VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Christ The King Sunday

November 22, 2026 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 ~ Psalm 100
Ephesians 1:15-23 ~ Matthew 25:31-46

**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 (adapted from Psalm 100)
Liturgist: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
All: Worship the Lord with gladness! Come into God's presence with singing!
Liturgist: Know this! The Lord is God!
All: We are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture.
Liturgist: So, enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and come into the sanctuary with praise.
All: Let us give thanks to God and bless God's holy name.
Liturgist: For the Lord is good;
All: God's steadfast love endures forever! God's faithfulness is for all generations!
Liturgist: Come, let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER
Eternal God, you sent Jesus Christ to rule over all things, and made us servants in your kingdom. By your Spirit empower us to love the unloved, and to minister to all in need. Then at the last bring us to your eternal realm where we may worship and adore you and be welcomed into your everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one 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)*
Leader: This is a holy time and a holy place set aside for holy people; yet what makes us holy is not our perfection, it is Christ's perfection. Every sin that is found outside of the church is found inside of it. The only difference is that here we acknowledge our sin and lay it before the one who has the power and authority to redeem us. Trusting in the promise that God is for us, let us confess our sins together:
All: Almighty God, you are God of all creation, from beginning to end. All authority and power to direct the ways of the world are in your hands. Yet you saw fit to outfit humankind with the same freedom to choose and act that you have. We thank you for this power, but confess we often misuse it. We choose to do the things we know not to do. We take advantage, even as we sense our conscience pulling us away from what is wrong. We deny our own agency and claim "it is what it is" about the sufferings and injustices of the world when we should be working to make a change. Forgive us, Merciful God, of our shallowness of heart and slowness of action. Fill us with the Spirit of Christ, the advocate for the least among us, that we be empowered to do justly, love kindness and walk humbly

before you. Through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE *Open the Eyes of My Heart,* **GtG 452**

DECLARATION OF PARDON (adapted from Romans 8:33-34)
Leader: Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. So believe the Good News:
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 *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us***, GtG 187**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Preschool children are dismissed to the Nursery)

The ANTHEM

A Jubilant Celebration
Words by J. Paul Williams
(including *"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"* by Isaac Watts)
Music by Joseph M. Martin

REFRAIN:
Glory to God in the Highest!
Lift up your voices with jubilant praise.
Sing unto God a song of thanksgiving.
This is the day that the Lord has made.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Lord, in your promise our hope is reborn.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Lord, by Your Spirit, our faith is restored.

Let ev'ry steeple ring. Let all the people sing.
Sing with joy evermore.

REFRAIN…
Let us bring jubilant praise. Alleluia.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

From everlasting You are God, from age to age the same.
Lord, we come in gratitude, Your wonders to proclaim.

Glory, we sing in the highest!
Lord, You are holy in all of Your ways.
Lord, You are God, the King of creation.

Lord, You are worthy of all our praise.

Blessing and honor and power and glory
and worship and jubilant praise, jubilant praise;
let there be jubilant praise!

The SCRIPTURE
OLDER TESTAMENT READING
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
GOSPEL READING
Matthew 25:31-46
The Word of the Lord … **Thanks be to God!**

MORNING MESSAGE
Rev. Erica L. Harley

Responding to God's Word

⌘ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** (From the Theological Declaration of Barmen)
As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is [Christ] also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through [Jesus Christ] befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to [God's] creatures. Therefore we reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords — areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through [Jesus Christ]. Amen.

⌘ **SONG of AFFIRMATION**
You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd, **GtG 274**

⌘**INVITATION to the OFFERING**
Leader: The Apostle Paul declared that God loves a cheerful giver. Though God has all authority, and every right to levy a tax and demand a portion of what we have, God instead invites us to choose for ourselves how we will respond to the grace and the providence we have received. So whether we have much to give or much to receive, let us joyfully celebrate this offering.

