

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP  
December 11, 2016 at Eight Forty-five  
Third Sunday of Advent

*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: Chorale Prelude: Wake, Awake for Night is Flying..... J. S. Bach

Welcome .....Michael Williams  
*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: Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus ..... Christian F. Witt

† Processional Hymn No. 61: Come Thou Almighty King.....Italian Hymn

† Greeting.....Stacy Gonzalez  
Liturgist: *The land around us is a dry wilderness.*  
People: **The Lord causes it to rejoice and blossom.**  
Liturgist: *Our hands are weak and our knees are feeble.*  
People: **The Lord says, “Be strong and do not fear”.**  
Liturgist: *We will come to Zion with singing.*  
People: **And all of our sorrow will be replaced with joy.**

*(Please be seated.)*

Lighting the Advent Candle ..... Members of the Hospitality Team:  
Phil, Kristin, Thomas, and Wilson Rutterer

Lesson from the Prophets: Isaiah 40:1-11.....(pew Bible, page 581)

Congregational Response.....Besançon  
Hymn No. 202: People, Look East  
**People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.**  
**Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.**  
**People look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way!**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

**Holy Lord, you are with us in the desert and in the abundance.**  
**In this season of Advent,**  
**draw us close to your heart**  
**so that we might see the world as you see it.**  
**Open our hearts that we might confess our own participation**  
**in creating a world in which so many suffer.**  
**Forgive us for our apathy, our disconnection,**  
**and our misplaced priorities.**  
**Free us from shame so that we do not become paralyzed**  
**by the acknowledgment of our sin,**  
**Give us courage to believe that your joy can truly replace all sorrow,**  
**and give us strength to make this joy more abundant**  
**in our families, our communities,**  
**our country, and the entire world.**

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Advent Prayer for Illumination (*in unison*)

**Holy God, help us to give voice to the wonderful news:**  
**you, yourself are coming to dwell among us!**  
**Quicken our imaginations to find new and creative ways**  
**to proclaim Christ's coming. Amen.**

Lesson from the Old Testament: Isaiah 35:1-10.....(pew Bible, page 578)

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.**

Sermon: Come, Thou, Almighty King.....Michael Williams

† Affirmation of From I Timothy 2:5-6; 1:15; 3:16.....No. 889

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: There is No Rose of Such Virtue..... John Joubert

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu: Alleluia.  
For in this rose contained was heaven and earth in little space.  
Res miranda [Wondrous thing!] By that rose we may well see there  
be one God in persons three, Pares forma [Of the same form!]  
Then leave we all this worldly mirth, and follow we this joyous birth,  
Transeamus. [Let us cross over]

† Doxology ..... No. 95

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 209: Blessed Be the God of Israel.....Merle's Tune

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: Rejoice, Rejoice!..... Veni Emmanuel

Voluntary: In dir ist Freude.....J.S. Bach  
Lob Sei Dem Allemachtigen Gott BWV 602  
Herr Christ, Der Ein'ge Gottes Sohn BWV 601  
*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 Usher: John Nance

The altar flowers are given today to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of Jane and Chase Delony,  
Patty Chadwell, Lillian and Robert Chadwell,  
and Ellen and James Hofstead  
by Patty and Frances Delony.

Music Participants: The Sanctuary Choir. Associate Minister of Music,  
Andrew Risinger is directing. Caitlin Dowling is assisting at the organ.

Hymnic Notes:

The processional, one of our most singable hymns of praise, has roots in mid-18th century British evangelical teachings that counter Unitarian notions of deity, and clearly define which king is King. Affirming the latter, Lutheran hymnologist, Paul Westermeyer states the hymn 'voices the church's countercultural claim against 'any human being, agency or state as ultimate.

The central themes of the "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" flow from Hebraic Messianic expectation—long-expected freedom, release, rest and consolation, and hope—and the Christian fulfillment of that expectation in a child whose birth brought and continues to bring deliverance from the bondage of sin for the whole human family and the establishment of God's gracious reign in our hearts. Rowland H. Prichard stated he composed HYFRYDOL (meaning, pleasant and melodious) as an alternative to the 'empty and defiling songs,' sung in Welsh Sunday Schools.

The recessional hymn is a lyrical paraphrase of the "Canticle of Zechariah (see left facing page 208), in which Zechariah, the father of John of Baptist, prophecies his son will prepare the way for God's 'mighty Savior.' (Hymnic Notes by Carlton Young)

The Candlelighting Service is this afternoon at 5:30 p.m.

This long time West End tradition retells the story of the prophecy and birth of Christ through congregational carols as well as carols sung by the adult and childrens choirs of West End.

The service ends with everyone lighting a candle and singing Silent Night. Handbell choirs begin ringing carols at 5:10 p.m.

December 11, 2016  
Preaching: Michael Williams  
"Come, Thou, Almighty King"

**Isaiah 35:1-10**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**West End United Methodist Church  
PASTORAL STAFF**

Members of West End United Methodist Church ..... Ministers  
Michael Williams .....Senior 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 Watts .....Pastor at Richland Place

**PROGRAM STAFF**

Matthew Phelps ..... Minister of Music  
Andrew Risinger ..... Associate Minister of Music  
Caitlin Dowling .....Music Intern  
Emily Robbins.....Minister of Youth  
Shelley Kuhlmeier..... Communications Director  
Stacy Gonzalez..... Congregational Care Intern  
Christe' Blackshear.....Intern  
Dane Van Eys..... Youth Intern  
Don Marler..... Minister of Music Emeritus

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Kim Young ..... Property Operations Manager  
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  
Tim Padlick.....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.*



*The Loving Light of Christ  
Connecting, Transforming*

