

VANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

905 National Road, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

Church Telephone: (304) 232-0980

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vancechurch.org

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2022 ▪ 10:00 a.m.



Lectionary Selections of Scripture for this Sunday:

Isaiah 35:1-10 ~ Luke 1:46b-55

James 5:7-10 ~ Matthew 11:2-11

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

Please sign and pass the fellowship pad to the inside aisle.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Hope Is a Star: A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent

Music by Joel Raney

Words and Brian Wren

CHOIR ~ LITANY ~ CANDLE LIGHTING ~ CHOIR REFRAIN ~ CLOSING PRAYER

Responsive Litany: Third Sunday ~ Joy

In this season of Advent,
we remember that Christ is coming to bring us great joy.

For those who are suffering and in need

Christ will bring us great joy.

For those who have experienced personal loss

Christ will bring us great joy.

For those who battle daily with inner demons

Christ will bring us great joy.

For those who endure deep disappointment

Christ will bring us great joy.

⌘OPENING HYMN of PRAISE

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing, GtG 610

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

As we continue to prepare our hearts for the birth of Christ, let us confess the sins that keep us from glorifying and enjoying our God.

Gracious God, our doubt and despair lead us to low and longsuffering places. Our eyes downcast, we find nothing for which to give thanks, we find no reason to rejoice. Yet, you call us to resist the overwhelming forces that drag us down. You call us to rejoice in a babe about to be born. You call us to lift our eyes in hopeful anticipation of your kingdom come. Forgive us. Help us. Save us.

SILENT PRAYER of CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits, GtG 89, v.2

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Liturgist: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen!

⌘ GLORIA PATRI *Angels We Have Heard on High*, **GtG 113 refrain**
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

⌘ PASSING the PEACE of CHRIST

May the Peace of Christ be with you! **And also, with you!**

Encountering God's Word

⌘ SONG of ILLUMINATION *Canticle of the Turning*, **GtG 100**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The ANTHEM

Mary, Did You Know?
with *What Child Is This?*

Words and Music by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene
incorporating GREENSLEEVES, 16th c. English Melody
Words by William C. Dix, 1865. Arranged by Mary McDonald

The SCRIPTURE

HEBREW TESTAMENT READING:

Isaiah 35:1-10

GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 11:2-11

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

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Erica L. Harley

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 *Shout to the North, GtG 319*

MOMENT TO CELEBRATE VANCE CHURCH'S HISTORY

⌘ INVITATION to the OFFERING

Leader: With joy and gratitude for all we have been given, let us offer our tithes and gifts to God. *(congregation may be seated)*

The OFFERTORY

Joy of Every Longing Heart

Words by Marcus Aurelius C. Prudentius, 4th c.;

Tr. John M. Neale, 1854, and Henry W. Baker, 1859

Tunes: JESU, JOY OF MAN'S DESIRING, from BMV 147 by J.S. Bach
and DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, plainsong, 13th c.

Arranged by Lloyd Larson. *Please refer to GtG 108.*

⌘ DOXOLOGY *O Come, All Ye Faithful, GtG 133 refrain*

O Come, let us adore him; O Come, let us adore him

O Come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

⌘ PRAYER of DEDICATION

Gracious God, accept these gifts in grateful response for your generosity. May these gifts bring joy to those most in need of Christ's mission and ministry. Amen. *(congregation may be seated)*

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

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn, GtG 107

⌘ BENEDICTION

⌘ BENEDICTION RESPONSE and POSTLUDE

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
- Attendance in worship last Sunday was 84. Giving for the month of November was \$15,470.
- We thank Julie Squibb for serving as liturgist today.
- We thank Paul and Louise Limbert for lighting the Advent Wreath today.
- There will be no Sunday School classes on December 25, 2022 or on January 1, 2023. There will also be no nursery attendant that day.
- The Deacons are collecting Christmas gifts for needy children for the House of the Carpenter Christmas Kids. If you picked up a tag with a child's name, items are to be returned, unwrapped and labeled with the child's assigned number to the Church Office by Monday, December 12, 2022.
- Advent Devotionals for adults and Advent Calendars for children and youth are available in the Narthex at the Welcome Center for you to enjoy. There are also Advent Countdown Cards for children and youth, one set for each family, to celebrate Advent at home.
- Christmas Poinsettias are on sale now. Help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas Eve Worship while remembering or honoring someone special. Poinsettias cost \$10.00 per 6-inch pot of 3-5 blooms. Please order before or after Worship Services at the Welcome Center now until December 18th. You may also call the church during office hours to place an order.
- Serve and celebrate ADVENTures at Vance Church! Sign-up sheets for The Live Nativity, Coffee and Cocoa on the Corner, and the Vance Church Christmas Potluck are at the Welcome Center in the Narthex. See calendar below for dates and times of events.
- You are all invited to meet at the church at 5:30pm tonight to join in Congregational Caroling in the Woodsdale Neighborhood.

Vance Calendar

Week of December 11, 2022 through December 18, 2022

Sun. Dec. 11

- **9am, Sunday School, 2nd Floor Classrooms**
- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- 3pm, Aftershock Softball Christmas Party, Fellowship Hall
- **5:30pm, Congregational Caroling, Woodsdale**

Mon. Dec. 12

- 12pm, Al-Anon Support Group, Wheeler Conference Room
- 6:30pm, Cub Scouts Pack 6, Fellowship Hall
- **7pm, Session, Squibb Room**

Tue. Dec. 13

- **10am, Staff Meeting, Erica's Office**
- 7pm, Boy Scouts Troop 6, Fellowship Hall

Wed. Dec. 14

- 6pm, Narcotics Anonymous, C.E. Chapel
- 7pm, Jr. League, JL 3rd Floor Room

Thur. Dec. 15

- 12pm, Presbytery Pastor's Bible Study, Potter Chapel

Fri. Dec. 16

- **10-12pm, Staff Reviews, Church Office**

Sat. Dec. 17

- **10:30am, Kidz Morning Out, Vance Church**
- **7pm, Coffee and Cocoa on the Corner, Parking Lot**
- **7pm, Live Nativity, Vance Lawn Stable**

Sun. Dec. 18

- **9am, Sunday School, 2nd Floor Classrooms**
- **10am, Worship Service, Sanctuary**
- **11am, Christmas Potluck Dinner, Fellowship Hall**
- **11am, Deacon's Meeting, Squibb Room**
- 4pm, NA We! Christmas Party, Fellowship Hall

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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.

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⌘ Please stand if able.

GtG=Glory to God Hymnal

Songs used with CCLI License # 1223079

10:00 a.m. Service of Worship regularly broadcast over WKWK-FM 97.3

Today's worship service liturgy is written by Teri McDowell Ott and provided for free distribution by *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2022.