

GATHERING

Voluntary: Meditation in FMichael Helman

Welcome.....Erin Racine

Introit: Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days.....Richard Redhead
Lord who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,
teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.

† Processional Hymn No. 139.....Lobe Den Herren
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

† Greeting.....Carol Cavin-Dillon

Liturgist: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

People: Therefore we will not fear.

Liturgist: The Lord of hosts is with us.

People: The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Liturgist: Come, behold the works of the Lord,

People: who makes wars cease to the end of the earth.

Liturgist: "Be still, and know that I am God."

People: The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Most gracious God,
you have created us to be in relationship with you
and with one another.

You have given us the gift of prayer,
that we might commune with you
and be transformed into your likeness.

Yet we neglect and dismiss your gift.
We tell ourselves that we are too busy.
We convince ourselves that we do not know how to pray.
Forgive us, O God.

Help us to be still and to trust that you will be there
when we turn to you in prayer.

Lead us into prayer for the world, for others, and for ourselves.
Amen.

† Silent Confession

† Words of Assurance

† 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.)

† 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: How Can I Keep from Singing?.....arr. By Michael Burkhardt

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation,
I hear the real though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing,
It sounds an echo in my soul; How can I keep from singing?
What if my joys and comforts die, I know that truth is living.
What though the darkness 'round me close? Still truth its light is giving.
No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since Love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?
I lift my eyes, the cloud grows thin, I see the blue above it
And day by day this pathway smooths, since first I learned to love it.
The peace from Love makes fresh my heart, a song of hope is springing.
All things are mine since truth I've found. How can I keep from singing?

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination (in unison).....Lauren Pickens

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 Gospel: Luke 18:1-8(pew Bible, pages 853)

Response to the Lesson

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

† Hymn No. 500: Spirit of God, Descend Upon my HeartMorecambe

The children are invited to come forward to join Erin at the chancel
during the last stanza of the hymn.

Sermon: Why Pray?.....Erin Racine

† Affirmation of Faith.....No. 888

Joys & Concerns of the Church.....Anita Peebles

Salutation

Liturgist: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Liturgist: Let us pray.

Prayers of the People

Several readers will share prayers followed by silence. After each moment of
silence, the congregation is invited to sing "Hear us, O God" to the tune below:



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: Sicut Cervus.....Giovanni Pierluigi de Palestrina
As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.
(Psalm 42:1, sung in Latin)

† Doxology.....No. 95

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. 415: Take Up Thy Cross.....Germany

† Benediction

† Benediction Response.....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.....Felix Mendelssohn
Allegro Maestoso e Vivace (from Sonata IV)

† The congregation is invited to stand.

Livestream and video recording happen during our church services
and worship events.

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Lucy Mei McGuire, daughter of John O'Brien McGuire, Jr.
and Elizabeth Pagano McGuire, was presented for baptism
in the early service today.

The flowers on the altar are given by John and Elizabeth McGuire in honor of
Peaches Blank and Lisa Grubbs, two loving and cherished Godmothers
to Lucy Mei McGuire.



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, Coordinator of Spiritual Formation
 Becky Peeler.....Pastor of Children and Family Ministries
 Lisa Gwock.....Pastor of Missions & Outreach
 Nancy Parker.....Pastor of Young Adults
 Anita Peebles.....Congregational Care Intern

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
 Kalie Rhodes.....Youth Intern
 Shelley Kuhlmeier.....Communications Director
 Don Marler.....Minister of Music Emeritus

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Sandra Durbin.....Church Financial Officer
 Melanie Paulson.....Coordinator of Operations
 Cindy Siemer.....Senior Administrative Assistant/Membership
 Julie Catterton.....Assistant to Senior Pastor, Youth, & Children
 Charity Van De Griek.....Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
 Annie Traver.....Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
 Chase Bencin.....Media Coordinator
 Bob Hilton.....Building Engineer
 Richard Thomas.....Custodian

WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL MINISTRIES

Lynn McClary.....Executive Director
 Sandy Gilbert.....Program Director
 Charity Van De Griek.....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 and Don Marler.*

WEST END UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
 February 25, 2018 at Eleven o'clock
 Second Sunday in 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!

Sunday Activities

Service Times.....8:45 and 11 a.m.
 Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
 Youth Choir Rehearsal*.....12:15 - 1 p.m.
 Adult Handbells.....1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
 Youth Small Groups*.....5 - 7 p.m.

Weekly Activities

Meal.....Wednesdays, 5 - 6:30 p.m.
 Class Offerings.....Wednesdays, 6 p.m.
 Children's Choir and Youth Handbell Rehearsals.....Wednesdays, 6 - 7 p.m.
 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal.....Wednesdays, 7:30 - 9 p.m.
 Chancel Choir Rehearsal.....Thursdays, 7:15pm - 9:15 p.m.

For a complete listing and additional information on Sunday and Weekly Activities, please visit our website at www.westendumc.org or see the bulletin insert.

*Meal provided.

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Head Usher: Barbara Cragg

Music Participants: The Chancel Choir. Music Intern, Melissa Gramling, conductor. Music Associate, Allison Williams, organist. Youth Bell Choir. Carla Fox, director. Youth Vocal Ensemble. Music Associate, Allison Williams, director.

Hymnic Notes: "Take Up Thy Cross" is based on Mark 8:34-35, "if any want to be my followers, let them deny themselves and take up thy cross." It was first included in hymnals for the Dutch Reformed Church, but gained widespread popularity when it was included in the 1861 publication *Hymns Ancient and Modern*.

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