

VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

Church Telephone: (304) 232-0980

Fax: (304) 232-0982

vancechurch.org

3rd Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Acts 2:14a, 36-41 ~ Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

Isaiah 51:1-6 ~ Psalm 34:1-10

1 Peter 1:17-23 ~ Luke 24:13-35

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

CALL to WORSHIP (from Psalm 116)

Liturgist: I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.

All: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's

people, Liturgist: in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

All: Praise the Lord!

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection, may, through the renewing power of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

⌘OPENING HYMN of PRAISE *Open My Eyes, That I May See, GtG 451*

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

Leader: 1 Peter 1:21 says, "Through Christ you have come to trust in God, who raised Jesus from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God." It is because of our trust in the resurrection that each week we confess together the ways our faith and hope have not been set on God. When we confess, we name our sins and commit to turn toward the life God calls us into again. With that in mind we join our voices praying together.

All: Merciful God, even as we proclaim the saving life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we fail to see the living Christ in our midst. We find ourselves preoccupied with our own well-being and success, forgetting your imperative to love our neighbor as ourselves. We turn away from systems that challenge our way of thinking, choosing to justify our actions instead of examining our intentions. Show us again how to live a resurrection faith, a faith that sees life and hope in the midst of death and destruction. Transform our hearts so that where they are hardened toward you, neighbor and self, they may once again be filled with love and moved to actions of grace and mercy. In your holy name, we pray.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE *Take, O Take Me as I Am, GtG 698*

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: In Acts 2:39, Peter says: "For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." Receive the good news, Children of God, you 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

It Is Well with My Soul, GtG 840

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Preschool children are dismissed to the Nursery)

The ANTHEM

Worthy Is the Lamb

Words and Music by Pepper Choplin

Clothed in righteousness, robed in glory, holy is the Lord of Hosts.
Blessing and honor, glory and power to Him who reigns upon the throne.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain
to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength.
Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive honor and praise forevermore.

I heard the voice of many angels, they were gathered 'round the throne.
They were ten thousand times ten thousand, all the angels joined as one.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain
to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength.
Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive honor and praise forevermore.

Bring Him honor and praise forevermore. Amen.

The SCRIPTURE

OLDER TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:13-35

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

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Erica L. Harley

Responding to God's Word

⌘ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (The Confession of Belhar)

All: We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain. That this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted.

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION

To God Be the Glory, GtG 634

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

Leader: Just as those who walked the road to Emmaus with the risen Christ, we too want to tell of our encounters with Jesus. One way we tell those stories is to share the gifts we have been given by God. Gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Gifts that demonstrate the transformation we have experienced in Christ. With hearts filled with love, let us give generously.

The OFFERTORY

How Beautiful (Your Songs of Praise)

Words and Music by Jeff Lippencott

Arranged by Tom Fettke

In the stillness of my heart I will wait for You.
In the silence of my soul I will speak Your name.
With my voice I will proclaim:

How beautiful Your songs of praise,
How true and steadfast are Your ways,
Let all that is within me rise and sing.

How beautiful Your holy name,
How marvelous Your saving grace,
That You would call me as Your own;
How beautiful.

In the movement of a breeze I can hear You speak.
In the works Yours hands have made, sun and moon and stars,
I see ev'rything You are.

⌘ 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

Lord, we know that every good and perfect gift comes from you. We pray that the gifts of time, talent and treasure we have offered today will work for the good of the world, so that your love will be known not just in word but in action. In the name of the risen Christ, 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 *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!*, **GtG 839**

⌘BENEDICTION

⌘BENEDICTION RESPONSE VANCE CHOIR

⌘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

Today's worship service liturgy is written by The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz, and provided for free distribution by *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2026.

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.
- We thank Rowena Baker for serving as liturgist today.
- The Ohio Valley National Day of Prayer is sponsoring a luncheon on Thursday, May 7th at 11:30am at the Capitol Music Hall Ballroom. This event is \$25.00 and will feature Jon and Jolene Hamill of Lamplighter Ministries as the keynote speakers. Jon is a direct descendant of Paul Revere. In addition, all are welcome for a free prayer and worship service at Independence Hall at 6:30pm. Tickets for the luncheon can be purchased online through Facebook, or by sending \$25.00 to Carol Morgan at 34 Baytree Drive, Wheeling, WV, 26003.
- Next week is as follows:
 - Greeter is Rowena Baker
 - Welcome Center volunteer is Diane Crowl
 - Ushers are Diane Crowl, Audrey Abraham, Sue Abraham, John Looney, Ann Bopp
 - Liturgist is Pastor Erica Harley
 - Fellowship Snacks Volunteer is Gail Whitecotton

Vance Calendar

Week of April 19, 2026 through April 26, 2026

Sunday, April 19

- **9am, Children's Sunday School, C.E. Classrooms**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **11:15am, Deacon Meeting, Wheeler Room**

Monday, April 20

- 11am, Red Cross Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall
- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, Wheeler Room
- **6pm, Celebrate Recovery Step Study, Wheeler Room**
- 6:30pm, Cub Scouts Den Meeting, Fellowship Hall and CE Classrooms

Tuesday, April 21

- 4pm, Susan Eison Bible Study, Squibb Room
- 7pm, Scouting America Troop 6, Fellowship Hall & CE Classrooms

Wednesday, April 22

- **11am, Messy Church Meeting, Christ United Methodist Church**
- **5pm, Nourish to Flourish, Robbie Clarke Room**
- 6pm, Narcotic Anonymous, Primary Chapel
- 7pm, Scouting America Troop 6000, Fellowship Hall
- 7pm, Junior League, Junior League Room, 3rd Floor

Thursday, April 23

- 4:30pm, Vets with Guitars, Merriman Chapel
- **6pm, Celebrate Recovery Small Plate & Fellowship, Narthex**
- **6:30pm, Celebrate Recovery, Merriman Chapel**

Friday, April 24

Saturday, April 25

- 10am, Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery Meeting in Smithfield
- **11am, Kevin Miller Moving Day, 6 Parkview Lane**
- 7pm, Alcoholics Anonymous, Potter Chapel

Sunday, April 26

- **9am, Children's Sunday School, C.E. Classrooms**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **11:15am, Fellowship Snacks, Narthex**
- **11:15am, Nominating Committee Meeting, Wheeler Room**
- **6pm, Chase Burdick's Senior Music Recital, Sanctuary**
- 6pm, Washington Presbyterian Church Fellowship, 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.

# CHASE BURDICK SENIOR RECITAL

*"THE HISTORY OF THE BLUES"*



April 26, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Vance Memorial Presbyterian Church

905 National Rd., Wheeling WV

*Featuring:* Mason Stoll, Ken Kittell, Jim Norman,  
and Debbie Breiding

