

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
June 25, 2017 at Eight Forty-five
Third Sunday of Pentecost

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: The Peace May Be Exchanged.....Dan Locklair

Welcome.....Michael Williams

Introit: Come, Ye That Love the Lord.....arr. Alice Parker

† Processional Hymn No. 327.....Diademata
Crown Him with Many Crowns

† Greeting.....Nancy Parker
Liturgist: *We have gathered to worship God.*
People: **We have come seeking comfort, inspiration, community, and insight.**
Liturgist: *We have come to open ourselves to the power of God's presence in our midst.*
People: **We have come to offer up the seasons and the turnings in our lives, and to ask God's help in our learning and in our growing.**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)
Gracious God,
our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide,
and too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us
too heavy to carry anymore.
Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more
in your likeness and image.

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.

A lesson from the New Testament.....(pew Bible, page 934)
1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

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 Michael 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. Amen.**

(Please be seated.)

Sermon: The Greatest of These Is LoveMichael Williams

† A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada.....No. 83

† 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: How Firm A Foundation.....arr. Dan Forrest

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word! What more can he say than to you he hath said to you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled? "Fear not, I am with thee O be not dismayed, for I am thy God, I will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the river of woe shall not thee overflow; for I will be with thee thy trials to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress. When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply; the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine. The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to his foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake!"

† DoxologyNo. 95

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 these persons 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 these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their service to others. We will pray for them that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.**

Thanksgiving Over the Water

Reception of New Members

Liturgist: *Brothers and Sisters in Christ, these persons are now entrusted to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.*

People: **We give thanks for all that God has already given you, 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.**

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 2008 TFWS.....The Ash Grove
Let All Things Now Living

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: AmenPeter C. Lutkin

Voluntary: Festival Toccata.....Franklin Ritter
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 altar flowers are given today to the glory of God
and in memory of Reverend Margaret H. Howell and Stephen D. Howell
by John F. Howell and family.

Devin Tre Hargrove, son of Timothy Poe Hargrove,
is presented today for baptism.

The anthem "How Firm A Foundation" is given by the Sanctuary Choir
to the glory of God, and in honor of Dr. Michael Williams, upon his retirement.

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

Hymnic Notes: The processional is a hymn of praise to the ascended and
reigning Christ. Each stanza is a lyrical elaboration on one of Christ's names:
1) the Lamb upon the throne; 2) the Virgin's Son; 3) the Lord of Love; 4) the
Lord of Peace; 5) the Lord of Years; 6) the Lord of Heaven. The well constructed
and stirring tune DIADEMATA (named after the Greek word for "crowns"),
was composed for the text.

The words of the joyous recessional were composed to the unique metrical
structure of the Welsh Harp tune LLWYN ONN (The Ash Gove), and together
first appeared as a choral work. It is one of very few successful adaptations of
the words and music of a choir anthem as a congregational hymn.
(Hymnic Notes by Carlton Young)

June 25, 2017
Preaching: Michael Williams
"The Greatest of These Is Love"
1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have
love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have
prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all
knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but
do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions,
and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have
love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not
envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its
own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in
wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes
all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.
But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues,
they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we
know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the
complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a
child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a
child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For
now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face.
Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have
been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these
three; and the greatest of these is love.

West End United Methodist Church

PASTORAL STAFF

Members of West End United Methodist Church..... Ministers
Michael WilliamsSenior Pastor
Erin Racine Pastor of Hospitality and Congregational Care
Chris Allen.....Pastor of Spiritual Formation
Becky Peeler.....Pastor of Children and Family Ministries
Lisa Gwock Pastor of Missions & Outreach
Nancy Parker..... Pastor of Young Adults
Ewart WattsPastor at Richland Place

PROGRAM STAFF

Matthew PhelpsMinister of Music
Andrew Risinger..... Associate Minister of Music
Melissa Gramling.....Music Intern
Emily Robbins.....Minister of Youth
Shelley Kuhlmeier..... Communications Director
Don Marler.....Minister of Music Emeritus

