

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

March 12, 2017 at Eleven o'clock

Second Sunday of 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: O Mensch beweine dein Sünde gross.....J. S. Bach

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: Lord, Lead Us Day by Day ..... G.F. Handel/arr. Hopson

† Processional Hymn No. 545: The Church's One Foundation.....Aurelia

† Greeting.....Becky Peeler
Liturgist: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.
People: God's steadfast love endures forever!
Liturgist: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so!
People: All the people of the land, from the east to the west and from the north to the south shall praise God's holy name!

Anthem: The Lord is My Shepherd.....Natalie Sleeth

The Lord is my shepherd, no want shall I know. In pastures of green where the gentle winds blow, beside the still waters wherever I go, the Lord is my shepherd, no want shall I know. The Lord is my shepherd by night and by day restoring my spirit in doubt or dismay, and leading me onward in righteousness' way, the Lord is my shepherd by night and by day. Yea, though I walk through the valley, naught in my heart will I fear; safe in the arms of my shepherd comfort and love will be near. The Lord is my shepherd content will I be, for goodness and mercy shall wait upon me, till finally the household of heaven I see. The Lord is my Shepherd, O blessed shall I be!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)
Merciful God, how fickle we are; we sin against you without even knowing it. Forgive us from failing to honor all our relationships. Help us to speak words of blessing and kindness, rather than words that belittle and destroy. Forgive us for thinking everything depends on our efforts and power. Help us to depend on you alone and to rest in your peace.

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.)

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 she may grow in her service to others. We will pray for her that she 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 Ann Towery to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase her faith, confirm her hope, and perfect her in love.

† People: We give thanks for all that God has already given you, Ann Towery, 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

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 Epistle: Ephesians 2:4-10.....(pew Bible, page 950)

Response to the Lesson

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

† Psalm 121.....Hymnal pg. 844
(Please sing response 1, first after the cantor introduces the refrain. Then after the cantor sings vs. 1-4 and 5-8. Please remain seated.)

The children are invited to come forward to join Michael when he moves to the front of the chancel.

Sermon: God, Who Is Rich in Mercy..... Michael Williams

Affirmation: I Corinthians 15:1-6 and Colossians 1:15-20.....No. 888

† 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.)

Joys & Concerns of the Church .....Erin Racine

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: Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace...Samuel Sebastian Wesley
Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee. The darkness is no darkness with thee, but the night is as clear as the day. The darkness and the light to thee are both alike. God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. O let my soul live, and it shall praise thee. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forevermore. (Isaiah 26:3)

† Doxology .....No. 95

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 553: And Are We Yet Alive .....Dennis

† Benediction

† Benediction 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: Fugue in D minor .....Heinrich Scheidemann  
*The postlude is the final Alleluia of our worship.  
All are invited to remain for a time of joyful prayer.*

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

Head Usher: Barbara Cragg

The altar flowers are given today to the glory of God and in honor of Sarah Park and in memory of Wayne and Alice Fehrer, Clarence and Sara Moore, Willis Park, Buddy and Jane Patten, and Talmadge and Juanita Phillips by Sarah Jane and Chase Moore.

Ann Towery Douglass,  
daughter of Scott McLean Douglass and Lauren Williams Douglass,  
is presented for baptism.

The rose on the Communion Table is to celebrate the birth of Avery Virginia Smith born on February 9, 2017 to Ashley and Jared Smith. She is also welcomed by her big sister Emma.

Music Participants: The Chancel Choir. Minister of Music, Matthew Phelps, is directing and assisting at the organ. Associate, Andrew Risinger is organist/accompanist. Caitlin Dowling is conducting the Chancel Choir this morning. Chapel Choirs I & II. Caitlin Dowling and Tyler Bowman, conductors.

Hymnic Notes: The processional, originally titled, "The Holy Catholic Church," was one of twelve hymns composed in 1866, on the twelve articles of the Apostles' Creed in support of traditional means of dating and tracing the authorship of the Pentateuch, and countering the then-new source-criticism. The tune AURELIA, (from aurea, golden), composed by Charles Wesley's grandson, Samuel Sebastian, famed Victorian composer and cathedral organist, is a paradigm of melodic and harmonic simplicity.

The recessional is sung by Methodists around the world to share experiences each may have had since they last met, and affirm God's love and redeeming power. (*Hymnic notes by Carlton Young*)

March 12, 2017  
Preaching: Michael Williams  
"God, Who Is Rich in Mercy"

**Ephesians 2:4-10**

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved – and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

**WEST END**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



*The Loving Light of Christ  
Connecting, Transforming*



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