

WEST END  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

LOVE

is patient; 1 Corinthians 13:4-8  
is kind;  
is not envious or boastful  
or arrogant or rude;  
does not insist on its own way;  
is not irritable or resentful;  
does not rejoice in wrongdoing,  
rejoices in the truth.  
bears all things,  
believes all things,  
hopes all things,  
endures all things.  
Love never ends.



ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP  
February 20, 2022 at Eight Forty-five  
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

GATHERING

Voluntary: Lord Jesus Christ, Now Turn to Us, BWV 709.....J.S. Bach

Welcome ..... Brandon Baxter  
*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: Lord Jesus Christ Be Present Now .....17th c. German

† Opening Hymn No. 158: Come, Christians, Join to Sing..... Spanish Hymn

† Call to Worship ..... Katie Minnis  
Liturgist: *God's love for us is with us, wherever we may go.*  
All: **The love of God bears all things.**  
Liturgist: *God's love for us is greater than any circumstance we face.*  
All: **The love of God hopes all things.**  
Liturgist: *There is nothing we can do to be separated from God's love.*  
All: **The love of God endures all things. God's love never fails.**

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)  
Loving God,  
we confess we often rely upon ourselves to fix what we have broken.  
We turn from you and toward our strength, ambition, and resources.  
We look to our own understanding to cure the things that ail us.  
Forgive us, Merciful God, for ignoring you as you stand before us  
with perpetually outstretched arms,  
though time and again we choose to distance ourselves from you  
by sin, waywardness, bitterness, or distrust.  
You continue to stand in wait,  
eagerly watching to welcome us back home.  
You are always with us and freely give of yourself to us.  
May we be healed by your infinite compassion and generosity,  
that we may love and serve one another in kind.

† 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 she may grow in service with others. We will pray for her 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 Laura Leigh to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase her faith, confirm her hope, and perfect her in love.*

† People: **We give thanks for all that God has already given you, Laura Leigh, 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 ..... Ed Zinkiewicz  
**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 15:11-32

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

Children's Moment

Sermon: All Embracing Love .....Brandon Baxter

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

Joys & Concerns of the Church .....Erin Racine

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: O Love ..... Elaine Hagenberg

O Love, O Love, O Love that will not let me go, O Love,  
I rest my weary soul in Thee; I give thee back the life I owe,  
that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Joy, O Joy, O Joy that seeks me through the pain, O Joy,  
I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through  
the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

*(George Matheson)*

† 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. 378: Amazing Grace ..... Amazing Grace

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: Spirit of the Living God .....Living God

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living, God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

Voluntary: Trumpet Voluntary .....Michael McCabe

† *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 today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert Adrian Downing and in honor of Peggy Drumright Downing by their family.

Laura Leigh Riley, daughter of Robert and Lindsay Riley, is presented for baptism today.

Simon Daniel Limina, son of Daniel and Kelly Limina, will presented for baptism later 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 by Sarah McCain.

Cover Art by Shelley Kuhlmeier.

Music Participants: Sanctuary Choir. Andrew Risinger is organist-director. Matthew Phelps is pianist and assisting at the organ.

Today's Music: John Newton, who wrote our closing hymn, was ordained for ministry in the Church of England in the early 1760s, and in 1779, he collaborated with William Cowper to publish the Olney Hymns, one of which was the now famous "Amazing Grace." Originally titled "Faith's Review and Expectations," Newton's hymn included six stanzas. Most hymnals today use the first four stanzas from Newton's text, as well as a fifth anonymous stanza first found in *A Collection of Sacred Ballads* (1790) and sung along with Newton's text ever since.



**Project Thrive Future Conversations Happening Soon**

Do you have God-sized dreams for the future of West End UMC? Would you like to gather with others to imagine what God might do in and through us in the years ahead? Then join one of our upcoming Project Thrive "Future" Conversations. Each gathering will last for 90 minutes and will be facilitated by our Project Thrive leadership team. We have two options to gather in person and one over Zoom. We want everyone to participate, so please pick a time that best suits your schedule!

**In Person Options (Location either in McWhirter Hall or the Gym)**

Sunday, February 20, 10:00-11:30 a.m. with childcare.

Sunday, February 27, 9:15-10:45 a.m. with coffee and doughnuts starting at 8:45 a.m.

**Online Option**

Wednesday, February 23, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Please RSVP at [westendumc.org/projectthrive](http://westendumc.org/projectthrive).

**Pancake Supper is Back!**

Tuesday, March 1 // 5-6:30 p.m. // McWhirter Hall

This beloved West End tradition is returning! Join us for pancakes, sausage, and loads of fun for all ages, followed by our annual Jazz Mass! To celebrate the return of this joy-filled meal, there will be no charge this year. Instead, we'll be taking donations, and proceeds will go toward West End's Sunny Day Club. The mission of the Sunny Day Club is to provide social interaction, stimulation, and friendship in a caring and safe environment for those experiencing the early stages of memory loss, as well as provide respite for their family caregivers. To find out more about this exciting and important ministry, contact Erin Racine at [eracine@westendumc.org](mailto:eracine@westendumc.org). While there won't be a charge for the Pancake Supper, we do prefer that you reserve your spot ahead of time so that we can prepare accordingly. Go to [westendumc.org/pancakes](http://westendumc.org/pancakes) to make your reservation. We hope to see you there!

**Shrove Tuesday Jazz Mass**

Tuesday, March 1 // 6:30 p.m. // Sanctuary

Enjoy a unique worship opportunity complete with beads, masks, and other Mardi Gras trimmings. Make plans to attend a Mardi Gras style Jazz Mass on Shrove Tuesday, March 1 in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. This festive celebration of Holy Communion is framed in a jazz setting, with a jazz band, a Mardi Gras style processional, hymns, soloists from the recording industry and vocal interpretations of the traditional text. Join us in this final celebration for Christians before the Lenten season begins the next day.

**Ash Wednesday Services**

Wednesday, March 2 // 12 and 6 p.m. // Sanctuary

The Jazz Mass on Shrove Tuesday only has meaning within the context of the services that take place on the following day, Ash Wednesday. The contrast between the celebration and excess of Tuesday gives way to the solemnity and restraint of Ash Wednesday. It is in the radically different character of the two days that we discover the meaning of each. If you attend the Jazz Mass, seriously consider attending one of the Ash Wednesday services as well. If you are a regular attender at an Ash Wednesday service, seriously consider participating in the Jazz Mass in preparation to experience the importance of the imposition of ashes that follows the next day. Ash Wednesday services will be on February 26 at 12 and 6 p.m.