

# **VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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[vancechurch.org](http://vancechurch.org)

## **6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

May 10, 2026 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



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

Acts 17:22-31 ~ Psalm 66:8-20

Ezekiel 34:1-7a ~ Psalm 115

1 Peter 3:13-22 ~ John 14:15-21

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

**Liturgist:** We gather to celebrate the God of wonder and majesty!

**All: Awesome God, help us to worship you in spirit and in truth.**

**Liturgist:** We gather to celebrate Jesus Christ, who was dead and buried, and now risen indeed!

**All: Jesus, renew our hope in your great power and love.**

**Liturgist:** We gather to celebrate the Holy Spirit, our promised comforter and guide!

**All: Come Holy Spirit! Fill us with your presence and peace.**

**Liturgist:** We gather to celebrate the ancient hope of Christians:

**All: God is with us and will never let us go.**

OPENING PRAYER

**Great and loving God, your will for us in Jesus is the peace which the world cannot give; your abiding gift is the Advocate Jesus promised. Calm all troubled hearts, dispel every fear. Keep us steadfast in love and faithful to your word, that we may always be your dwelling place. Grant this through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.**

⌘ OPENING HYMN of PRAISE *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*, **GtG 611**

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

(Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16)

**Leader:** The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were still sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in Christ, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and humility, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

**All: Ever-present God, we come before you knowing we have ignored your promised Holy Spirit living within us. Therefore, we forfeit peace and bear needless worry. We become confused and deaf to your voice of truth. We struggle with obedience to your Word and fight an overwhelming sense of loneliness. Forgive us! Help us to remember that we are never alone, that you are with us and for us, by the power of your Spirit abiding in us, the Spirit of Jesus the Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

*Spirit of the Living God*, **GtG 288**

DECLARATION OF PARDON (Romans 8:31-32)

**Leader:** If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Believe the good news of the gospel:

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! 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

*More Love to Thee, O Christ, GtG 828*

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

(Preschool Children are dismissed to the Nursery)

### **The ANTHEM**

*Refiner's Fire*

Words and Music by Brian Doerksen  
Choral Setting by John F. Wilson

### **The SCRIPTURE**

#### **NEWER TESTAMENT READING**

Acts 17:22-31

#### **GOSPEL READING**

John 14:15-21

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

### **MORNING MESSAGE**

Rev. Erica Harley

## **Responding to God's Word**

⌘ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (from The PC(USA) Study Catechism)

**Leader:** Question 54: What do you believe when you confess your faith in the Holy Spirit?

**All: Apart from the Holy Spirit, our Lord can neither be loved, nor known, nor served. The Holy Spirit is the personal bond by which Jesus Christ unites us to himself, the teacher who opens our hearts to Christ, and the comforter who leads us to repentance, empowering us to live in Christ's service. As the work of the one Holy Spirit, our love, knowledge, and service of Christ are all inseparably related.**

**Leader:** Question 55: How do we receive the Holy Spirit?

**All: By receiving the Word of God. As the midwife of the new**

**creation, the Spirit arrives with the Word, brings us to rebirth, and assures us of eternal life. The Spirit nurtures, corrects, and strengthens us with the pure spiritual milk of the Word** (1 Peter 2:2).

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION     *I Sing the Mighty Power of God, GtG 32*

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

**Leader:** In great gratitude to God that we are never left to our own devices, let us give joyfully and generously for God's work in the world.

## The OFFERTORY

Presented by members of VANCE VOICES of the VALLEY

*Sing Me to Heaven*

By Daniel E. Gawthrop

If you would comfort me, sing me a lullaby.

If you would win my heart, sing me a love song.

If you would mourn me and bring me to God,  
sing me a requiem.

⌘ 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

**O Lord our maker, defender, redeemer and friend, accept and multiply the gifts we give today to be for your glory and for the good of your people. 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     *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, GtG 366*

⌘ 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 Tracey Davenport, 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.
- Please join us for cupcakes today in the Narthex immediately following the Service.
- We thank Jeane Finstein for serving as liturgist today.
- Chancel flowers are donated to honor all mothers.
- Anna Maria Jarvis (05/01/1864-11/24/1948) of Grafton, West Virginia, in memory of her mother, in 1908 sent 500 white carnations to Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church. From that point on, the carnation has become the symbol of Mother's Day (white if your mother is deceased, and red or pink if your mother is living). Today's carnations are donated by Vance Children. Please select your carnation according to color.
- Next week is as follows:
  - Greeter is Audrey Abraham
  - Welcome Center Volunteer is Marjorie Easton
  - Liturgist is Gail Looney
  - Ushers are Scott Winters, Zach Abraham, Ben Exley

# Vance Calendar

Week of May 10, 2026 through May 17, 2026

## Sunday, May 10 Mother's Day

- **9am, Children's Sunday School, CE Classrooms**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- 6pm, Washington Presbyterian Church Fellowship, *Robbie Clarke Room*

## Monday, May 11

- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, *Wheeler Room*
- **6pm, Celebrate Recovery Step Study, Wheeler Room**
- 6:30pm, Cub Scouts Den Meeting, *Fellowship Hall & CE Classrooms*
- **7pm, Session Meeting, Squibb Room**

## Tuesday, May 12

- **10am, Staff Meeting, Church Office**
- 4pm, Susan Eison Bible Study, *Squibb Room*
- 7pm, Scouts Troops 6 and 6000, *Fellowship Hall & C.E. Classrooms*

## Wednesday, May 13

- 10am-2pm, Elizabeth Blake, WV SHIP, *Wheeler Room*
- **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, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor*

## Thursday, May 14

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

## Friday, May 15

## Saturday, May 16

- **Sherri (Eimer) Vargo Tour, Sanctuary**
- **10am, S.A.A.D. Peer to Peer Support Group, Robbie Clarke Room**
- 7pm, Alcoholics Anonymous, *Potter Chapel*

## Sunday, May 17

- **9am, Children's Sunday School, CE Classrooms**
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, Robbie Clarke Room**
- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **11:15am, Deacon's Meeting, Wheeler Room**
- **5pm, Progressive Dinner, Various Restaurants**

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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.