

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP  
May 8, 2016 at Eleven o'clock  
Seventh Sunday of Easter

*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: Two Easter Chorale Preludes

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing..... David Schack  
Christ the Lord is Risen Today..... Frank Ferko

Welcome ..... Erin Racine  
*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: Speak to One Another in Words of Psalms.....Hal Hopson  
Speak to one another in words of psalms. Speak to one another with hymns and songs: giving thanks to our God. Sing praise to God.

† Processional Hymn No. 96.....Amsterdam  
Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above

† Greeting.....Kirk McNeill  
Liturgist: *Shout to God with songs of great joy.*  
People: **God will save us.**  
Liturgist: *Raise your hands in praise.*  
People: **God will break all of our chains.**  
Liturgist: *Lift your hearts to the Lord.*  
People: **God will heal and set us free.**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

**Powerful God,  
you bring light to the darkness.  
You triumph over death and bring forth new life.  
Yet so often,  
we don't acknowledge this power in our daily lives.  
Forgive us as we rely upon ourselves instead of on you.  
Forgive us for failing to recognize your power.  
Renew our hearts and bring life to us again,  
so that we may be your light in the world.**

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

† Gloria Patri..... No. 71

**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.**

*(Please be seated.)*

Anthem: I Will Sing of thy Great Mercies (*from St. Paul*)..Felix Mendelssohn

So they, being filled with the Holy Ghost, departing thence delayed not, and preached the word of God with joyfulness. I will sing of thy great mercies, O Lord, my Savior. And of thy faithfulness evermore.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

Liturgist: *Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include this child now before you in your care?*

People: **With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround this child with a community of love and forgiveness, that he may grow in his service to others. We will pray for him that he may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.**

Thanksgiving Over the Water

Commendation and Welcome

† Liturgist: *Members of the household of God, I commend John David to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase his faith, confirm his hope, and perfect him in love.*

† People: **We give thanks for all that God has already given you, John David, and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant to participate faithfully in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

† Musical Response .....No. 611, st. 1

**Child of blessing, child of promise,  
baptized with the Spirit's sign:  
with this water God has sealed you  
unto love and grace divine.**

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and the Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

Lesson from the New Testament: Acts 16:16-34.....(pew Bible, page 900)

Response to the Lesson

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

† Hymn No. 378: Amazing Grace.....Amazing Grace  
*The children are invited to come forward to join Erin at the chancel during the last stanza of the hymn.*

Sermon: The Great Escape.....Erin Racine

† The World Methodist Social Affirmation ..... No. 886

Joys & Concerns of the Church.....Nancy Hawthorne

Salutation

Liturgist: *The Lord be with you.*  
People: **And also with you.**  
Liturgist: *Let us pray.*

Prayers of the 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.**

Offertory: All People Clap Your Hands.....Thomas Weelkes

All people clap your hands, sing loud unto the Lord with a joyful voice. God has gone up with triumph, even the Lord with the sound of the trumpet. Praise the Lord with harp. Sing unto him with viol and instruments of music. Let us rejoice in the living God from this time forth for evermore. Amen.

(Psalm 47:1, 5)

† Doxology ..... No. 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 384: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling.....Beecher

† Benediction

† Response (all sing) No. 393: Spirit of the Living God..... Living God  
**Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me. Spirit of the living God,  
fall a-fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me.**

Voluntary: Trumpet Tune on Blaenwern.....Benjamin M. Culli  
*All are invited to remain seated for a time of reflection.  
If you leave, please do so quietly.*

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

Head Usher: Barbara Cragg

The altar flowers are given today to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of Marie and Buck Cowan  
by their son, Tommy Cowan.

John David Garrison "Jack",  
son of David Wilson Garrison and Erica Kruse Garrison,  
is presented for baptism.

Jacob Armentrout Banker "Jake",  
son of Peter Van Gordon Banker, III and Leah Connors Banker,  
was presented for baptism at the 8:45am service.

Today's Music:

Music Participants: The Chancel Choir, Minister of Music Matthew Phelps  
organist-director. Caitlin Dowling is assisting at the organ.

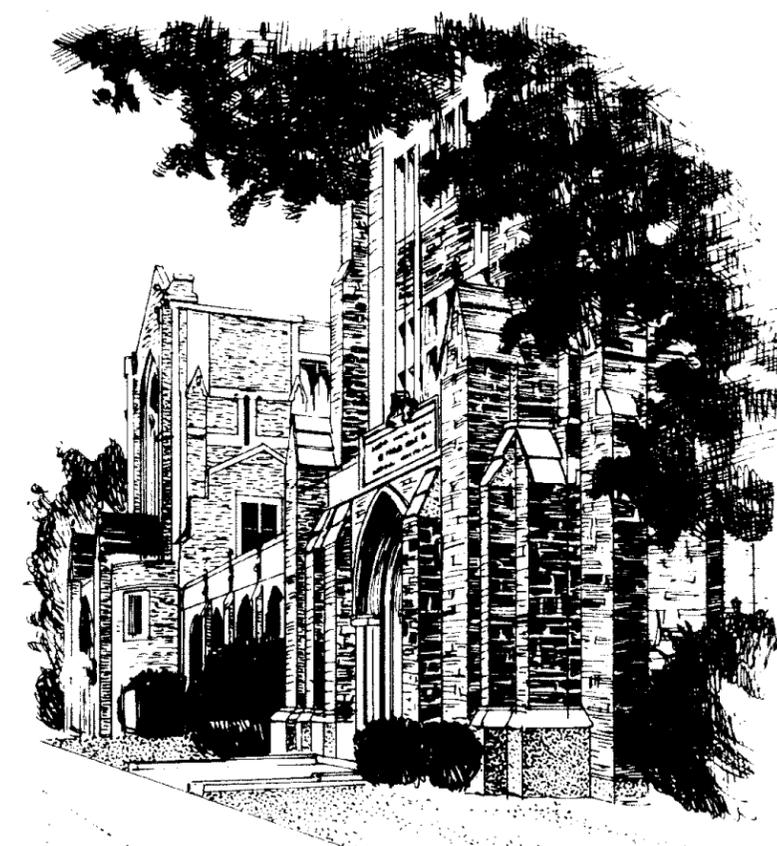
The text for two of our hymns this morning were written by Charles Wesley.  
Charles was the younger brother of John Wesley who founded the Methodist  
Church. His son Samuel Wesley and his grandson Samuel Sebastian Wesley  
followed in his footsteps and also became musicians and composers. Charles  
experienced a conversion in 1738 which led to a preaching ministry and the  
composition of over 6000 hymns. These hymns, and his sermons, show a  
devotion to the Holy Spirit that was likely influenced by his conversion  
experience.

May 8, 2016  
Preaching: Erin Racine  
*"The Great Escape"*

Acts 16:16-34

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

WEST END  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



*The Loving Light of Christ  
Connecting, Transforming*



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