GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome.....Erin Racine

Introit: O Come, O Come Emmanuel (v. 1).....Veni Emmanuel
Scott Brons, *soloist*

† Processional Hymn No. 211……...Veni Emmanuel
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verses 4, 6, 7)

O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree,
an ensign of thy people be;
before thee rulers silent fall;
all peoples on thy mercy call.
Refrain:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits with they justice here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Refrain

O come, Desire of nations bind
all peoples in one heart and mind.
From dust thou brought us forth to life;
deliver us from earthly strife.
Refrain

† Call to Worship……..Brandon Baxter

Liturgist: *We who are bewildered, and we who are broken hearted--*
People: **we await the coming of Christ.**
Liturgist: *We who are fragile, and we who are fearful--*
People: **we await the coming of Christ.**
Liturgist: *We who are lost, and we who are lonely--*
People: **we await the coming of Christ.**
Liturgist: *We worship as those who long for love to be born.*
People: **O come, o come Emmanuel!**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)
O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray.
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell.
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

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.**

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.

Scripture Reading: Psalm 13

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

Meditation: How Long, O Lord……...……Sarah McCain

The Great Thanksgiving……..Erin Racine
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.**

Celebrant: Holy God, in this season…and join their unending hymn.

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord,**
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he
Who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: Holy is your name…as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Celebrant: Send the power of your Holy Spirit…all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

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.

Breaking the Bread

Tactile Prayer
Prayer of Comfort…… Erin Racine
Prayer of Healing……Katie Minnis
Prayers of Intercession……Sarah McCain

Prayer.....……...……Katie Minnis

SENDING FORTH

† Hymn: In the Still of the Winter……...Foundation

(Higher Key: UM Hymnal, no. 529)

WORDS: Nancy Hayes Kilgore, 2002
MUSIC: Early USA melody; harm. from *Tabor*, 1866.

FOUNDATION
12 12.11 12

Words copyright © 2002 Nancy Hayes Kilgore. Published by The General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church, PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203. Website www.gbod.org/worship . This music may be reproduced and used in worship with the inclusion of the complete copyright citation on each copy or screen. It may not be used for profit, sold, altered, republished or placed on a website.

† Benediction

Postlude

---

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

The Call to Worship is adapted from a prayer by Cheryl Lawrie on the "Hold This Space" blog.
The Communion service is adapted from an Advent liturgy by Rev. Kathy Noble.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Brandon Baxter, *Pastor of Spiritual Formation*
Ms. Sarah McCain, *Ministry Intern for Congregational Care*
Ms. Katie Minnis, *Pastoral Fellow*
Rev. Erin Racine, *Pastor of Congregational Care and Hospitality*
Ben Troxler, *pianist*
Scott Brons, *soloist*

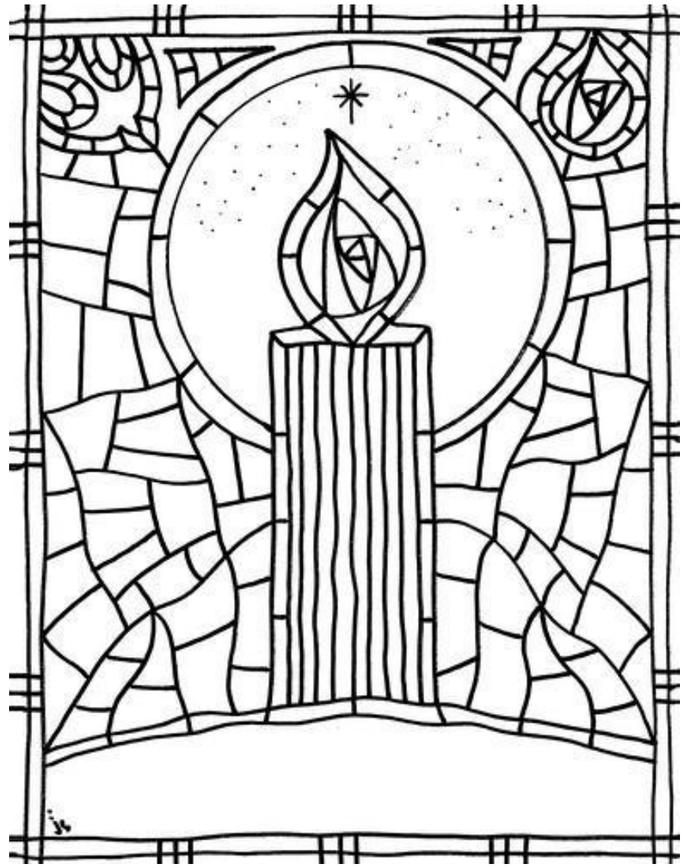
WEST END
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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.

+++

WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



ORDER OF WORSHIP
Service for the Longest Night
December 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

2200 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

615.321.8500
www.westendumc.org