

GATHERING

Voluntary: If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee, BWV 647.....J.S. Bach

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.

Commissioning of Guatemala Mission Team

Congregation: **Almighty God, whose love for the whole family of humankind has been made known to us through Jesus, send your blessing upon these your servants soon to go forth to join you in mission with the people of Guatemala. Grant that they be guided and strengthened for their task; that they be open to new truths and insights from their hosts, and that they be given good health and traveling mercies; to the end that your name be glorified in all the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Introit: Lord Who Throughout These Forty Day.....St. Flavian
Lord who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,
Teach us to overcome our sins and close by you to stay.

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

† Call to Worship.....Maggie Jarrell
Liturgist: *In this season of Lent, we recognize our own unworthiness.*
People: **We recognize our own inadequacy.**
Liturgist: *Even as we return home to God,*
we hear unexpected words of forgiveness:
People: **“Rejoice, my child, you were dead and are alive again;**
Liturgist: *you were lost and now are found.”*
All: **Let us rejoice that we are at home in God’s house!**

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)
Merciful God,
we confess that we have strayed from your ways.
Like the Prodigal Son, we have wasted our inheritance.
You gave us the earth for our home,
but we squander earth’s resources and hoard its bounty.
You gave us neighbors to love,
but we pursue selfish ambitions.
You gave us the commandments that lead
to human flourishing,
but we break your law and forsake your love.
Forgive us our sins and bring us to repentance.
Draw our wandering hearts back to you
that we may find freedom in obedience to your love.
Through Christ our Lord we pray. 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!**
All: **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: Jesus the Very Thought of Thee.....Edward Bairstow
Jesu, the Very Thought of Thee, with sweetness fills my breast; but
sweeter far Thy face to see and in Thy presence rest. (*St. Bernard*)

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 these children 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 them with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their service to others. We will pray for them that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.**

Thanksgiving Over the Water

Commendation and Welcome
† Liturgist: *Members of the household of God, I commend Vivian Rae and Tristan Clayborne Peery to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.*
† People: **We give thanks for all that God has already given you Vivian Rae and Tristan Clayborne Peery, 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

Prayer for Illumination (*in unison*).....Kay Gabbert
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 15:1-3, 11b-32.....(pew Bible, pages 850-851)

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

† Hymn No. 378: Amazing Grace.....Amazing Grace
The children are invited to join Brandon at the chancel during the last stanza of the hymn for the Children’s Moment.

Sermon: The Prodigal Son: First Dimension.....Brandon Baxter

† Affirmation of Faith.....No. 883

Joys & Concerns of the Church.....Caroline Archer

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 Anthem: 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 man extends his grace.

Heaven and earth by Him were made,
All is by His scepter sawyed;
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.

† Doxology.....No. 95

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 140: Great is Thy FaithfulnessFaithfulness

† Benediction

† Lenten Benediction Response.....Thomas Tallis
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: "Little" Prelude and Fugue in E minor BWV 555.....Bach/Krebs
The postlude is the final Alleluia of our worship.
All are invited to remain for a time of joyful prayer.

† The congregation is invited rise in body or in spirit.

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

+++

A rose on the table celebrates the birth of Sadie Vaughan Graepel
on March 10 to Selby and Kevin Graepel.

Clara Neal Norvell, daughter of Clarke and Liz Norvell, was presented for
baptism today in the early service. The altar flowers are offered to the glory
of God and in honor of her baptism, given by her grandparents,
Becky and Carter Norvell and Karen and Anthony Lowery.

Vivian Rae Hardin, daughter of Matthew Charles Hardin and
Janet Lynn Hardin, is presented for baptism today.

Tristan Clayborne Peery Counts, son of Donald Lloyd Counts and
Kayla Clayborne Counts, is presented for baptism today.



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 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.

+++

Head Usher: Barbara Cragg

Cover art: Soichi Watanabe

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

Hymnic Notes: During the month of March, we will feature music by
composers who have identified openly as members of the LGBTQ community.
We will feature this music to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters;
to recognize the gifts they bring to the global church; and to affirm our belief
that God loves everyone unconditionally. Ned Rorem is an American
composer and diarist who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1976 for his piece, "Air
Music, Ten Etudes for Orchestra." "Sing, My Soul, His Wondrous Love" was
written in 1955 while staying in France. The piece shows Rorem's ability to
write delicate music that still contains a flare of creativity.

THE PRODIGAL SON *in 3D*



ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
MARCH 17, 2019 AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

2200 WEST END AVENUE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37221



615.321.8500
WESTENDUMC.ORG