

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
March 6, 2016 at Eleven o'clock
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Everyone is welcome at West End! We seek to be the loving light of Christ in Nashville and beyond. We gather as the people of God with a wide range of religious backgrounds, education levels, political and theological perspectives, and we value that diversity. We welcome and celebrate the gifts God has given to all without regard to gender, race, sexual orientation, economic or family status, ethnicity, or mental or physical ability. We believe God loves everyone unconditionally!

GATHERING

Voluntary: Tierce en taille from Suite on the 2nd Tone.....Jean Adam Guilain

Welcome..... Michael Williams
Please take a moment to record your attendance in the registration pad found near the center aisle, pass it to your neighbor, and then pass the pad back to the center. First-time guests are encouraged to list your address and telephone number or e-mail address so we may share additional information about our church with you.

Introit: O Lamb of God Most Holy Nikolaus Decius
O Lamb of God most holy! Who on the cross did suffer, and patient still and lowly yourself to scorn did offer; Our sins by You were taken, or hope had us forsaken: Have mercy on us, Jesus!

† Processional Hymn No. 173: Christ, Whose Glory Fills the SkiesRatisbon

† Greeting..... Emily Robbins
People: **In Jesus Christ, there is a new creation.**
Liturgist: *Everything old has passed away.
Everything has become new.*
People: **This newness is from God,
who has reconciled us through Jesus Christ.**
Liturgist: *Rejoice and be glad!
Everything has become new.*

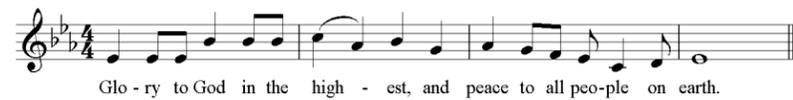
† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)
**Merciful God, we confess
that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

† Words of Assurance
Liturgist: *Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven!*
People: **In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.**

† Passing of the Peace
Liturgist: *As a forgiven and reconciled people,
let us exchange signs of reconciliation and love.
The peace of Christ be with you.*
People: **And also with you.**
(*You are invited to pass the peace of Christ to those around you.*)

† An Act of Praise
Antiphon (Choir and Congregation)



Choir: *Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.*
All: **(Antiphon)**
Choir: *Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.*
All: **(Antiphon)**
Choir: *You are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer.*
All: **(Antiphon)**
Choir: *For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord.
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ.*
All: **(Antiphon)**
Choir: *With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*
All: **(Antiphon)**

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination
Holy God, Word made flesh, let us hear this word open to your voice. Silence our agendas, confound our expectations, and clear the cobwebs from our ears. We know that you can, we pray that you will, and we wait with great anticipation. Amen.

Lesson from the Psalter: Psalm 32..... (pew Bible, page 440)

Response to the Lesson
Liturgist: *The Word of God for the people of God.*
People: **Thanks be to God.**

† Hymn: How Blest are Those..... Es Flog ein Kleins Waldvoegelein



Communion Meditation..... Michael Williams
Can Forgiveness Really Be the Doorway to New Life?

Joys & Concerns of the Church Erin Racine

The Offering

Offertory: Jesus Lay Your Head in the WindowSpiritual, arr. Hogan

Jesus lay your head in the window and hear some sinner pray. The wind blows east and the wind blows west, it blows like judgement day. And every soul that never did pray will be glad to pray on that day. O Lord, please hear my prayer. Please forgive me, for I have fallen short of glory. Please Lord, deliver me. (African-American trad.)

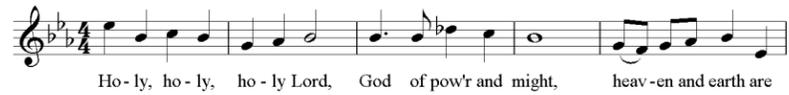
† Presentation of the Offering and the Elements

† DoxologyNo. 95

† Thanksgiving
Celebrant: *The Lord be with you.*
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: *Lift up your hearts.*
People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Celebrant: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*
People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

† Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving

† Sanctus and Benedictus (*Choir and Congregation*)



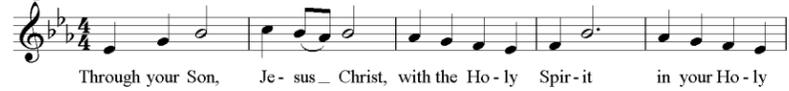
Prayer of Remembrance

People:



Prayer of Consecration

People:



The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of Bread and Taking of the Cup

After the anthem, the congregation is invited to join the choir in singing the following hymns during communion: 286, 287, & 289

† Prayer after Receiving

Celebrant: *You have given yourself to us, Lord.*
 People: **Now we give ourselves for others.**
 Celebrant: *Your love has made us a new people;*
 People: **as a people of love we will serve you with joy.**
 Celebrant: *Your glory has filled our hearts;*
 People: **help us to glorify you in all things. Amen.**

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 127.....Cwm Rhondda
 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

† Dismissal with Blessing
 Celebrant: *Go forth in peace.
 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

† Response (all sing)..... Tallis Canon
**Throughout these Lenten days and nights
 We turn to walk the inward way,
 Where, meeting Christ, our guide and light,
 We live in hope till Easter day.**

Voluntary: Toccata in G minor.....Girolamo Frescobaldi
*All are invited to remain seated for a time of reflection.
 If you leave, please do so quietly.*

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

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Head Usher: Barbara Cragg

The altar flowers are given today to the glory of God
 by Cheryl and Allen Patton
 to commemorate the 75th wedding anniversary
 of Cheryl's parents, Ray and Mildred Cruze, and Mildred's 98th birthday.

The flowers in Reed Hall
 are from the wedding of
 Whitney Thompson and Colin Prince.

Today's Music:

Music Participants: The Chancel Choir. Minister of Music, Matthew Phelps,
 director and assisting at the organ. Associate Andrew Risinger is
 organist/accompanist. Carla Swank, flute. Mo Coombs, alto soloist.

Join the Chancel Choir, Sanctuary Choir, and orchestra today for a performance
 of Lauridsen's Lux Aeterna. This sublime piece has become one of the best
 known choral works to be written by a modern American composer. It is filled
 with beautiful melodies and lush harmonies. The program also features
 Poulenc's organ concerto played by our own Andrew Risinger.
 How Blest Are Those, copyright 1986. Text by Fred R. Anderson. Reprinted
 under One License A-710087.

The texts used in today's Communion service are used in many Christian traditions.
 They help us to see our relationship to those around us as an expression of our
 relationship to God. This is best expressed as we confess our sins, are assured of God's
 forgiveness, and then express that forgiveness with those around us in the "Passing of
 the Peace." The Peace is an act of reconciliation and blessing, based on New Testament
 Christian practice. When we are reminded of God's love and mercy, our response is to
 share that gift with others. United in this forgiveness, we come to the table as a forgiven
 and reconciled community in love and charity with each other.

WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



*The Loving Light of Christ
 Connecting, Transforming*



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