welcome Center in the Narthex.
- Attendance in worship last Sunday was 38.
- Giving for the month of November was \$31,979.04.
- We thank the Seabright Family for lighting the Wreath Candle for this second Sunday of Advent.
- Jay Carenbauer was accidentally left off the Birthday list in the Newsletter. His Birthday was Tue. Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. Wish Jay Happy Birthday!
- Christmas Eve is Thursday, December 24, 2020. There will be three worship services at Vance Church that day. At 4:00pm there will be a Family Friendly Christmas Eve Worship Service in Fellowship Hall. This informal service will be geared toward families with children and young children and will tell the Christmas Story. At 7:30pm there will be a Christmas Eve Worship Service with Candlelight in the Sanctuary, and it also will be livestreamed on our Facebook page. At 11:00pm there will be a Christmas Eve Worship Service with Communion in the Narthex.
- The Nativity Storybooks are here! The Christian Education Commission has created Nativity Storybooks that are illustrated by Vance Children as our "pageant" for 2020. There are enough copies for everyone to enjoy, so please take one. If your family helped illustrate the book, there are copies set aside for you to pick up. You should have a bundle with your name on it. The C.E. Commission would like to thank all the parents who guided their children and youth to create these illustrations and to Janet Hart who drew the cover art.