

VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

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vancechurch.org

4th Sunday after Epiphany

January 29, 2023 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Micah 6:1-8 ~ Psalm 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31 ~ Matthew 5:1-12

**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

Open the Eyes of My Heart, GtG 452

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

People: Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right and speak the truth from their heart;

Leader: Who do not slander with their tongue and do no evil to their friends nor heap shame upon their neighbors; in whose eyes the wicked are despised but who honor those who fear the Lord;

People: Who stand by their oath even to their hurt; who do not lend money at interest and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, you have laid before us a path of wholeness. You have called us to genuine community, to love and to care for one another. You give us the gift of fellowship that we might help and support one another. All creation reflects the overflowing of your love. Strengthen the ties that bind us together. Speak your word to us and through us. Help us to worship you with a true spirit. Amen.

⌘OPENING HYMN of PRAISE

Be Thou My Vision, GtG 450

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

Leader: We worship a God who stands more ready to forgive than we are to confess our sin. Our Creator who is merciful and just, has promised to cleanse us of all unrighteousness. Beloved, with such assurance, we do not need to fear confession. Let us profess our sin, first together then in silence, to our God, who has made us, who knows, and who loves us.

All: You have told us what is good, O God. Your hopes for us are clear. And yet we live as though it is unclear what you would have us do. We live as though we're not the recipients of grace upon grace. We have withheld what is not our own. We have judged where it was not our place. We have sinned by what we have done and what we have failed to do. We know that we have sinned. We seek your forgiveness and your reconciliation and strength that we may follow in the way you would have us go. Cleanse us and guide us. We make this and all our prayers in reliance upon our faithful savior, Jesus Christ.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE *What Does the Lord Require of You?*, **GtG 70**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Liturgist: Jesus gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. Believe the promise of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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 *Blest Are They*, **GtG 172**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The ANTHEM

The Old Rugged Cross

Words and Music by George Bennard

Choral Setting by Joel Raney

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best for a world of lost sinners was slain.

O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world, has a wondrous attractions for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left his glory above to bear it on dark Calvary.

REFRAIN: So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.

In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, a wondrous beauty I see;
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died to pardon and sanctify me.

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true, its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then he'll call me some day to my home far away; his glory forever I'll share.

*REFRAIN...*I will cling to the old rugged cross.

The SCRIPTURE

NEWER TESTAMENT READING:

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Gospel READING:

Matthew 5:1-10

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

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Erica L. Harley

Responding to God's Word

⌘ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *From a Declaration of Faith*

God created human beings with a need for community and with freedom to enter into it by responding to their Maker with grateful obedience and to one another with love and helpfulness. We believe that we have been created to relate to God and to each other in freedom and responsibility. We may misuse our freedom and deny our responsibility by trying to love without God and other people or against God and other people. Yet we are still bound to them for our life and well-being, and intended for free and responsible fellowship with them. Since every human being is made for communion with God and others, we must treat no one with contempt.

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION *Now Thank We All Our God, GtG 643*

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

Leader: The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. From God's good creation, we have all that we need, indeed, we have more than we need. Let us worship God, then by returning our tithes and offerings as tokens of our commitment to love and serve the Lord. *(congregation may be seated)*

The OFFERTORY

Nearer, Still Nearer

Choral Setting by Gilbert M. Martin

TUNE: *MORRIS*, 1898

By Lelia Naylor Morris (1862-1929)

Nearer, still nearer, close to thy heart,
still draw me, my Savior, so precious thou art;
Fold me, O fold me close to thy breast,
O shelter me safe in that haven of rest.

Nearer, still nearer, nothing I bring,
naught as an off'ring to Jesus my king,
Only my sinful, now contrite heart;
grant me the cleansing thy blood doth impart.

Nearer, still nearer, while life shall last,
till safe in glory my anchor is cast,
Through endless ages, ever to be,
nearer, my Savior, nearer to thee.

⌘ 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

Holy God, we have received from your gracious hand abundance upon abundance, grace upon grace. Accept these offerings, we pray, and bless them and multiply them that through these gifts we might see your kingdom at work among us. We pray all these things through Christ our Lord. 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

When the Poor Ones, GtG 762

⌘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 Baron Mullis
and provided for free distribution by *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2022.

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 81. Giving for the month of December was \$26,565.
- We thank Kevin Miller for serving as liturgist today.
- Check the Welcome Center in the Narthex for your offering envelopes and take the ones with your name and giving number. If you did not get offering envelopes but would like them, please contact the office. Also, if you receive offering envelopes, but prefer not to use them, please contact the office. Thank you.
- Today, Sunday, January 29, 2023 at 11am after worship is the Annual Congregational Meeting in the church sanctuary. Meeting called by the Session in accordance with our bylaws.
- Volunteers Needed! It is Vance Church's turn to pack weekend food bags at the House of the Carpenter on Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at 9am. Please meet at HOC to help.

Vance Calendar

Week of January 29, 2023 through February 05, 2023

Sun. Jan. 29

- **9am, Sunday School, C.E. 2nd Floor Classrooms**
- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **11am, Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary**

Mon. Jan. 30

- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, *Wheeler Conference Room*
- 6:30pm, Cub Scouts Pack 6, *Fellowship Hall*

Tue. Jan. 31

- **9am, Backpack Food Bag Packing, House of the Carpenter**
- 4:30pm, Women's Bible Study, *Squibb Room*
- 7pm, Boy Scouts Troop 6, *Fellowship Hall*

Wed. Feb. 01

- 6pm, Narcotics Anonymous, *C.E. Chapel*
- 7pm, Jr. League, *JL 3rd Floor Room*

Thur. Feb. 02

- 12pm, Presbytery Pastor's Bible Study, *Potter Chapel*
- 3pm, Presbytery Round Table, *Potter Chapel*
- **4:30pm, Building and Property, Squibb Room**
- 6:00pm, Girl Scout Troop 10285, *Fellowship Hall*

Fri. Feb. 03

Sat. Feb. 04

- 8:30pm, Alcoholic's Anonymous, *Fellowship Hall*

Sun. Feb. 05

- **9am, Sunday School, C.E. 2nd Floor Classrooms**
- **10am, Communion Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- 6pm, Washington Presbyterian Fellowship Group, *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.