

## GATHERING

Voluntary: Coventry Carol ..... William Lloyd Webber

Welcome.....Brandon 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: What Star is This ..... Michael Praetorius  
What star is this that beams so bright more lovely than the noonday light?  
Tis sent to announce a newborn King, glad tidings of our God to bring.

† Processional Hymn No. 240.....Mendelssohn  
Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

† Greeting.....Maggie Jarrell  
Liturgist: *A child is sent to lead us into deep questioning.*  
People: **Jesus, lead us closer to your holy mystery.**  
Liturgist: *He is at home in the house of God.*  
People: **Lord, make us a way in the temple.**  
Liturgist: *God's house is within Christ, he carries God out from the temple and into the world.*  
People: **Christ, dwell within us, now and forevermore.**

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)  
**God of hope and restoration,**  
**we confess that we have allowed our anxieties to overtake us.**  
**We have abandoned our search for you.**  
**We have avoided exploring your infinite wisdom,**  
**choosing instead to live comfortably in ignorance.**  
**Give us strength, O God, to follow you into the sacred unknown.**  
**Walk boldly with us against the crowd and into the light,**  
**away from darkness that threatens us with fear and isolation.**  
**Forgive our doubts and hesitations**  
**so that we might work boldly to establish God's kingdom**  
**here on earth.**  
**Amen.**

† Silent Confession

† 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.**

† 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.**

Anthem: Glory to God (from Messiah) ..... G. F. Handel  
There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch o'er their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them. And they were sore afraid. And the angel said to them, fear not: for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which should be to all people. For unto you is born day to the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And suddenly there was with angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying. Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men.  
*(Luke 2:8-14)*

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination (*in unison*).....Patrick Dunnevant  
**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: Luke 2: 41-52 .....(pew Bible, pages 833-834)

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

† Hymn No. 224: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice .....In dulce jubilo  
*The children are invited to come forward to join Brandon at the chancel during the last stanza of the hymn.*

Sermon: Where Else?.....Brandon Baxter

† Affirmation of Faith.....Steve Garnaas-Holmes  
**We trust in God, Spirit of life,**  
**Creator of all that is and all that is to come;**  
**who surrounds us and fills us;**  
**who speaks the Word of life in us; and so we listen.**

**We listen to Jesus, Revealer of God,**  
**our brother and teacher;**  
**who lived in prayer and in love.**  
**Listening to God's voice and doing God's will,**  
**he gave his life in love;**  
**but God raised him to life that is eternal;**  
**and so we follow him.**

**We follow in the power of the Holy Spirit,**  
**God alive in us, for the sake of the healing of the world.**

**We trust in the power of forgiveness,**  
**the reality of resurrection,**  
**the gift of the universal Church as the body of Christ,**  
**and the mystery of eternal life. Amen.**

Joys & Concerns of the Church.....Stacey Harwell-Dye

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: Amid the Cold of Winter's Snow.....Matthew Armstrong  
Amid the cold of winter's snow, a rose will bloom, a flower grow,  
within a stable meek and low, a tiny Babe is born this day. Of Jesse's  
root, a chosen rod; This Holy Child, the Son of God. A tender stem up  
through the sod; the Prince of Peace, the Lord of Light. Angel choirs in  
the distant skies declare the Holy birth. In a manger the Baby lies; a  
heavenly King come down to earth. Isaiah's prophecy fulfilled,  
conceived and born as God has willed. His restless cry is gently stilled  
by virgin song and coo of dove. The Savior comes, the seed is sown.  
His life he'll give. Our hearts He'll own. The Paschal Lamb ascends the  
throne; The earth now his wondrous love.

† Doxology.....95

## SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 251.....Go, Tell It on the Mountain  
Go, Tell It on the Mountain

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: (All sing)  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo! #238 (refrain)

Voluntary: Postlude on Hark the Herald Angels Sing.....David Willcocks  
*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.*

*Livestream and video recording happen during our church services  
and worship events.*

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The flowers are given in honor of the marriage of Ann Ralls Niewold and  
Jerrod Timms Pruitt Brown who were wed on December 29, 2018.



*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!*

**Sunday Activities**

- Service Times\*.....8:45 and 11 a.m.
- Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
- College Lunch\*\*.....12:00 p.m.
- Youth Choir and Handbell Rehearsals.....12:00 - 12:30 p.m.
- Adult Handbells.....1:15 - 2:15 p.m.
- Youth Small Groups.....5 - 7 p.m.

**Weekly Activities**

- Meal.....Wednesdays, 5 - 6:30 p.m.
- Class Offerings.....Wednesdays, 6 p.m.
- Children’s Choir.....Wednesdays, 6 - 7 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal.....Wednesdays, 7:30 - 9 p.m.
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal.....Thursdays, 7:15pm - 9:15 p.m.

Building Tours are offered on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 9:30 AM, or immediately following the early service. Meet at the Welcome Center in Reed Hall, through the side doors of the Sanctuary.

For a complete listing and additional information on Sunday and Weekly Activities, please visit our website at [www.westendumc.org](http://www.westendumc.org) or see the insert.

\*Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services! However if needed, childcare is available during worship for children 5 and under on the 1st floor in the following rooms: infants 105, toddlers 104, twos and threes 110, and fours and fives 112.

\*\*While school is in session.

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Head Usher: Barbara Cragg

Cover art by Charles Hooper.

Liturgy by Merry-Reid Sheffer.

Music Participants: The Chancel Choir and Sanctuary Choir. Minister of Music, Matthew Phelps, director-organist. Margy Bredeman, soprano.

**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 & Congregational Care
- Brandon Baxter.....Pastor & Coordinator of Spiritual Formation
- Maggie Jarrell.....Pastor of Children & Family Ministries
- Stacey Harwell-Dye.....Pastor of Missions & Outreach
- Nancy Parker.....Pastor of Young Adults & Vandy Wesley

**PROGRAM STAFF**

- Matthew Phelps.....Minister of Music
- Andrew Risinger.....Associate Minister of Music
- Allison Williams.....Music Associate
- Emily C. Robbins.....Minister of Youth
- Shelley Kuhlmeier.....Communications Director
- Don Marler.....Minister of Music Emeritus

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

- Sandra Durbin.....Church Financial Officer
- Melanie Paulson.....Director, HR & Operations
- Cindy Siemer.....Senior Administrative Assistant & Membership
- Julie Catterton.....Assistant to Senior Pastor, Youth & Children
- Charity Van De Griek.....Receptionist & Administrative Assistant
- Annie Traver.....Receptionist & Administrative Assistant
- Chase Bencin.....Media Coordinator
- Henry Ambrose.....Property Director
- Bob Hilton.....Building Engineer
- Richard Thomas.....Custodian

**WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL MINISTRIES**

- Lynn McClary.....Executive Director
- Sandy Gilbert.....Program Director
- Charity Van De Griek.....Receptionist & Administrative Assistant

**INTERNS**

- Caroline Archer, Merry-Reid Sheffer.....Congregational Care
- Katie Minnis.....Young Adult & Spiritual Formation
- Scott Brons.....Music
- Rachel Ternes.....Youth

*To reach a member of the staff by email, use their first initial with their last name at [westendumc.org](http://westendumc.org), except for Bob Hilton and Don Marler.*

**WEST END  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



**ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP  
December 30, 2018 at Eleven o'clock  
First Sunday After Christmas**

2200 West End Avenue  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

615.321.8500  
[www.westendumc.org](http://www.westendumc.org)