

## GATHERING

Voluntary:.....J. S. Bach  
Chorale Prelude on “Sleepers, Awake, for Night is Flying,” BWV 645

Welcome .....Carol Cavin-Dillon  
*Please take a moment to record your attendance.  
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.

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

† Call to Worship .....Chris Donald  
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 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 Bakker Family

Lesson from Isaiah 35:1-6, 10

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 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.**

Anthem: Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day .....John Gardner

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day: I would my true love did so chance to see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance: Sing O my love; this have I done for my true love. Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance; thus was I knit to man’s nature, to call.... In a manger laid and wrapped I was, so very poor this was my chance, be twixt an ox and a silly poor ass, to call.... Then afterwards baptized I was; the Holy Ghost on me did glance, my Father’s voice heard from above, to call...

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination..... Lochlan Cook

**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: Matthew 11:2-11

Response to the Lesson

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

Hymn TFWS No. 2089: Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice.....La Grange

Children’s Moment

Sermon: What Do You Expect?.....Carol Cavin-Dillon

† 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:..... Felix Mendelssohn

And Then Shall Your Light Break Forth (from Elijah)

And then shall your light break forth as the light of the morning breaketh, and your health shall speedily spring forth then; and the glory of the Lord ever shall reward you. Lord, our Creator, how excellent thy Name is in all the nations.

† 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

† Recessional Hymn No. 209: Blessed Be the God of Israel..... Merle’s Tune

† Benediction

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

Voluntary: .....William Lloyd Webber  
Fantasia on “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending”

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

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

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*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!*

The flowers on the altar are donated by Byron and Aleta Trauger in loving memory of their parents, Betty and Murdick Grillos of Denver, Colorado and Elaine and Don Trauger of Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

Liturgy written Maggie Jarrell

Bulletin Cover Art: "St. John the Baptist in Prison," painted around 1565 by the Spanish artist, Juan Fernández de Navarrete (1526-1579).

Music Participants: The Chancel Choir. Matt Phelps is organist-director. Andrew Risinger is organist.

Today's Music: Psalm 24, the basis for our Processional Hymn today, is a majestic song of praise to the King of glory. It concludes with a herald's announcement of the King's approach: "Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. "Who is he, this King of glory? The Lord Almighty – he is the King of glory."



#### **ADVENT MISSIONS MARKET**

During the Sundays of Advent vendors will be in Reed Hall, including Chimes for Justice (stained glass/stepping stones), Harvest Hands (coffees and soaps), The Little Match Girl, Ten Thousand Villages, as well as items we've brought back from our trip to Guatemala. These vendors will be in Reed Hall shortly before early service through to fifteen minutes after the late worship service.

#### **ADVENT SPECIAL OFFERING // LUNCHESES FOR HOPE PROGRAM**

This year's Advent Offering will go to the Lunches for Hope Program in the Dassa-Zoume region of Benin, Africa to help provide a daily lunch to the 30 girls enrolled in the program. Before this program, girls without this lunch money asked for the money from men who took advantage of their situation. West End funded this program last year and there was a dramatic decrease in girls dropping out of school, early pregnancy and trafficking. Our goal is \$5,400 which will fully fund lunches for one year. You can give online by marking the "Other" and writing in "Advent Special Offering" or by check with "Advent Special Offering" in the memo line.

#### **ONE WORSHIP SERVICE ON CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S DAY**

Join us for worship at 10 a.m. on December 25 and January 1. There will be on Sunday School and only one service on these days.

#### **NEW YEAR'S EVE TAIZE SERVICE**

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 2022 and enter 2023 with renewed hope and peace. Opportunity is offered for individual prayers and anointing for healing. The service begins at 6:30 pm. The Taizé Team will welcome you with beautiful music and warm smiles..

#### **A COLLECTION OF CRECHES: A NATIVITIES DISPLAY**

During the season of Advent on Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., an impressive array of nativities will be on display in the 4th Story Theater Lobby. The Drama and Visual Arts Ministry invites you to come take a self-guided tour of creches from around the world, old and new, and in all shapes and sizes. Members of our West End UMC community have generously loaned their precious nativity sets for this popular installation.

#### **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](http://westendumc.org/enews).

#### **WAYS TO GIVE**

- Give online at [westendumc.org/give](http://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

# WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP  
December 11, 2022 at Eleven o'clock  
Third Sunday of Advent

2200 West End Avenue  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

615.321.8500  
[www.westendumc.org](http://www.westendumc.org)