

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP  
February 21, 2016 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!*

**GATHERING**

Voluntary: Meditation (from the Organ Sonata no. 6) . Alexandre Guilmant

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: Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days.....Land of Rest  
Lord who throughout these forty days for us didst fast an pray,  
Teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by you to stay.

† Processional Hymn No. 101.....Duke Street  
From All That Dwell Below the Skies

† Greeting.....Emily Robbins  
Liturgist: *The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?*  
People: **The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?**  
Liturgist: *One thing we ask of the Lord; this we will seek:*  
People: **to live in the presence of God;  
to see the beauty of God;  
to seek the truth of God.**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)  
**Gracious God - Your Son Jesus Christ wept over Jerusalem  
and longs to gather your children  
under the wings of your love.  
We confess that often our thoughts, words and actions  
have betrayed the goodness you have shown to us.  
We have spurned your word and grieved your heart.  
Forgive us, loving God.  
Though we have wandered far from home,  
help us to know  
that we are never out of the reach of your love.  
Give us grace to hear your call so that we might return to you.  
Lead us again to embrace the truth of your Word  
and to trust your never failing love  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

† What Wondrous Love Is This (Verse 1) .....No. 292  
**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to  
bear the dreadful curse for my soul.**

*(Please be seated.)*

Voluntary: Father God, All Praise to Thee.....Howard Starks

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 her service to others. We will pray for her that she  
may 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 Valla Marie  
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, Valla Marie, 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

**Holy God, Word made flesh, let us hear this word open to your  
voice. Silence our agendas, confound our expectations, and clear  
the cobwebs from our ears. We know that you can, we pray that you  
will, and we wait with great anticipation. Amen.**

Lesson from the Psalter: Psalm 27.....(pew Bible, page 437)

Response to the Lesson

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

† Hymn: God Is My Strong Salvation.....Christus, der ist mein Leben  
*The children are invited to come forward to join Michael at the chancel  
during the last stanza of the hymn.*

James Montgomery, 1822; alt. 1988

Melchior Vulpinus, 1609

1. God is my strong sal - va - tion: What foe have I to fear?  
2. Though hosts en - camp a - round me, Firm to the fight I stand:  
3. Place on the Lord re - li - ance, My soul, with cour - age wait:  
4. God's might thy heart shall strength - en, God's love thy joy in - crease:

In per - il and temp - ta - tion My light, my help, is near.  
What ter - ror can con - found me, With God at my right hand?  
God's truth be thine af - fi - ance, When faint and des - o - late.  
Mer - cy thy days shall length - en; The Lord will give thee peace.

Sermon.....Michael Williams  
Can We Really Learn to Praise God in Difficult Times?

† Affirmation of Faith: The World Methodist Social Affirmation ..... No. 886

Joys & Concerns of the Church..... Stacy Gonzalez

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: My Eternal King..... Jane Marshall

My God, I love thee; not because I hope for heaven thereby,  
nor yet because who love thee not must die eternally. Thou, O  
my Jesus, thou didst me upon the cross embrace; for me didst  
bear the nails and spear and manifold disgrace. Why, then why,  
O blessed Jesus Christ, should I not love thee well? Not for the  
hope of winning heaven, or of escaping hell; not with the hope  
of gaining aught, not seeking a reward; but as thyself hast  
loved me, O ever loving Lord! E'en so I love thee, and will  
love, and in thy praise will sing: solely because thou art my  
God, and my eternal King.

† Doxology ..... No. 95

**SENDING FORTH**

† Recessional Hymn No. 415: Take Up Thy Cross.....Germany

† Benediction

† Response (all sing)..... 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.....Maurice Durufle  
Fugue on the Carillon Theme from Soissons Cathedral  
*All are invited to remain seated for a time of reflection.  
If you leave, please do so quietly.*

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

Head Usher: Barbara Cragg

The altar flowers are given today to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of William A. Shell  
by his family.

