

WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
 December 12, 2021 at Eleven o'clock
 Third Sunday of Advent

2200 West End Avenue
 Nashville, Tennessee 37203

615.321.8500
 www.westendumc.org

GATHERING

Voluntary: Prelude on Creator of the Stars of Night Phillip Kreckel

WelcomeErin Racine
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: On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry William Monk
 On Jordan's bank the baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
 Come then and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.

† Opening Hymn No. 213: Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates Truro

† Call to Worship Katie Minnis
 Liturgist: *God, you sent messengers to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation.*
 People: **God of mercy, let us respond to their call.**
 Liturgist: *You teach us to share food and possessions with others.*
 People: **God of generosity, may we meet the needs of people in our community.**
 Liturgist: *You call us to spread the good news of the coming Messiah.*
 People: **God of salvation, may our worship today glorify you in all things.**

Lighting the Advent Candle.....The Medovich Family

Lesson from Zephaniah 3:14-20

Congregational Response.....People Look East, vs. 3
Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as nun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

God of Salvation,
 sometimes you have hard words for us to hear.
 The voice crying out in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord," calls us to take a closer look at ourselves and our world to see where we are falling short.
 We hoard our possessions and resources.
 We prioritize our own comfort over justice and equality for all.
 We act out of fear rather than faith.
 Save us from ourselves, O God.
 May our hearts be filled with repentance.
 May we turn towards your love, your mercy, your grace.
 Help us to have ears to hear, eyes to see,
 and hands that will work for the coming of your kin-dom.

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.**

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 this child 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 this child with a community of love and forgiveness, that he may grow in service with others. We will pray for him to be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.**

Thanksgiving Over the Water

Commendation and Welcome

† Liturgist: *Members of the household of God, I commend Charles Baker to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase his faith, confirm his hope, and perfect him in love.*

† People: **We give thanks for all that God has already given you, Charles Baker, 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 ResponseNo. 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 IlluminationRJ Gilliland

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 3:7-18

Response to the Lesson

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Moment

Sermon: Happy Advent, You Brood of Vipers!Erin Racine

† Affirmation of Faith No. 883
A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

Joys & Concerns of the Church..... Carol Cavin-Dillon

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: And He Shall Purify (from Messiah).....G.F. Handel
And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord
an offering in righteousness. (Malachi 3:3)

† Doxology.....No. 95
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

SENDING FORTH

† Closing Hymn No. 203: Hail to the Lord’s Anointed.....Ellacombe

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: O Come, O Come Emmanuel (refrain, all sing)
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Voluntary: Savior of the Nations, Come, BWV 661 J.S. Bach

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

*The postlude is the final Alleluia of our worship.
All are invited to remain for a time of joyful prayer.*

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The altar flowers are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Martha and P. G. Banker, Jr., and their son, Van Gordon Banker, by their
family.

Charles Baker Morrison, child of Mark and Sara Morrison, is presented for
baptism today.

William “Liam” Carduke Parker, son of Geoffrey Thomas Parker and Nancy
Hawthorne Parker, was presented for baptism earlier 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 identity,
race, sexual orientation, economic or family status, ethnicity, or mental or physical
ability. We believe God loves everyone unconditionally!*

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Liturgy written Maggie Jarrell.

Cover Art: “Epiphany” by John August Swanson.

Music Participants: The Chapel Choir. Matthew Phelps is director and assisting
at the organ. Andrew Risinger is organist/accompanist.

All members of the Chancel Choir participating in today’s service have been
vaccinated against COVID-19.

Today’s Music: Psalm 72, the basis for the text of today’s Closing Hymn, is a
well-known prophecy of the coming Messiah – foretelling the reign of the King
and what the Kingdom of that Messiah will be like. But perhaps more than a
prophecy, Psalm 72 is a prayer. In these verses the psalmist calls upon God to
give justice and righteousness to the King, perhaps the newly crowned earthly
king of Israel, but also the heavenly king. It is a cry for the deliverance of a
broken people, for the realization of peace and light. James Montgomery’s
hymn, “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed,” from 1821 beautifully captures the
essence of that prayer.



ANNUAL CANDLELIGHTING SERVICE

Join West End’s choirs and handbell choirs in our annual tradition of lessons
and carols at 5:30 p.m. this evening. Early arrival is recommended. Livestream
is available.

ADVENT MISSIONS MARKETS

This week’s Mission Market Vendor is Chimes for Justice. The husband wife
team of Richard and Kathryn Spry create gorgeous stained glass art. All of the
proceeds benefit Tennessee Justice for our Neighbors, a nonprofit that provides
compassionate immigration legal services to our neighbors seeking
humanitarian relief. Chimes for Justice and our goods from Guatemala will be
in Reed Hall from 8:15 AM - 12:15 PM this Sunday.

FAMILY MOVIE DAY

Join Drama and Visual Arts for an interactive reading and viewing of *How the
Grinch Stole Christmas* (2018 film, starring Benedict Cumberbatch) on Sunday,
December 19 at 3 p.m. in the 4th Story Theater. This will be fun for the entire
family!

One Service Sunday, December 26

On Sunday, December 26, we will have one worship service at 10 a.m. in the
Sanctuary and on Livestream. There will be no Sunday School this day.

ALL THINGS ADVENT

Visit westendumc.org/advent to find out about everything happening during the
Advent season at West End this year.

GET THE LATEST NEWS

Find the latest news and events on our website at westendumc.org/thelatest.

DO YOU RECEIVE OUR FRIDAY EMAIL?

One of the ways to find out what’s going on in our church is to sign up for our
Friday eNews at westendumc.org/enews.

GENEROSITY: A MARK OF DISCIPLESHIP

November 14 was our annual "Turn It In Sunday." If you have not yet turned in
your estimate of giving for 2022, cards are in the back of each pew, or you can
share your estimate online at westendumc.org/estimatetoday. Your estimate helps
plan our ministry goals and budget for 2022.

WAYS TO GIVE

· Give online at westendumc.org/give. Here you can make a one-time
donation or set up a recurring gift.

· Text To Give. Text "Give" to 615-697-4010, and the prompts will help you
set up from there. Once registered, you can use this option easily going
forward.

WORSHIP INFORMATION ONLINE

Use this QR code and your phone’s camera to access today’s worship
information online.