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:

REFRAIN:
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 Your hands have made, sun and moon and stars,
I see ev'rything You are. REFRAIN …

⌘ **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
Almighty God, all that we have comes from you, and we give thee but thine own. Bless now these gifts, that the reign of Christ may become manifest in the uplift of the poor, seeking out the lost and lonely, restoring dignity to those whom the world has dehumanized, so that the fulness of Christ's glory may be revealed in the life and ministry of your church. Through Christ, in Christ, and with 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** *The King of Love My Shepherd Is,* **GtG 802**

⌘**BENEDICTION**

⌘**BENEDICTION RESPONSE** VANCE CHOIR

⌘**POSTLUDE**

⌘ Please stand if able.

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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. Dr. Aaron Pratt Shepherd, 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. 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 Rev. Erica Harley for serving as liturgist today.

- See you tonight for our Dinner at 5pm and Holiday Extravaganza Concert at 6:30pm. Dinner is in our Fellowship Hall, followed by the concert in the Sanctuary.

- We are sponsoring 25 children from The House of the Carpenter this year for Christmas. Thank you to all who sponsored a child.
  Unwrapped gifts are due to Vance Church today.

- We are having a Wrapping Party on November 28th at 10am in the Robbie Clarke Room for the Appalachian Christmas Project Shoeboxes. Please bring your unwrapped shoebox and join in the fun of Christmas wrapping! Of note, November 28th is the deadline to bring the shoeboxes.

- We will be setting up the Outdoor Nativity on Sunday, November 29th immediately following the Worship Service.

- Mark your calendars for December 5th at 10am and meet us in the Fellowship Hall to pack sandwich lunches to deliver to the Life Hub.

- Help the children of Laughlin Community Center, by wrapping Christmas presents on December 12th starting at 11am in the Chapel.

- Next week is as follows:

    - Greeter is Marjorie Easton
    - Welcome Center is Elaine Strauch
    - Ushers are Diane Crowl, Sue Abraham, Audrey Abraham, John Looney, and Ann Bopp
    - Liturgist is Frank Provance
    - Fellowship Snacks provided by Bob Kanters

Vance Calendar

Week of November 22, 2026 through November 29, 2026

Sunday, November 22

- **House of the Carpenter Christmas Gifts due today**
- **9am, Children's Sunday School, *C.E. Classrooms***
- **9am, Youth Sunday School, *Robbie Clarke Room***
- **10am, Worship Service, *Sanctuary***
- **5pm, Dinner, *Fellowship Hall***
- **6:30pm, Holiday Extravaganza Concert, *Sanctuary***
- 6pm, Washington Presbyterian Church Fellowship, *Robbie Clarke Room*

Monday, November 23

- 11am, Red Cross Blood Drive, *Fellowship Hall*
- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, *Wheeler Room*
- **1pm, Personnel Committee Meeting, *Wheeler Room***
- 6:30pm, Woodsdale-Edgewood Community Association Meeting, *Potter Chapel*

Tuesday, November 24

Wednesday, November 25

- 10am, Elizabeth Blake, WV SHIP, *Wheeler Room*
- 6pm, Narcotic Anonymous, *Primary Chapel*
- 7pm, Junior League, *Junior League Room, 3rd Floor*

Thursday, November 26 Thanksgiving

- **Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday**
- 4:30pm, Vets with Guitars, *Merriman Chapel*

Friday, November 27

- **Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday**

Saturday, November 28

- **Appalachian Christmas Project Shoeboxes due today**
- 10am-4pm, Shop with Santa, *Fellowship Hall*
- **10am, Appalachian Christmas Project Shoebox Wrapping Party, *Robbie Clarke Room***
- 7pm, Alcoholics Anonymous, *Potter Chapel*

Sunday, November 29 1st Sunday of Advent

- **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, Outdoor Nativity Setup**

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The PASTOR and CHURCH STAFF
Rev. Erica L. Harley ~ Senior Pastor
Janet Hart ~ Clerk of Session
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
Michelle Harriman ~ Nursery Coordinator

~ MINISTERS of the CHURCH: ALL MEMBERS ~

MISSION PERSONNEL of OUR DIRECT CONCERN
Caleb and Claire (Seabright) Bermudez