Valla Marie Wilson,  
daughter of Myr Eden Wilson and Hollie Devon Wilson,  
is presented for baptism.

Today's Music:

Music Participants: The Chancel Choir and the Joy Ringers. Minister of Music  
Matthew Phelps is director and assisting at the organ. Associate Andrew  
Risinger is organist/accompanist.

Jane Marshall wrote My Eternal King at the young age of 26. A resident of  
Dallas, TX, she was an alto in the Highland Park United Methodist Church  
Choir while also a homemaker. This single piece catapulted her career. She  
has since become one of the most prolific composers of sacred choral music and  
hymns and is still alive and working at the age of 88.

February 21, 2016

Preaching: Michael Williams

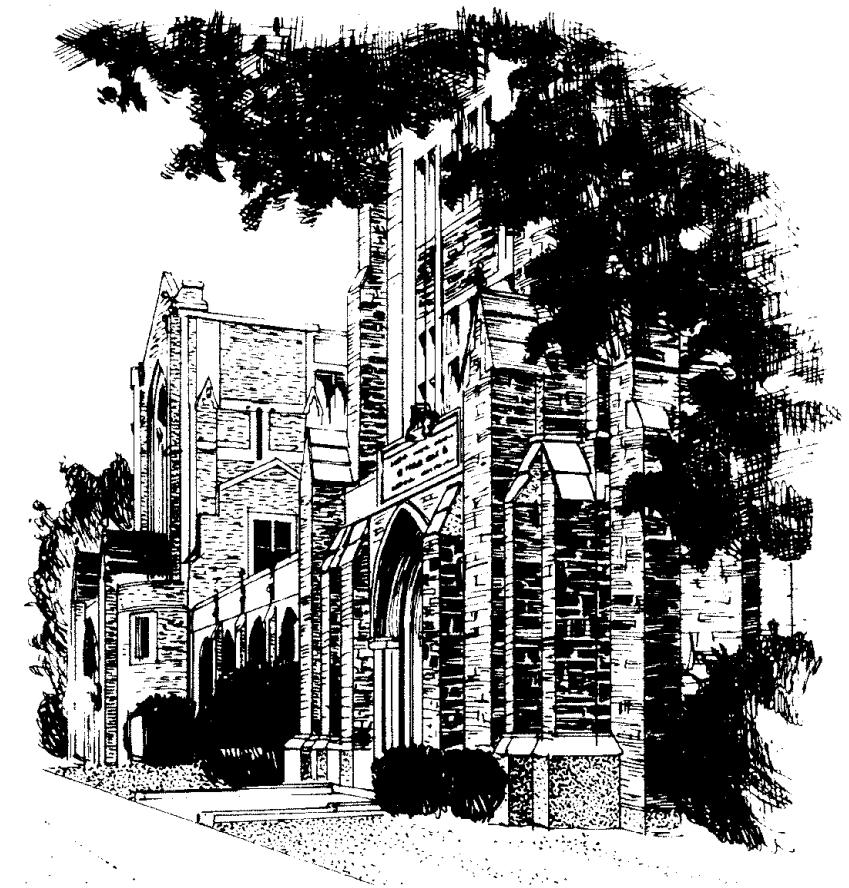
*"Can We Really Learn to Praise God in Difficult Times?"*

**Psalm 27**

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is  
the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?  
When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh – my adversaries and  
foes – they shall stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me,  
my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be  
confident. One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in  
the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the  
Lord, and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in  
the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will  
set me high on a rock. Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all  
around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will  
sing and make melody to the Lord. Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be  
gracious to me and answer me! "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"  
Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn  
your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast  
me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation! If my father and  
mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up. Teach me your way, O  
Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Do not give  
me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen  
against me, and they are breathing out violence. I believe that I shall see  
the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be  
strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

# WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



*The Loving Light of Christ  
Connecting, Transforming*



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