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Sandra Durbin Church Financial Officer
Melanie Paulson..... Human Resources Director
Cindy SiemerSenior Administrative Assistant/Membership
Julie Catterton..... Assistant to Senior Pastor, Youth, & Children
Charity Van De Griek.....Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
Bob Hilton.....Building Engineer
Richard Thomas.....Custodian

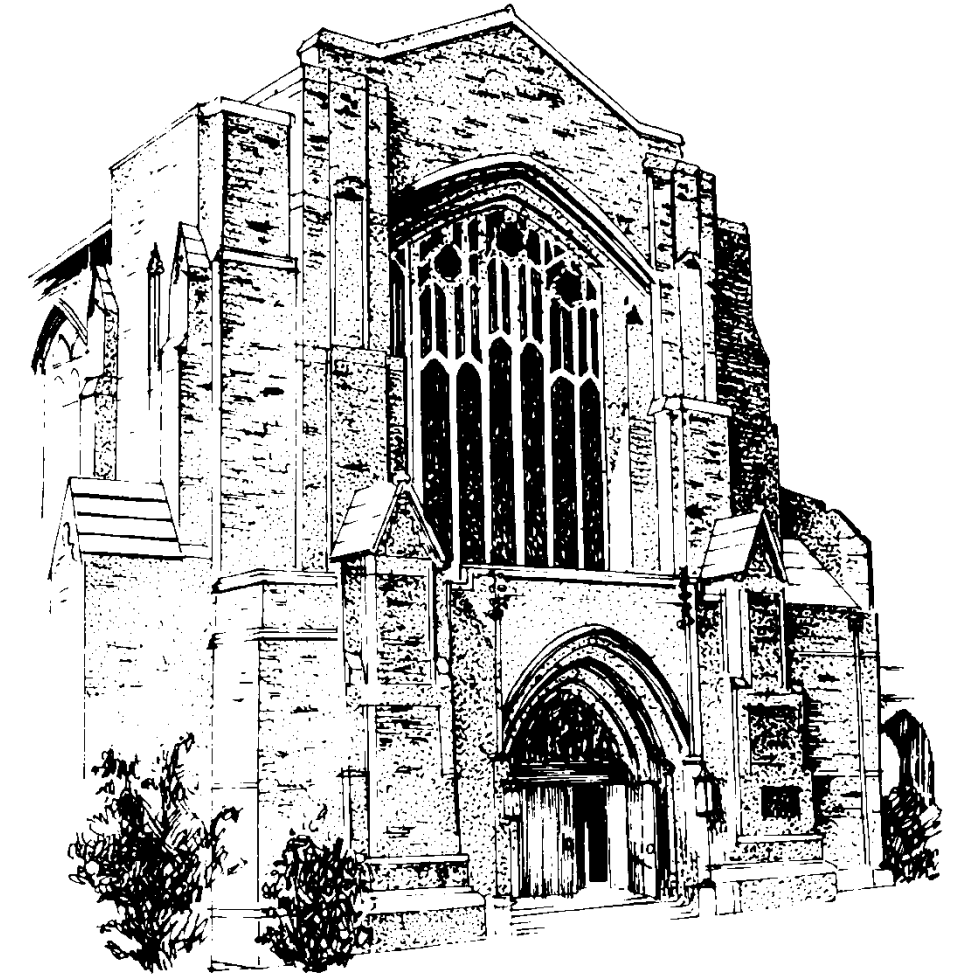
WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL MINISTRIES

Lynn McClary..... Executive Director
Sandy Gilbert.....Program Director
Annie Traver.....Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

*To reach a member of the staff by email,
use their first initial with their last name at westendumc.org
except for Bob Hilton, Don Marler, and Ewart Watts.*

WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



*The Loving Light of Christ
Connecting, Transforming*



2200 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

615.321.8500
www.westendumc.org