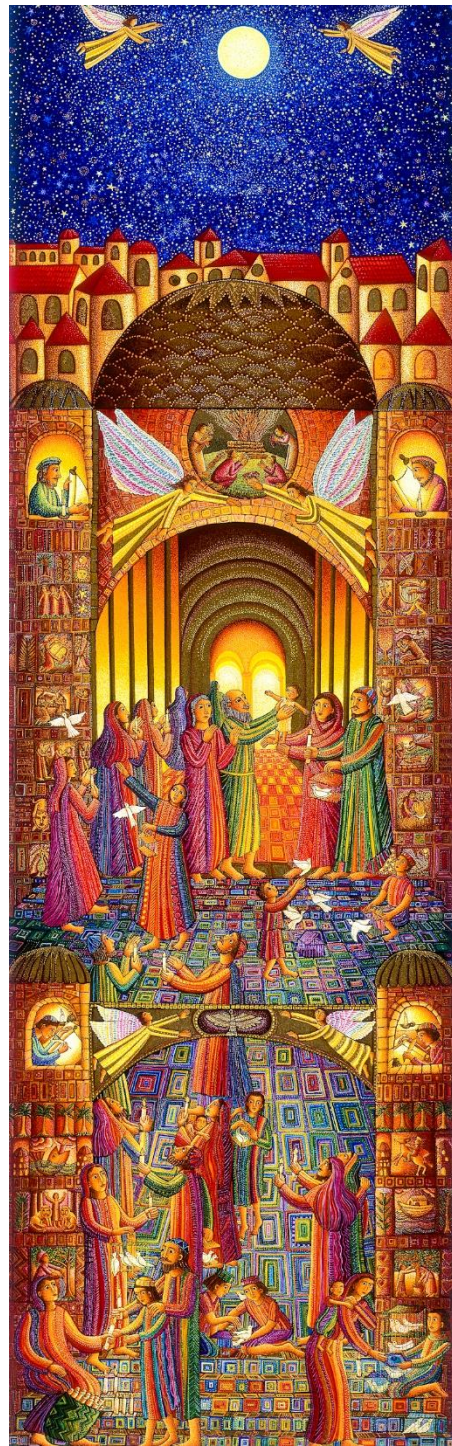


WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
December 26, 2021 at Ten o'clock
First Sunday after Christmas Day

2200 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

615.321.8500
www.westendumc.org

GATHERING

Voluntary: Appalachian Carol..... John Ness Beck

WelcomeStacey Harwell-Dye
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: Of the Father's Love Begotten..... Divinum Mysterium
Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he
of the things that are that have been and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.

† Opening Hymn No. 240: Hark! the Herald Angels SingMendelssohn

† Call to Worship Carol Cavin-Dillon
Liturgist: *With Simeon the Righteous, let us be led by the Spirit!*
People: **With Simeon the Righteous, let us sing God's praise!**
Liturgist: *With Anna the Prophet, let us fast and pray!*
People: **With Anna the Prophet, let us rejoice in our Savior!**
Liturgist: *With all who seek redemption, let us prepare our hearts.*
People: **With all who seek redemption, let us believe the good news!**
Liturgist: *With all who follow Christ, let us celebrate his birth!*
People: **With all who follow Christ, let us worship with joy!**

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)
Holy God, Lord of Love,
for not singing when we are joyful;
for not declaring to the world all that you have done;
for not trusting the love that surrounds us;
for not enacting the justice to which you call us;
for not believing the Good News is meant for all,
forgive us.
Encourage us and change us;
help us and inspire us,
that we, like Simeon and Anna,
might rejoice in Jesus Christ our savior now and always.

† 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 Isaiah Jaymes 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, Isaiah Jaymes, 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 Illumination Bill Miller
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 2:21-40

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

Children's Moment

Sermon: Wait for It.....Stacey Harwell-Dye

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

Joys & Concerns of the Church..... Brandon Baxter

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: Still, Still, Still Norman Luboff
Still, still, still one can hear the falling snow. For all is hushed the world is sleeping, Holy Star its vigil keeping. Still, still, still one can hear the falling snow. Sleep, sleep, sleep 'tis the morn of our Saviour's birth. The world is peaceful all around you, close your eyes let sleep surround you. Sleep, sleep, sleep 'tis the morn of our Saviour's birth. Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come. While guardian angels without number watch you as you sweetly slumber. Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come.

† 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. 251: Go Tell it on the Mountain
Go, Tell it on the Mountain

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: Angels We Have Heard on High (refrain, all sing)
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Voluntary: Fanfare on "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"Gordon Young

† *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.*

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

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Carolyn Montgomery Smith and Emma Jean Ashton O'Bryan by Monty Smith and Mark O'Bryan.

Isaiah Jaymes Ilagan, son of Jay and Shana Ilagan, 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 identity, race, sexual orientation, economic or family status, ethnicity, or mental or physical ability. We believe God loves everyone unconditionally!

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The Prayer of Confession is adapted from a prayer by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, "Hold Fast to What Is Good."

Cover Art: "Presentation" by John August Swanson.

Music Participants: Members of the Sanctuary Choir and Chanel Choir.
Matthew Phelps is organist-director.

Today's Music: "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing," by Charles Wesley was written within a year of Wesley's conversion. Thus, as Albert Bailey writes, "the inspiration of his newly-made contact with God was still fresh" (*The Gospel in Hymns*, 100). Rather than simply telling the nativity story, Wesley pours theological truths into this text. The first verse tells the story of the angels proclaiming Christ's birth, and the second and third verse go on to make it very clear why the angels sang. Simply by describing Christ, Wesley tells us the entire Gospel story. We are told of Christ's nature, his birth and incarnation, his ministry, and his salvific purpose. The *Psalter Hymnal Handbook* describes the hymn like this: "A curious mixture of exclamation, exhortation, and theological reflection. The focus shifts rapidly from angels, to us, to nations. The text's strength may not lie so much in any orderly sequence of thought but in its use of Scripture to teach its theology. That teaching surely produces in us a childlike response of faith; we too can sing 'Glory to the newborn King!'"



New Year's Eve Taize Service - DECEMBER 31, 2021 · 5:00 PM

Experience the beauty and peace of Taizé worship around the labyrinth in the 4th Story Theater this December 31. Before you go to "party hearty" or have a quiet evening at home, come to let go of the burdens of 2021 and enter 2022 with renewed hope and peace. Opportunity is offered for individual prayers and anointing for healing. The service begins at 5 pm. The Taizé Team will welcome you with beautiful music and warm smiles.

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.

2021 Year-End Contributions

There are several ways you can give. Log on to westendumc.org/give to make a contribution online, and of course, you can always drop a check in the offering plate or in the mail. If it is delivered by hand or postmarked by December 31, you can include that as a contribution on your tax return for 2021. ***The church office will be open until 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 30*** if you wish to bring your gift by in person. Some people choose to give the church appreciated securities as a means of avoiding personal capital gains tax, and making a contribution to their church at the same time. To make a contribution of stock, contact Cindy Siemer at csiemer@westendumc.org or 615.321.8500.

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.

