VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003
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vancechurch.org

25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Judges 4:1-7 ~ Psalm 123
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 ~ Matthew 25:14-30

**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 lift up our eyes to the Lord!
All: Knowing our creator meets us in this time of worship.
Liturgist: We lift up our eyes to the Lord!
All: Trusting our redeemer to meet us with forgiveness and renewal.
Liturgist: We lift up our eyes to the Lord!
All: Relying on our sustainer to build us up for lives of love and service.
Liturgist: Let us worship together this day!

OPENING PRAYER
Lord God of all the ages, the One who is, who was, and who is to come, stir up within us a longing for your kingdom, steady our hearts in time of trial, and grant us patient endurance until the sun of justice dawns. We make our prayer through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

⌘OPENING HYMN of PRAISE *Rejoice, the Lord Is King!,* **GtG 363**

CONFESSION and time of self-examination *(congregation may be seated)*
Leader: We are a people who wander from the ways of God. We have not loved, served, and given of ourselves as we should. We have sinned. Let us then offer our prayer of confession, trusting in our Savior's infinite grace and mercy.
All: Loving God, you are generous in the many ways you have gifted us. We have so many blessings to be grateful for. Yet we are often motivated by fear, rather than our trust in you. We hold onto what we have, afraid we will never have enough. We become focused on protection rather than your call to welcome and love others. We see our blessings as our own, rather than seeing your care in each gift. Forgive us, God of grace. Forgive us and restore us to your vision for the world we pray.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE *In My Life: Lord, Be Glorified,* **GtG 468**

DECLARATION OF PARDON
Leader: Hear the Good News! Although we have sinned, in Jesus Christ we are graciously forgiven. Be at peace.
All: 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 *God's Word Is Upright,* **GtG 40**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The ANTHEM

Soon and Very Soon

Words and Music by Andraé Crouch

Choral Setting by Jack Schrader

Please refer to **GtG 384.**

The SCRIPTURE

GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 25:14-30

HEBREW BIBLE READING

Judges 4:1-7

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)

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus God has already demonstrated his judging and saving work. We are warned that rejecting God's love and not caring for others whom God loves results in eternal separation from God and them. Yet we are also told that God loves the whole world and wills the salvation of all humankind in Christ. We live in tension between God's warnings and promises. Knowing the righteous judgment of God in Christ, we urge all people to be reconciled to God, not exempting ourselves from the warnings. Constrained by God's love in Christ, we have good hope for all people, not exempting the most unlikely from the promises. Judgment belongs to God and not to us. We are sure that God's future for every person will be both merciful and just. Amen.

⌘ SONG of AFFIRMATION *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee,* **GtG 611**

⌘INVITATION to the OFFERING

Leader: Having heard of God's gracious love and care for all creation, let us give an offering of ourselves — all that we have and all that we are. Let us give our offering to God.

The OFFERTORY

Bring What You Have

Words and Music by Cindy Berry

Bring what you have to the Savior,
Whether great or small, lay it at His feet.
He can bless and multiply,
so that all will magnify the name of Jesus, our Lord.

⌘ **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 of grace and God of glory, we dedicate these gifts given this day to your work in the world. May these gifts bring hope and light to all who need it. 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** *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me,* **GtG 700**

⌘**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 Tara W. Bulger, 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 Gail Looney for serving as the Liturgist today.

- Join us next week for the Dinner and Holiday Extravaganza Concert! Dinner in the Fellowship Hall at 5pm, followed by our Holiday Extravaganza Concert in the Sanctuary at 6:30pm.

- We are sponsoring 25 children from The House of the Carpenter for Christmas this year. Please see the sign-up in the Narthex. Unwrapped gifts due to Vance Church by November 22nd.

- We are also participating again this year in the Appalachian Christmas Project (the shoeboxes). Please see the flyer in the Narthex of suggested items for the shoeboxes. You may wrap your completed box and bring it to Vance by November 28th and/or bring your box unwrapped and join us for our Shoebox Wrapping Party to be held November 28th at 10am in the Robbie Clarke Room.

- Mark your calendars for December 5th at 10am and meet us in the Fellowship Hall! We'll be packing sandwiches to deliver to the Life Hub.

- Next week is as follows:

    - Greeter is Jane Hare
    - Welcome Center Volunteer is Elaine Strauch
    - Liturgist is Rev. Erica Harley for Kevin Miller
    - Fellowship Snacks provided by Bob Kanters
    - Ushers are Bob Kanters, Bob Mead, Frank Provance, and Jeanne Finstein

Vance Calendar

Week of November 15, 2026 through November 22, 2026

Sunday, November 15

- **9am, Children's Sunday School, *CE Classrooms***
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, *Robbie Clarke Room***
- **10am, Worship Service with Christina Francis, *Sanctuary***
- **11:15am, Deacon's Meeting, *Wheeler Room***

Monday, November 16

- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, *Wheeler Room*
- 6:300pm, Cub Scouts Den Meeting, *Fellowship Hall & C.E. Classrooms*

Tuesday, November 17

- 4pm, Susan Eismon Bible Study, *Squibb Room*
- 6pm, PEO Auction, *Robbie Clarke Room*
- 6:30pm, Presbytery Meeting, *Potter Chapel*
- 7pm, Scouting America Troop 6, *Fellowship Hall & C.E. Classrooms*

Wednesday, November 18

- 10am-2pm, Elizabeth Blake, WV SHIP, *Wheeler Room*
- **4:30pm, Mission Outreach & Community Service Meeting, *Squibb Room***
- **5pm, Nourish to Flourish, *Robbie Clarke Room***
- 5pm, Wheeling Symphony Orchestra Board Meeting, *Potter Chapel*
- 6pm, Narcotic Anonymous, *Primary Chapel*
- 6pm, Scouting America Troop 6000, *CE Classrooms*
- **6:15pm, EF&M Meeting, *Wheeler Room***
- 7pm, Junior League, *Junior League Room, 3rd Floor*

Thursday, November 19

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

Friday, November 20

Saturday, November 21

- 7pm, Alcoholics Anonymous, *Fellowship Hall*

Sunday, November 22

- **9am, Children's Sunday School, *CE Classrooms***
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, *Robbie Clarke Room***
- **10am, Worship Service, *Sanctuary***
- **11am, Fellowship Snacks, *Narthex***
- **5pm, Dinner, *Fellowship Hall***
- **6:30pm, Holiday Extravaganza Concert, *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.