

## GATHERING

Voluntary: Cradle Song.....Henry Ley

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: What Star Is This?.....Michael Praetorius

† Processional Hymn No. 245: The First Noel .....The First Noel

† Call to Worship.....Maggie Jarrell  
Liturgist: *A star in the sky announced his coming.*  
People: **O come, let us adore him!**  
Liturgist: *Wise Ones followed the star, and came to bring him homage.*  
People: **O come, let us adore him!**  
Liturgist: *We, too, come to worship the infant King!*  
People: **O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)  
**God of Perfect Light,**  
**you seek to lead us,**  
**yet, in choosing to follow our own path,**  
**we miss the joy of your in-breaking love.**  
**Like Herod, selfish ambition makes us willing to hurt others.**  
**Unlike the Magi, we seek to keep our gifts to ourselves.**  
**Forgive us, Radiant God.**  
**Shine in our lives through the light of your Christ,**  
**in whose name we pray. Amen.**

† 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.**

† Affirmation of At-One-Ment  
Liturgist: *During this tumultuous time for Methodists, we affirm our shared vision for this congregation. No matter where you are on your faith journey:*

Congregation: **Everyone is welcome here; you are not alone.**


Liturgist: *We will love and support all members of this congregation as we endeavor to become better disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, embracing our diversity and encouraging others to join us.*

Congregation: **Everyone is a child of God. We belong to one another.**

Liturgist: *We find the statement in the United Methodist Book of Discipline that "homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching" irreconcilable with our mission. Instead, we will advocate for the inclusion all people in the life and ministries of The United Methodist Church, fully and without exceptions.*

All: **God loves everyone unconditionally. God is with us, every one of us, always.**

† An Act of Praise  
Antiphon (Choir and Congregation)



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to all peo-ple on earth.

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination (*in unison*).....Irwin Fisher  
**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: Matthew 2:1-12.....(pew Bible, pages 783-784)

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

Communion Meditation: The Fear of Herod.....Carol Cavin-Dillon

Joys & Concerns of the Church.....Erin Racine

The Offering

Offertory: The Wise Men and the Star.....Oliver Tarney  
Sovereign scholars, weary of waiting, startled by starlight that kindles the sky. Eager for answers, destiny drives them, watching with wonder, they follow the star. Passing by palaces, greedy and golden, threading the byways of winter and cold, come to a doorway, lowbuilt and lamplit, eagerly enter under the star. Source of all starlight, simply they see him, laid in a manger and haloed with hay. Bright in this beauty, shrouded with shadows. Steady the star shines. Follow the star.  
(Lucia Quinalt)

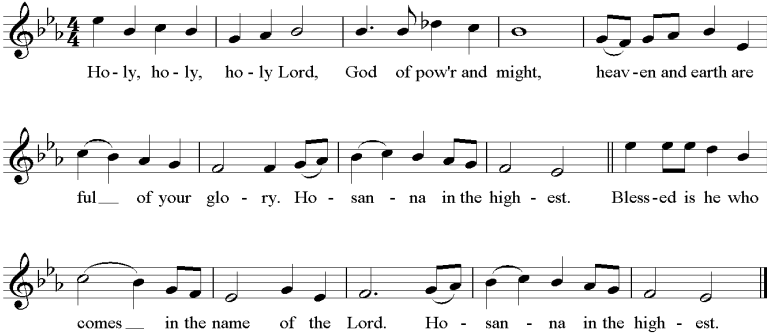
† Presentation of the Offering and the Elements

† 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!**

† Thanksgiving  
Celebrant: *The Lord be with you.*  
People: **And also with you.**  
Celebrant: *Lift up your hearts.*  
People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Celebrant: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*  
People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

† Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving

† Sanctus and Benedictus (*Choir and Congregation*)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav - en and earth are  
ful\_ of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes\_ in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Remembrance


People:



Christ has died, Christ is\_ ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.

Prayer of Consecration

People:



Through your Son, Je - sus\_ Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in your Ho - ly  
Church, all glo - ry and hon - or is yours, Fa - ther. A - men.

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.**

The Breaking of Bread and Taking of the Cup  
*The congregation is invited to join the choir in singing the following hymns during communion: 219, 216, and 221.*

† Prayer after Receiving  
Celebrant: *You have given yourself to us, Lord.*  
People: **Now we give ourselves for others.**  
Celebrant: *Your love has made us a new people;*  
People: **as a people of love we will serve you with joy.**  
Celebrant: *Your glory has filled our hearts;*  
People: **help us to glorify you in all things. Amen.**

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 254: We Three Kings .....Kings of Orient

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: Gloria, in excelsis deo!.....Gloria

Voluntary: Fanfare and Procession.....Keith Chapman

*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 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 celebration of 21 years of love for a wonderful son, Max Coppinger Nance, born January 7, 1999, by his parents Margo Coppinger and John Nance.



*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 Handbell Rehearsals.....4:15 - 5:00 p.m.  
Youth Small Groups.....5 - 7 p.m.

**Weekly Activities**

Meal.....Wednesdays, 5:15 - 6:15 p.m.  
Class Offerings.....Wednesdays, 6:15 - 7:15 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: Byron Burrus

Liturgy: Erin Racine

The Prayer of Confession adapted from a prayer by Ruth C. Duck in the book, *Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship*.

The service music printed in the order of worship is by Sally Ahner ©1983. Used with permission.

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

Today's Music: "We Three Kings" was written in 1857 by John Henry Hopkins Jr., an Episcopal priest living in Pennsylvania, and was originally intended for use as part of a Christmas pageant taking place in New York City. The opening stanza is about the journey of the Magi to Bethlehem. The middle three stanzas explain a meaning for each of the three gifts. Gold signified royalty, and frankincense, deity. Myrrh foretold that the Christ child was born to die. The last stanza summarizes the song, calling Jesus the "King and God and Sacrifice," and ending in a peal of alleluias.

# WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP January 5, 2020 at Eight Forty-five Epiphany Sunday

2200 West End Avenue  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

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