

## GATHERING

Voluntary: Improvisation on “Waterlife” .....Matthew Phelps

Welcome.....Brandon Baxter

Introit: In Thee Is Gladness.....Giovanni Gastoldi

In Thee is gladness gone is all sadness, Jesus, sunshine of my life. By Thee our given the gifts of heaven, thou the true Redeemer art. Our souls thou makest, our bonds now breakest, who trust thee surely hath built securely, and stand forever. Alleluia.

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

† Call to Worship.....Erin Racine

Liturgist: *Come and join the expectant crowd!*

People: **Jesus, we are here and ready to follow!**

Liturgist: *The cost is high and the journey difficult.*

People: **By your grace, make us disciples of your way.**

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

**God of Goodness and Grace,**

**we know your perfect love through Jesus the Christ,**

**the One who laid down life itself for the sake of the world.**

**We confess that we tremble at the thought of such absolute surrender.**

**So often our notions of happiness and fulfillment**

**insist that we avoid burden or sacrifice.**

**We admit we want an easy path that leads to safety and salvation,**

**yet Jesus requires disciples to take up the cross.**

**We wonder what this means.**

**We think, “Surely we cannot be anything like Jesus.”**

**Each day we overlook endless opportunities**

**to reorient our lives around your self-giving**

**and sacrificial love.**

**Forgive us when we count the cost too great**

**to love our world and our neighbors as you have loved us.**

† Silent Confession

† Words of Assurance

Liturgist: *Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven!*

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven!**

All: **Glory to God. Amen.**

† 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.**

† 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.**

Anthem: Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing.....arr. Hal Hopson  
(*text can be found in the hymnal, #400*)

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 service with others. We will pray for her to 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 Anne Walton 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 Anne Walton, 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.....Beth Howard

**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: Luke 14:25-33.....(pew Bible, page 850)

Response to the Lesson

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

† Hymn No. 298: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross.....Hamburg

*The children are invited to join Brandon at the chancel during the last stanza  
of the hymn for the Children’s Moment.*

Sermon: At Cross-Purposes.....Brandon Baxter

† Affirmation of Faith.....No. 883

Joys & Concerns of the Church.....Nancy Parker

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: Eternal God.....Gerre Hancock

Eternal God, the heav’n of heav’ns cannot contain you, much less the walls of temples made with hands. Graciously receive our thanks for this place and graciously accept the work of our hands, offered to your honor and glory. Amen.

† 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!**

Reception of New Members

Liturgist: *Family of God, 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. 559.....Westminster Abbey

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

† Benediction

† Benediction Response No. 2226 TFWS: Bind Us Together (all sing)

**Bind us together Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.**

**Bind us together Lord, bind us together Lord, bind us together in love.**

Voluntary: Postlude on Westminster Abbey.....Richard Proulx

*The postlude is the final Alleluia of our worship.  
All are invited to remain for a time of joyful prayer.*

† The congregation is invited rise in body or in spirit.

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

+++

The altar flowers are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marie and Buck Cowan, by their son Tommy Cowan.

The flowers in Reed Hall are placed in celebration of the marriage of church members Derek Dean and Kimberly deMent on September 21st, 2019, and in honor of their families.

Anne Walton Herbert, daughter of Erik Regis Herbert and Rachel Jones Herbert, is presented for baptism today.



*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 and Youth Handbell Rehearsals.....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.....Wednesdays, 6 - 7 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal.....Wednesdays, 7:30 - 9 p.m.
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal.....Thursdays, 7:15pm - 9:15 p.m.

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services! However if needed childcare is available during worship for children 5 and under on the 1st floor in the following rooms: infants 105, toddlers 104, twos and threes 110, and fours and fives 112. If you prefer to step out of the service, worship is live-streamed in Bishop's Parlor.

An accessible, all-gender restroom is available in Bishop’s Parlor. This single-stall restroom includes a diaper changing station and assistance railing.

Building Tours are offered on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 9:30 AM, or immediately following the early service. Meet at the Welcome Center in Reed Hall, through the side doors of the Sanctuary.

For a complete listing and additional information on Sunday and Weekly Activities, please visit [www.westendumc.org](http://www.westendumc.org) or see the bulletin insert.

+++

Head Usher: Barbara Cragg  
Cover art: Charles Hooper  
Liturgy: Brandon Baxter

Music Participants: The Chancel Choir and Youth Vocal Ensemble. Minister of Music, Matthew Phelps is organist-director. Ben Troxler, piano.

Today’s Music: Isaac Watts wrote the original text for "I Sing the Almighty Power of God," in eight four-line stanzas for his *Divine Songs Attempted in Easy Language, for the Use of Children*, published in 1715. It was the second song in the collection, under the title "Praise for Creation and Providence." In his preface, Watts wrote, "the Children of high and low degree, of the Church of England, or Dissenters, baptized in infancy, or not, may all join together in these Songs. And as I have endeavored to sink the language to the level of a Child’s understanding, and yet to keep it (if possible) above contempt: so I have designed to profit all (if possible) and offend none."

# WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP  
September 22, 2019 at Eleven o’clock  
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

2200 West End Avenue  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

615.321.8500  
[www.westendumc.org](http://www.westendumc.org)