

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

July 16, 2017 at Eleven o'clock
Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

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: Variation on Duke Street.....David Cherwein

WelcomeBrandon Baxter
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: O Let Us Praise Thee.....Richard Farrant
O Let us praise thee, thou our God, and so let all our days;
And O let heaven's eternal day be thine eternal praise.

† Processional Hymn No. 154.....Coronation
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

† Greeting.....Lisa Gwock
Liturgist: *Welcome to this house of the Lord!*
People: **Thank you. We are glad to be here this morning.**
Liturgist: *This is a time to offer our praise to God.*
People: **With joy we thank God for all the blessings that have been poured on us.**
Liturgist: *Come, let us worship God who showers us with mercy.*
People: **Give praise to God who offers us rest and peace. Amen.**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)
**Lord, forgive us when we doubt your mercy and love.
We are caught up in getting everything we want,
and we want it all right now.
We have trouble waiting and remembering;
it is in the waiting that we might hear your voice.
It is difficult for us to believe we can be fruitful, good soil
for your words and work.
We find excuses not to be attentive to you,
but to focus instead on our own desires.
Slow us down, Lord.
Remind us again of your mercy and your love;
for we offer this in Jesus' Name.
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.)

Solo: How Beautiful are the Feet (*from Messiah*).....G. F. Handel

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination
**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 according to Matthew.....(pew Bible, page 794)
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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

† Hymn No. 398: Jesus Calls Us.....Galilee
The children are invited to come forward to join Brandon at the chancel during the last stanza of the hymn.

Sermon: The Good Sower.....Brandon Baxter

† Affirmation: Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada.....No. 883

† 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.....Becky Peeler

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: I Will Not Leave You Comfortless.....Everett Titcomb
I will not leave you comfortless. Alleluia. I come again to you yet again: Alleluia. And your heart shall be joyful. Alleluia. (*John 14:18*)

† Doxology.....No. 95

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 438: Forth in Thy Name, O Lord.....Duke Street

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: No.393 Spirit of the Living God.....Living God
**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me,
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

Voluntary: Allegro Marziale.....Frank Bridge
*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 flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bob and Barbara Bundy by their children, Bob Bundy Jr., Bill Bundy, and Libby Bundy.

Music Participants: The Chancel Choir. Minister of Music, Matthew Phelps, is conducting and assisting at the organ. Associate Minister of Music, Andrew Risinger, is organist. Sarah Upchurch, soprano.

Hymnic Notes: The processional contains six of nine stanzas of a classic and enduring lyrical expression of 18th-century British evangelical enthusiasm rich in scriptural allusions including Revelation 5:9-13. Its popularity in the USA is due in no small part to its association with the stirring CORONATION, the oldest tune composed by an American in continuous use.

The recessional hymn, titled by Charles Wesley, "Before Work," is a prayer that our daily routine may be done in faithful response to the stirring within us of God's Holy Spirit. The sturdy tune DUKE STREET with its rising motives compliments this petition. (*Hymnic notes by Carlton Young*)

July 16, 2017
Preaching: Brandon Baxter
"The Good Sower"

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

West End United Methodist Church

PASTORAL STAFF

Members of West End United Methodist Church..... Ministers
Carol Cavin-Dillon.....Senior Pastor
Erin Racine..... Pastor of Hospitality and Congregational Care
Brandon Baxter.....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
Allison Williams.....Music Associate
Melissa Gramling.....Music Intern
Emily Robbins.....Minister of Youth
Shelley Kuhlmeier.....Communications Director
Don Marler.....Minister of Music Emeritus

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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
Annie Traver.....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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