

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

March 26, 2017 at Eight Forty-five

Fourth 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: Jesus My Joy, BWV 610 J. S. Bach
Dear Jesus We are Here, BWV 730..... 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: Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days. Richard Redhead

† Processional Hymn No. 116: The God of Abraham Praise.....Leoni

† Greeting.....Stacy Gonzalez
Liturgist: Give thanks to God and sing praises to God's holy name.
People: We rejoice in you, O God, for you have restored us to life.
Liturgist: We acknowledge that we are utterly dependent on the Lord.
People: May God's name be ever on our lips.
Leader: In you, God, we are offered fullness of life.
People: Let our hearts be always overflowing with thankfulness for your love.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)
Forgiving God,
in a world filled with so much pain,
it is easy to become disconnected from you
and from one another.
We would rather repay evil for evil than forgive our enemies.
We find it easier to stay divided than to come together.
We lose sight of our own humanity
in a futile effort always to be right or to be first.
Forgive us loving God,
and free us to love your entire creation radically.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

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 he may grow in his service to others. We will pray for him that he 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 Parker James to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase his faith, confirm his hope, and perfect him in love.

† People: We give thanks for all that God has already given you, Parker James, 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

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.

A lesson from the Epistle: I Thessalonians 5: 12-25.....(pew Bible, page 861)

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.

(Please be seated.)

Sermon: Beloved, Pray for UsMichael Williams

† A Litany of Re-Consecration and Dedication.....Michael Williams
(See bulletin insert.)

† 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 ChurchErin 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: The BeatitudesArvo Pärt

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peace makers: for they shall be called the children of God.
Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. Amen.
(Matthew 5:3-11)

† Doxology.....No. 95

SENDING FORTH

- † Recessional Hymn No. 358: Dear Lord and Father of MankindRest
- † Benediction
- † Benediction Response: Amen.....Orlando Gibbons
- Voluntary: Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist, BWV 671J. S. Bach
*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 Ushers: John Nance and Byron Burrus

The altar flowers are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Martha and P.G. Banker, Jr. and their son, Van Gordon Banker, by their family.

Parker James Harris,
son of Nathan Harris and Christine Harris,
is presented for baptism.

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

Hymnic Notes: The processional includes portions of a paraphrase of the thirteen articles of the Jewish creed called the *Yigdal* or doxology The tune, LEONI, is named after Meyer Lyon (1751-1797) known as Leoni, the chief musician of London's Great Synagogue. The melody is common to Jewish, Spanish-Basque, and Russian folk traditions, and was used by Bedrich Smetana in his orchestral masterpiece *Vltava (The Moldau)*, 1874. The recessional is a reminder that God is ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love (Nehemiah 9:17b).
(Hymnic Notes by Carlton Young)

March 26, 2017
Preaching: Michael Williams
"Beloved, Pray for Us"

I Thessalonians 5: 12-25

But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this. Beloved, pray for us.

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

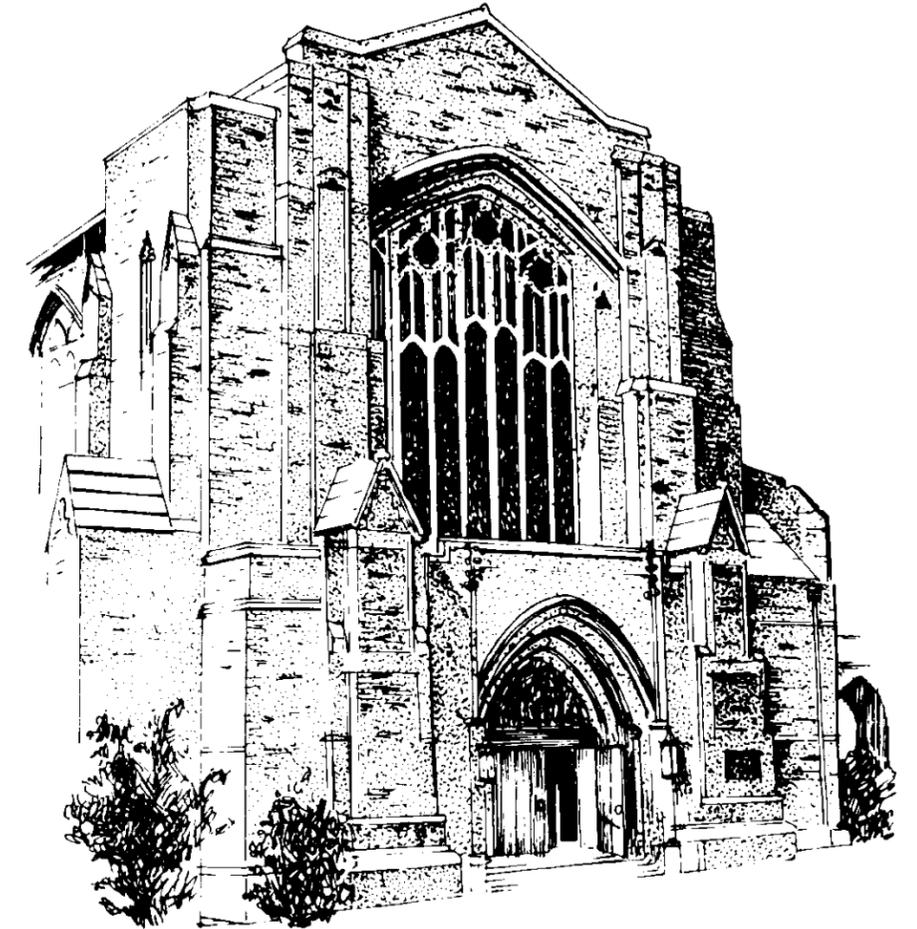
- Kim Young.....Property Operations Manager
- Sandra Durbin..... Church Financial Officer
- Melanie Paulson..... Human Resources Director
- Cindy SiemerSenior Administrative Assistant/Membership
- Julie Catterton..... Assistant to Senior Pastor, Youth, & Children
- Charity Van De Griek.....Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
- Marty Gilbert.....Multi-media Manager
- Bob Hilton.....Building Engineer
- Richard Thomas.....Custodian

WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL MINISTRIES

- Lynn McClary.....Executive Director
- Sandy Gilbert.....Program Director

*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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