

VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

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vancechurch.org

Palm/Passion Sunday

March 24, 2024 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Mark 11:1-11 ~ Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

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

Filled with Excitement, GtG 199

CALL to WORSHIP (Mark 11:9, Psalm 136:1, Psalm 118:25,26, Zechariah 9:9)

Leader: With crowds from ancient times we cry,

All: Hosanna! Save us!

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

All: We bless you in the house of the Lord!

Leader: Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious,

All: Humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Leader: Let us worship the living God!

OPENING PRAYER

Open our hearts and our ears to hear your Word as it is read and proclaimed. Fill us with the Spirit and surprise us, for we eagerly expect your Word and know that you will speak to us today. Amen.

⌘OPENING HYMN of PRAISE *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna, GtG 197*

CONFESSION and time of self-examination

(congregation may be seated)

Leader: Let us now confess before God our tendency, like the Jerusalem crowds, to profess our faith in moments of enthusiasm and deny our faith in moments of fear and stress.

All: Merciful God, as we enter this Holy Week of Lent, solemnly gathered at your house of prayer, we turn our hearts toward Jerusalem. We want to walk the way with Jesus, to be present each step from the Mount of Olives to the cross to the empty tomb. And yet we fall away. Forgive our stubborn resistance to Christ's work and witness. Inspire us by your Spirit to follow in his way, until we enter with him into the city not made by human hands, the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE *Jesus, Remember Me, GtG 227*

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: The one who rode into Jerusalem to cheering crowds knew that

the cross awaited. In this way, we might know the great love of God for us. Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, has defeated sin forever.

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

All Glory, Laud, and Honor, GtG 196

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE/CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Hosanna Rock!

(Preschool-aged children are dismissed to the nursery)

The ANTHEM

The Passion and the Crown

Words by Jean Anne Shafferman

Music by Cindy Berry

Crown Him, crown Him, Lord of lords and King of kings.
Crown Him, crown Him, Son of God and Prince of Peace.
Blessing and honor, glory and pow'r, praises unto the Lamb.
Behold your God, behold your King, behold the great I Am!
Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him the King!

Sing hosanna to the King.

Crown Him, crown Him, Lord of lords and King of Kings.
Crown Him, crown Him, Son of God and Prince of Peace.

Ride on in peace; ride on in love; the tribes hosanna cry:
ride on in truth; ride on in hope; ride on, ride on to die!
Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him the King!

Crucify Him, crucify Him. Crucify this Jesus!
Crown Him, crown Him, Lord of lords and King of Kings.
Crown Him, crown Him, Son of God and Prince of Peace.

Behold His hands, behold His feet, behold His pierced brow;
behold His triumph over death; before Him humbly bow.
Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him the King!

Alleluia, alleluia.

Crown Him, crown Him, Lord of lords and King of Kings!

The SCRIPTURE

HEBREW TESTAMENT READING:

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29

NEWER TESTAMENT READING:

Mark 11:1-11

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

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Erica L. Harley

Responding to God's Word

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

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, GtG 223

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!**

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

Leader: Consider what you carry in your hands today. Do you carry the reign of a donkey, a cloak to share, a branch to wave? What do you bring to welcome the Lord today? Whether you share your gifts today as the plates are passed, online, or through the mail, trust that the Lord needs you. *(congregation may be seated)*

PRAYER of DEDICATION

As the crowds cried, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord," we are truly grateful for the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ our Lord. Receive these gifts as a symbol of the dedication of our very selves to you, O God. Use our gifts and use us as a part of the inbreaking of your kingdom, which comes and is still coming into our world today. Amen.

The OFFERTORY
Were You There?
TRADITIONAL SPIRITUAL
Original Setting by Joel Raney
Arranged for HANDBELLS by Arnold B. Sherman
Dr. Gail Looney, flute
Please refer to GtG 228.

Taking God's Word out, into our Worlds

⌘ CLOSING HYMN

They Crucified My Lord, GtG 219

⌘ The LENTEN WREATH and a SERVICE of DIMINISHING LIGHT

On this Palm/Passion Sunday ALL please sing:

When We Are Tested, GtG 783, verse 4.

When we have struggled and searched through the night,
sorting and sifting the wrong from the right,
Savior, surround us with circles of care,
angels of healing, of hope, and of prayer.

The STRIPPING of the CHANCEL

DEPART in SILENCE...

⌘ 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 Matthew A. Rich and provided for
free distribution by *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2024.

The PASTOR and CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Erica L. Harley ~ Senior Pastor
Janice Carenbauer ~ Church Office Administrator
Deborah Podolski Breiding ~ Director of Music
Jay Carenbauer ~ Head Custodian
Chaz Erazmus ~ Custodian
Keith Wilson ~ Sound, Video, and Media Coordinator
Hayden Heiserman ~ Celebrate Recovery Musician

~ **MINISTERS of the CHURCH: ALL MEMBERS** ~

MISSION PERSONNEL of OUR DIRECT CONCERN

Caleb and Claire (Seabright) Bermudez

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.
- The February 2024 receipts from the Church membership were \$12,731. Expenses for February were \$53,963. Examples of the cost of maintaining our building during February are: utilities of \$2,695 along with repairs and maintenance expenses of \$8,195.
- We thank Cheryl Joseph for serving as liturgist today.
- This Thursday, March 28, is Maundy Thursday, the day when Christians consider Jesus's Last Supper with his disciples before his death. Vance will acknowledge this day with a special "drop in" style service that will include private readings for meditation and the sacrament of holy communion. Worshippers may come to the sanctuary any time between 4:00 and 6:00 pm to pray.
- The House of the Carpenter has asked us here at Vance to help them with providing lunches for kids in their day camp on Monday and Tuesday of this week. Anyone who is able to help in the kitchen on one or both of these days from 11-1 should talk to Erica.
- There will be no Woodsdale school bag packing this Wednesday as the kids will be on spring break.
- 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 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 March 24, 2024 through March 31, 2024

Sun. March 24

- **9am, Children's Sunday School, CE Classrooms, 2nd Floor**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **10am, Palm/Passion Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **11:15am, Adult Sunday School, The Chosen, Squibb Room**
- 2pm, Thursday Music Club Recital
- **6pm, Youth Group, Go Karts, Three Rivers Karting**

Mon. March 25

- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, Wheeler Room
- **12pm, C.E. Commission Meeting, Robbie Clarke Room**

Tue. March 26

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

Wed. March 27

- 6pm, Narcotics Anonymous, Fellowship Hall (NA Room)
- 7pm, Jr. League, Junior League Room, 3rd Floor

Thur. March 28 Maundy Thursday

- **4-6pm, Maundy Thursday Drop-In Communion, Sanctuary**
- **5:30pm, Celebrate Recovery Soup & Bread, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **6:30pm, Celebrate Recovery, Merriman Chapel, Library, Davis Study, Narthex**

Fri. March 29 Good Friday

Sat. March 30 Holy Saturday

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

Sun. March 31 Easter

- **10am, Easter Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- 6pm, Wash. Presbyterian Church Fellowship Group, Robbie Clarke Rm

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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.