

WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2021

Confirmation Class Members

Elijah William Bakker

Harper Corley Barnes

Emerson Marie Baxter

Anne Keaton Boosalis

Tucker Dukes

Margaret Ann Harrell

Clayton Aaron Jenkins

Robert Hollis Moss

Robert Wolcott Nelson

Ella Grace Peacock

Henry Stephen Sheaffer

Lillian Rose Smith

Alexander Clayton Stirling

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

May 9, 2021 at Eleven o'clock

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Confirmation Sunday

2200 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

615.321.8500
www.westendumc.org

GATHERING

Voluntary: Voluntary..... Charles Zeuner

Welcome..... Carol Cavin-Dillon

Please take a moment to record your online attendance in the link provided in the comment section. First-time guests and other visitors 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: Day by Day.....Harold Friedell

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day.

† Opening Hymn No. 92: For the Beauty of the Earth.....Dix

† Call to Worship.....Brandon Baxter

Liturgist: *Beloved, let us love another;*

People: **for God is love.**

Liturgist: *Beloved, let us share the love of Christ with the world;*

People: **for we have seen Christ and experienced his grace.**

Liturgist: *Beloved, let us abide in the Spirit;*

People: **for we know God is with us always.**

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

Loving God,

you have called us your beloved.

We belong to you.

And yet, we turn away from the call to love one another.

We act in ways that are selfish and unloving.

We act out of fear rather than boldness.

We speak words of hate rather than love.

We hold onto comfort rather than seek transformation.

We fail to love our neighbors as you have loved us.

We ask your forgiveness for our sins individually and collectively.

Have mercy on us, God.

Help us to repent, to turn back to you.

May people know your love for the world through us. 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.**

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination (*in unison*).....Clayton Jenkins

**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: 1 John 4:7-21

Response to the Lesson

Liturgist: *The Word of God for the people of God.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Moment

Sermon: Love Letter, Part 3..... Carol Cavin-Dillon

Joys & Concerns of the Church..... Maggie Jarrell

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: What Gift Can We Bring..... Jane Marshall

What gift can we bring, what present, what token?

What words can convey it, the joy of this day?

When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,

what song can we offer in honor and praise.

Give thanks for the past, for those who had vision,
who planted and watered so dreams could come true.

Give thanks for the now, for mission that bids us
turn prayer into deed.

Give thanks for tomorrow, full of surprises,
for knowing whatever tomorrow may bring,
the word is our promise, now and forever we rest,
in God's keeping and live in God's love.

This gift we now bring, this present, this token,
words convey it, the joy of this day!
We grateful come, remembering, rejoicing,
we now offer in honor and praise!

† Doxology.....No. 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The Baptismal Covenant and Confirmation

Presentation of Confirmands.....Maggie Jarrell

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

Liturgist: *And now to the members of the congregation, I ask: do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?*

People: **We do.**

Liturgist: *Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons 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 these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful 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.**

† Affirmation of Faith.....2021 Confirmation Class Creed

**We believe that God is the Creator and loves us unconditionally.
We believe in Jesus, the son of God, who walked through Judah teaching his disciples, and then was killed and resurrected on the third day.
We believe in Jesus and in teaching others about Jesus so that we can all follow him.
We believe in the Holy Spirit as an equal in life and death who is always with us.**

**We believe that the Bible is one big book of lessons from the times of Jesus; some of the Bible was written by Jesus' close friends as the beginning of Christianity.
We believe that church is more than the building; church is the people who come together to worship God.
We believe that prayer is a way to communicate with and honor God anywhere, anytime.
We believe worship is learning about God, praising God, contributing offerings, and praying.**

**We believe grace is a gift we receive from God that is not earned but is needed.
We believe we can participate in the church together through the sacraments of Baptism and Communion, which honor Jesus.
We believe we should share our spiritual gifts to the Lord.
We believe that our neighbors, no matter where they are, are our community, and we should love and help them.**

Confirmation

Commendation and Welcome

Liturgist: *Members of the household of God, I commend these persons 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 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.**

SENDING FORTH

† Closing Hymn No. 384: Love Divine, All Loves ExcellingBeecher

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: Bind Us Together.....
**Bind us together Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together Lord, bind us together Lord, bind us together in love.**

Voluntary: Prelude in C Major, BWV 547 J.S. Bach

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

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

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The altar flowers are given today to the glory of God by the family of Sallie and Bill Norton in memory of their parents, Sarah McKelley King and Walter Hughey King, Adelaide Gregory Norton and William LaFayette Norton, Jr., and their nephew Walter Hughey King III.

The flowers in the narthex are given in memory of Michael Reed by his family.

A rose on the table celebrates the birth of Emma James Wolfe to Liz and Dale Wolfe on April 30. She is welcomed also by her grandparents Ellen and Scott Wolfe.



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 everyone: every age, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic and family status, ethnicity, and mental and physical ability.

We believe God loves everyone unconditionally!

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Liturgy written by Maggie Jarrell.

Media Team: Chase Bencin and Mac Pirkle

Music Participants: Chamber Choir. Matthew Phelps, organist-director. Andrew Risinger is organist.

Today's Music: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling," is considered by many to be one of Charles Wesley's finest texts and is one of his most popular hymns. It is believed that his first line was inspired by a line from a John Dryden poem used in Henry Purcell's opera, *King Arthur*, which begins, "Fairest Isle, all Isles excelling, Seat of Pleasures and of Loves."