

# **VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

Church Telephone: (304) 232-0980

Fax: (304) 232-0982

**vancechurch.org**

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

May 04, 2025 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



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

Acts 9:1-6 (7-20) ~ Psalm 30

Isaiah 61:1-3 ~ Psalm 90:13-17

Revelations 5:11-14 ~ John 21:1-19

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

*LET THE CHILDREN COME*

GREETINGS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL to WORSHIP (based on Psalm 30)

**Liturgist:** You have turned our mourning into dancing;

**All: You have taken off our sackcloth and clothed us with joy.**

**Liturgist:** Our souls may praise you and not be silent:

**All: O Lord our God, we will give thanks to you forever.**

OPENING PRAYER

O God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

⌘OPENING HYMN of PRAISE

*Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show, GtG 33*

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

**Leader:** Occasionally, God invites us into confession and repentance with a blinding light from the heavens. But often, God invites us into relationship over a humble cookfire. Let us illumine our lives using this prayer of confession.

**All: O Lord our God, we know that your throne is surrounded by the voices of many angels and that you are worshiped by the multitudes of the heavenly host, but we so often fail to join in their "amen." We do not fall down and worship you as we know we should. We are distracted by our catch, by our high priests, by our mourning, and by our doubts. Show yourself to us anew and give us the faith to cast our nets in other waters. Strengthen us to worship you alone as the one on the throne and the Lamb slaughtered for all, even when we are in the depths of the pit.**

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

*Lord, Have Mercy, GtG 551*

DECLARATION OF PARDON (from Psalm 30)

**Leader:** The Lord's anger is but for a moment. God's favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. 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**    *I Love to Tell the Story, GtG 462*

### ***CHILDREN'S MESSAGE***

(Preschool-aged children are dismissed to the nursery)

#### **The ANTHEM**

##### ***Majestic Holy One***

Words and Music by Cindy Berry

Lord, You know my heart and mind;  
in You alone I find unfailing love.

Lord, You saved me by Your grace,  
prepared for me a place in heav'n above.

Your faithfulness reaches to the skies;  
righteous are all Your ways.

Majestic, O Lord, is Your name on high;

I will serve You for all of my days.

I will give You my highest praise.

*REFRAIN:* My God and King, to You I sing.

To You I lift my voice to magnify Your name,  
Redeemer of my soul.

In all I say, in all I do,

Lord, may my life bring praise and glory to You,  
majestic Holy One.

With all my heart and soul and strength,

I will serve You, Lord,

and walk in Your paths of light.

May I be Your humble servant,

strengthened by Your glorious might,

strengthened by Your might. *REFRAIN...*

#### **The SCRIPTURE**

##### **HEBREW TESTAMENT READING:**

Psalm 150

##### **NEWER TESTAMENT READING:**

Acts 5:27-32

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

## MORNING MESSAGE

*You Can't Keep the Good News Down*

Elder Howard Monroe

### **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

*Men of Faith, Rise Up and Sing (Shout to the North), GtG 319*

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

**Leader:** Jesus invites us to bring what we have to the feast. With gratitude for God's provisions and assured of our place at Christ's table, we respond with generosity. *(congregation may be seated)*

#### **The OFFERTORY**

*In Remembrance*

Words by Ragan Courtney

Music by Buryl Red

Choral Setting by Lloyd Larson

*Please refer to GtG 521.*

⌘ 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

**God, you have filled our nets to bursting. Empower us to use these gifts for the sustenance of your creation, and to follow them where they go. 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 Sing:**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest, 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 Sing: 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 Sing: Amen, amen, amen.**

**All please join in singing.**

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

**Our Father, which 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, Amen.**

**Leader:** Jesus said: I am the bread of life. Jesus also 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      *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, GtG 526*

⌘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 Andy Greenhow and provided for free distribution by *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2025.

# 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](https://facebook.com/VancePresbyterian). Remote listeners can go to [vancechurch.org](https://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 Michelle John for serving as liturgist today.
- 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](https://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.
- Next week is as follows:
  - Ushers are Ed Gustkey, Frank Provance, Bob Mead, Bob Kanthers, Jeanne Finstein
  - Greeter is Roger Cain
  - Liturgist is Gail Looney
  - Welcome Center Volunteer is Diane Crowl

# Vance Calendar

Week of May 04, 2025 through May 11, 2025

## Sunday, May 04

- **8:30am, Authentic Manhood, 33 The Series, Merriman Chapel**
- **9am, Children's Sunday School, C. E. Classrooms**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **10am, Communion Worship Service, Sanctuary**

## Monday, May 05

- 11am, Red Cross Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall
- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, Wheeler Conference Room
- 1pm, UOVP Peacemaking Committee, General Presbyters Office
- **5pm, New Believers' Bible Study, Merriman Chapel**
- 6:30pm, Cub Scouts Den Meeting, Fellowship Hall, C. E. Classrooms, Primary Chapel, Potter Chapel

## Tuesday, May 06

- 4pm, Susan Eison Bible Study, Squibb Room
- 7pm, Scouts Troops 6 and 6000 Meeting, Fellowship Hall & C.E. Classrooms

## Wednesday, May 07

- **4:30pm, Building & Property Commission Meeting, Wheeler Rm**
- **5pm, Pack the Woodsdale School Food Bags, Robbie Clarke Rm**
- 6pm, Narcotics Anonymous, C.E. Chapel
- **6pm, Worship & Music Commission Meeting, Squibb Room**
- 7pm, Jr. League, JL 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Room

## Thursday, May 08

- **4:30pm, Vets with Guitars, Merriman Chapel**
- **5pm, Community Dinner, Fellowship Hall**
- **6:30pm, Celebrate Recovery, Merriman Chapel**

## Friday, May 09

## Saturday, May 10

- 4pm, NA Anniversary Dance, Fellowship Hall
- 8:30pm, Alcoholic's Anonymous, Potter Chapel

## Sunday, May 11 Mother's Day

- **8:30am, Authentic Manhood, 33 The Series, Merriman Chapel**
- **9am, Children's Sunday School, C.E. Classrooms**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- 6pm, Washington Presbyterian Church 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.