

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
July 23, 2017 at Eight Forty-five
Seventh Sunday after 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: Two Elevations

Andante Con Moto.....Louis-James-Alfred Lefebure-Wely
Elevation in E-flat.....Paul Benoit

Welcome.....Carol Cavin-Dillon

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: I Will Arise.....arr. Alice Parker

† Processional Hymn No. 578.....Unser Herrscher
God of Love and God of Power

† Greeting.....Emily C. Robbins

Liturgist: *The Lord knows each and every one of us and loves each one dearly.*

People: **Sometimes it feels as though God has drifted away from us.**

Liturgist: *Be strong! Look for the ways in which God is present to you.*

People: **Given all the troubles of the day, we often look more closely at them.**

Liturgist: *Come, open your hearts and spirits to God's love and presence*

People: **Lord, help us to see your presence in all of life's circumstances.**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

Patient Lord,
it is so easy for us to focus on all the things that are wrong.
We spend much time and energy in anger and sorrow,
leaving behind the possibilities of hope and service to you.
Ease our hearts, O Lord.
Forgive our willingness to get caught up in the negative.
Direct our steps toward positive actions
that will produce growth and peace.
We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

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 Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.....(pew Bible, pages 795)

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 Carol 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: God's GardenCarol Cavin-Dillon

† Affirmation of Faith.....No. 883

† 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.....Brandon Baxter

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: Cause Us, O Lord.....Ron Nelson

Cause us, O Lord our God, to lie down each night in peace, and to awaken to renewed life and strength. Hear our prayer, O Lord. Lord, help us to order our lives by thy council, lead us in the paths of righteousness. Lord, be Thou a shield about us, protect us. Save our world from sorrow, from hate, and from war. Curb Thou within us the will to do evil. Shelter us beneath the shadow of Thy wings
(The Book of Prayer)

† Doxology.....No. 95

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 2241 TFWS.....Land of Rest
The Spirit Sends us Forth to Serve

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: Amen.....Dresden

Voluntary: Trumpet Tune in C.....Mark Shepperd

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 Flower Fund provides flowers for West End's worship service when none have been donated. Today's flowers are made possible by this fund. If you would like to contribute, please mark your check or envelope "Flower Fund."

The rose on the Communion table is to celebrate the birth of Amos William Matheny, born July 3, 2017 to Logan and Leslee Matheny.

Marshall McLaughlin Ledbetter, son of Clement and Katie Ledbetter, is presented for baptism in the 11 o'clock service today.

Music Participants: The Sanctuary Choir. Associate Minister of Music, Andrew Risinger, is director. Minister of Music, Matthew Phelps is organist.

Hymnic Notes: The processional, bearing many similarities to Harry Emerson Fosdick's "God of grace and God of glory," on the facing page, is described by the author as reflecting the evangelistic themes of that time (ca. 1939). "There's a wideness in God's mercy," consists of four stanzas of the poet's thirteen composed in the mid-19th century, that express God's unqualified, unfailing love, mercy, healing and acceptance for every person, which implicitly challenge the church to be as well as proclaim these attributes of Deity. The recessional, by prominent hymn writer Sister Deloris Dufner, Saint Benedict's Monastery, St. Joseph, MN, is replete with action verbs: bring, comfort, help, serve, that challenge us to live out the gospel.
(Hymnic notes by Carlton Young)

July 23, 2017
Preaching: Carol Cavin-Dillon
"God's Garden"

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

West End United Methodist Church

PASTORAL STAFF

Members of West End United Methodist Church..... Ministers
Carol Cavin-Dillon.....Senior Pastor
Erin Racine..... Pastor of Hospitality and Congregational Care
Brandon Baxter.....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 Watts.....Pastor at Richland Place

PROGRAM STAFF

Matthew Phelps.....Minister of Music
Andrew Risinger..... Associate Minister of Music
Allison Williams.....Music Associate
Melissa Gramling.....Music Intern
Emily C. 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 Siemer.....Senior 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

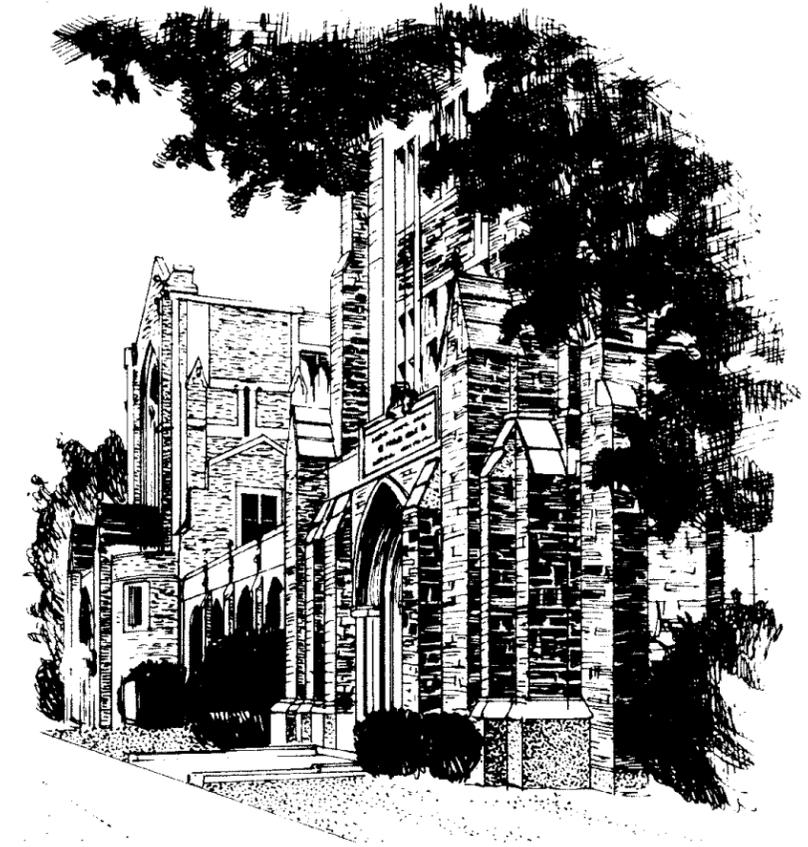
WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL MINISTRIES

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*



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