

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
March 19, 2017 at Eleven o'clock
Third Sunday of 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: Solemn Melody.....Walford Davies

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: Day by Day Harold Friedell
Day by day, O Lord of these three things I pray: to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day.

† Processional Hymn No. 60.....Old 113th
I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath

† Greeting.....Chris Allen
Liturgist: *Jesus welcomes us with peace and forgiveness.*
People: **Yet we are stuck in the mire of our doubts and fears.**
Liturgist: *Jesus welcomes us with hope and healing.*
People: **But we continue in our stubborn ways.**
Liturgist: *Jesus, come among us once more to offer words of grace.*
People: **May our hearts, minds, and souls be open to receive your grace.**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)
God of Grace and Glory,
we confess that we often turn from you
and wander far from your presence.
Forgive us,
when we measure success by getting our own way,
when we measure happiness by our possessions,
when we measure our value by what others think,
when we forget you measure life
in compassion, generosity, and forgiveness.
Heal us, Merciful God,
from the shackles of our pride and anxiety,
so that we may be restored in your grace. Amen.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

† 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: Kyrie eleison (from the Lutheran Mass in G major)J. S. Bach

Kyrie eleison Lord have mercy
Christe eleison Christ have mercy
Kyrie eleison Lord have mercy

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Lenten 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 New Testament.....(pew Bible, pages 915-916)
Romans 3: 19-24

Response to the Lesson

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

† Hymn No. 480: O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go.....St. Margaret
The children are invited to come forward to join Michael at the chancel during the last stanza of the hymn.

Sermon: Grace as a Gift..... Michael Williams

† Affirmation: I Corinthians 15:1-6 and Colossians 1:15-20..... No. 888

† 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.)

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: Sing my Soul His Wondrous Love Ned Rorem
Sing my soul, his wondrous love, who from yon bright throne above,
Ever watchful o'er our race, still to us extends His grace.
Heaven and earth by Him were made, All is by His scepter swayed;
What are we that He should show so much love to us below?

God the merciful and good, bought us with the Savior's blood,
And, to make our safety sure, guides us by His spirit pure.
Sing, my soul, adore His name; Let His glory be thy theme:
Praise Him till He calls thee home, Trust his love for all to come.

† DoxologyNo. 95

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 547: O Church of God, UnitedEllacombe

† Benediction

† 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: Toccata from *Suite Gothique*Leon Boëllmann
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: Barbara Cragg

The altar flowers are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Fred and Wilma Mitchell by Mary Mitchell who will never forget the policy of love they taught me.

Music Participants: The Chancel Choir. Minister of Music, Matthew Phelps, director. Associate Andrew Risinger is organist/accompanist. Caitlin Dowling is assisting at the organ.

Hymnic Notes: The processional is a hymn of endless praise, that celebrates a God of justice and freedom who identifies with the oppressed poor and helpless. It has appeared with this sturdy tune in every Methodist hymnal since 1780. The recessional was written for the Second Assembly of The World Council of Churches, Evanston, Illinois, 1954, and reflects that gathering's energy, optimism, and hopes for Christian unity.
(Hymnic notes by Carlton Young)

March 19, 2017
Preaching: Michael Williams
“Grace as a Gift”

Romans 3: 19-24

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

West End United Methodist Church

PASTORAL STAFF

Members of West End United Methodist Church..... Ministers
Michael WilliamsSenior 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 WattsPastor at Richland Place

PROGRAM STAFF

Matthew PhelpsMinister 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 SiemerSenior Administrative Assistant/Membership
Julie Catterton..... Assistant to Senior Pastor, Youth, & Children
Charity Van De Griek.....Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
Marty Gilbert.....Multi-media Manager
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.*

WEST END
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



*The Loving Light of Christ
Connecting, Transforming*



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