

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
September 3, 2017 at Eleven o'clock
Thirteenth 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: Now Thank We All Our God BWV 657.....J. S. Bach

Welcome.....Erin Racine
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: Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread.....Day's Psalter
Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us and spread thy table in our heart.

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

† Greeting.....Brandon Baxter
Liturgist: *We come, like Abraham, Sarah, and John the Baptist,*
People: **people with vision.**
Liturgist: *We come, like Job, Thomas, and the Samaritan woman,*
People: **people with questions.**
Liturgist: *We come, like Moses, Jeremiah, and Mary,*
People: **people with self-doubts.**
Liturgist: *We come like Joshua, Deborah, and Stephen,*
People: **people with courage.**
Liturgist: *We come, like David, Mary Magdalene and Paul,*
People: **people with regrets.**
Liturgist: *We come, like Hagar, Uriah, and the Syrophenician woman,*
People: **people with wisdom from the margins.**
Liturgist: *We come, like Rebekah, and Samuel, like Hosea, and Esther, like Nathaniel, and Martha, like John, Mark and Priscilla,*
People: **people with a part to play in the story of faith.**

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)
Jesus, who sat at the table with outcasts and sinners, we confess that too often our words and actions are not consistent with our beliefs. Often, we ignore the needy, show indifference to the lonely, and reject those who seem different from us. Forgive us, we pray Empower us to reach out in love and acceptance.

† Words of Assurance
Liturgist: *Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven!*
People: **In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.**

† 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.*)

† An Act of Praise
Antiphon (Choir and Congregation)



Choir: *Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.*

All: **(Antiphon)**
Choir: *Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.*

All: **(Antiphon)**
Choir: *You are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer.*

All: **(Antiphon)**
Choir: *For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord. You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ.*

All: **(Antiphon)**
Choir: *With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*
All: **(Antiphon)**

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination (*in unison*)
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 New Testament:.....(pew Bible, page 923-924)
Romans 14:1-12

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

Communion Meditation: We Are Family.....Christe' Blackshear

Joys & Concerns of the Church.....Lisa Gwock

The Offering

Offertory: Jesus Bread of Life I Pray TheeAlfred Whitehead
Jesus, bread of life, I pray, Thee, let me gladly here obey Thee;
Never to my hurt invited, be Thy love with love required.
How I sink before Thee, lowly, filled with joy most deep and Holy,
As with trembling awe and wonder on Thy mighty works I ponder.
From this banquet let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep its treasure;
Through the grace Thou here dost give me, as thy guest in heaven receive me.
Amen. (*Franck, trans. Winkworth*)

† Presentation of the Offering and the Elements

† DoxologyNo. 95

† Thanksgiving
Celebrant: *The Lord be with you.*
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: *Lift up your hearts.*
People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Celebrant: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*
People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

† Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving

† Sanctus and Benedictus (*Choir and Congregation*)



Prayer of Remembrance

People:

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.

Prayer of Consecration

People:

Through your Son, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in your Ho - ly Church, all glo - ry and hon - or is yours, Fa - ther. A - men.

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.**

The Breaking of Bread and Taking of the Cup

The congregation is invited to join the choir in singing the following hymns during communion: 612, 623, and 479.

† Prayer after Receiving

Celebrant: *You have given yourself to us, Lord.*
People: **Now we give ourselves for others.**
Celebrant: *Your love has made us a new people;*
People: **as a people of love we will serve you with joy.**
Celebrant: *Your glory has filled our hearts;*
People: **help us to glorify you in all things. Amen.**

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 102.....Nun Danket
Now Thank We All Our God

† Dismissal with Blessing

† Benediction Response: Sprit 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: Now Thank We All Our God.....Sigfried Karg-Elert
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.*

The service music printed in the order of worship is by Sally Ahner ©1983.
Used with permission.

Head Usher: Barbara Cragg

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of the wedding of Elizabeth Yochem and Thomas Wood and loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Harold William Yochem and Dr. Charles Henry Beck.

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

The texts used in today's Communion service are used in many Christian traditions. They help us to see our relationship to those around us as an expression of our relationship to God. This is best expressed as we confess our sins, are assured of God's forgiveness, and then express that forgiveness with those around us in the "Passing of the Peace." The Peace is an act of reconciliation and blessing, based on New Testament Christian practice. When we are reminded of God's love and mercy, our response is to share that gift with others. United in this forgiveness, we come to the table as a forgiven and reconciled community in love and charity with each other.

September 3, 2017
Preaching: Christe' Blackshear
"We Are Family"
Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

WEST END
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



The Loving Light of Christ
Connecting, Transforming



2200 West End Avenue
Nashville, TN 37202

615.321.8500
www.westendumc.org