

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP  
May 14, 2017 at Eight Forty-five  
Confirmation Sunday

*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: Andante (from Organ Sonata VI).....Felix Mendelssohn

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: Lord Jesus Christ.....17th c. German

† Processional Hymn No. 152.....Forest Green  
I Sing the Almighty Power of God

† Greeting.....Becky Peeler  
Liturgist: *In the wilderness, water brings life.*  
People: **Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.**  
Liturgist: *In the Word of God, the good news gives light.*  
People: **Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.**  
Liturgist: *In this place are the Water of Life and the Word that feeds;*  
People: **We come to praise the One who gives all goodness!**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)  
**God of Life, you come to us as a consuming fire,  
and the one who has consecrated us before time.  
You promise us a kingdom that cannot be shaken  
and call us to serve you with praise and thanksgiving.  
But we forget, and yield to fear.  
We trust in the tangible rewards of this world,  
and neglect your promises.  
We confess that we are a divided people;  
we foster separations and widen rifts in our families,  
our communities, and in the world.  
Open us to your healing.  
Free us from all that distances us from your presence.**

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination (*in unison*)  
**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 Old Testament: Jeremiah 29:4-14..... (pew Bible, page 639)

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

† Gloria Patri.....No. 71  
*The children are invited to come forward during the singing  
of the Gloria Patri to join Erin at the chancel.*

**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.**

Sermon: God's Plans.....Erin Racine

† Affirmation of Faith.....2017 Confirmation Class Creed

**We believe in God, who is the Almighty One,  
the Maker of heaven and earth.  
God is both seen and unseen; manifested in all.  
We believe God is the One who continues to nurture and support us  
in all circumstances.  
We believe in Jesus, God who came in the form of a human  
to understand all that we experience.  
We believe Jesus is the Savior of men and women,  
who offers all we need through his life,  
death and resurrection.  
Jesus is our mentor and guide; the one who shows us  
how we are to love God and to love our neighbor  
as ourselves.  
We believe Jesus is our hero who loves us unconditionally.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the presence of God on earth  
in our minds and hearts,  
who offers calm and comfort to our lives.  
We believe the Holy Spirit has the power to guide  
our thoughts and actions.  
As followers of Jesus, we believe the Holy Spirit helps us  
spread the Gospel to others.  
We believe in the Church, a community of people  
who believe in Jesus Christ.  
We believe the Church is a place where people experience peace,  
worship God, and participate in the sacraments.  
The Church is a place where we learn about God and Jesus,  
so that we can serve and care for others with love.**

Joys & Concerns of the Church.....Chris Allen

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: We Walk By Faith.....Kenneth T. Kosche  
We walk by faith and not by sight; No gracious words we hear  
From Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke; But we believe him near.  
We may not touch his hands and side, nor follow where he trod;  
But in his promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound  
To call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.  
That when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light  
We may behold you as you are with full and endless sight.  
*(Henry Alford, 1844)*

† 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. 664: Sent Forth By God's Blessing.... The Ash Grove

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: Grant Us, O God ..... Thomas Tallis

Voluntary: Allegro con brio from Sonata IV .....Felix Mendelssohn  
*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 Ushers: John Nance and Byron Burrus

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of the wedding of Melanie Justis and Tom Trent, and in memory of our loved ones who are no longer with us.

Elena Louise Brooks,  
daughter of Samuel Wright Brooks and Lisa Alvarez Brooks,  
will be presented for baptism in the 11 o'clock service.

Music Participants: The Sanctuary Choir. Associate Minister of Music, Andrew Risinger, is directing. Minister of Music, Matthew Phelps, is assisting at the organ.

Hymnic Notes: The beautifully crafted processional, expressing a very simple doctrine of creation, was included in the author's, *Divine and Moral Songs for Children* (1715), the first hymnal intended for use by children, that for 150 years was a mainstay for the moral upbringing of British children and youth. "The Summons," consists of Christ's invitation to radical discipleship in the form of 13 questions, and our response. The recessional, sung to a delightful Welsh harp melody, is one of several hymns composed following Vatican II for use in the Roman Catholic Mass and other services, which have entered the core of ecumenical Eucharistic hymnody.  
(Hymnic notes by Carlton Young)

The Rite of Confirmation will be held this morning at the eleven o'clock service.

### Members of the 2017 Confirmation Class

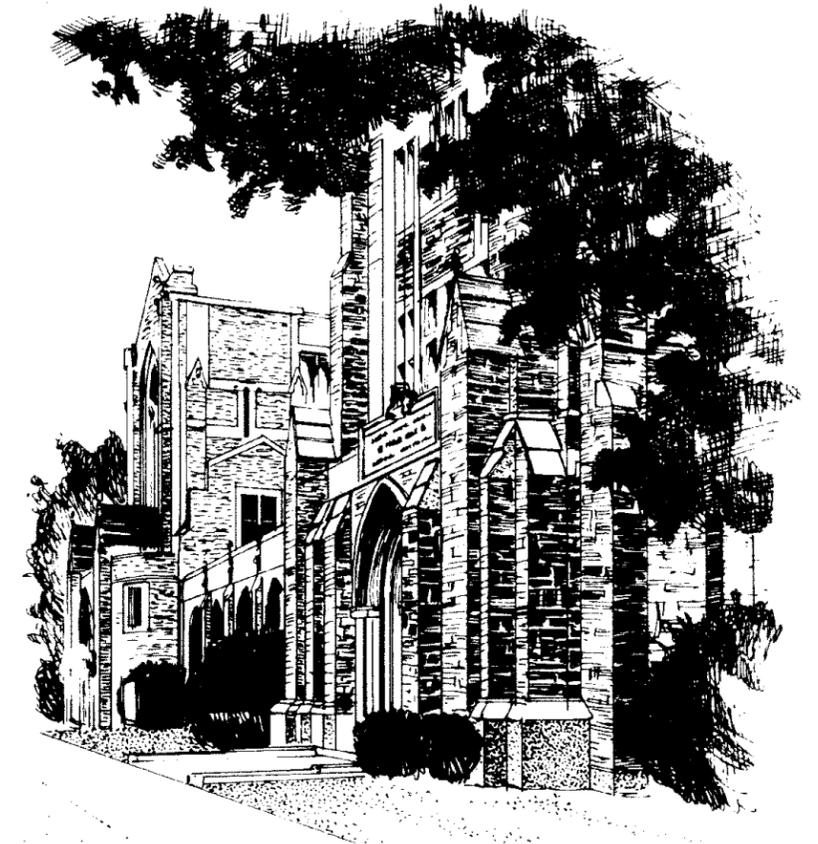
**William Charles Andrews**  
**Anna Wilkinson Bigelow**  
**James Howard Cook III**  
**Grant Breinig Gilmour**  
**Sophie Wynne Jacobson**  
**Lytle Elizalee Landers**  
**Maeve Rainey Tettleton**  
**Reed Parker Whitman**  
**Sophia Rebecca Williams**

**May 14, 2017**  
**Preaching: Erin Racine**  
**"God's Plans"**

### **Jeremiah 29:4-14**

Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord. For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

**WEST END**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



*The Loving Light of Christ  
Connecting, Transforming*



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