

GATHERING

Voluntary: Largo (from Symphonic Fantasy)..... Victor Herbert

WelcomeCarol 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: Lord Jesus Christ be Present Now17th Century German Tune

† Processional Hymn No. 116: The God of Abraham PraiseLeoni

† Call to Worship Maggie Jarrell
Liturgist: *Let us come before God with awe and wonder.*
People: **May we be reverent before God’s love and power.**
Liturgist: *Let us open ourselves to the sacred this day.*
People: **May we be startled with the joy of God’s presence.**
Liturgist: *Let us worship the God of our ancestors.*
People: **May we serve the God who calls us and sends us forth!**

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)
Gracious God,
you are always present, always near,
and yet at times we do not see you in the burning bush;
we do not know that we stand on holy ground.
Gracious God, you often speak to us,
at times calling us by name,
and yet we do not discern your voice
in the midst of everyday noise and chatter.
Forgive our distracted minds and hardened hearts,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

† 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: Blessed is the Man Sven Lekberg
Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and on his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.
(Psalm 1)

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination.....Patrick Dunnevant
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 Old Testament: Exodus 3:1-15

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

Hymn: Womb of Life.....Beach Spring
Womb of life, and source of being, home of every restless heart,
in your arms the worlds awakened; you have loved us from the start.
We, your children, gather ‘round you, at the table you prepare.
Sharing stories, tears, and laughter, we are nurtured by your care.

Word in flesh, our brother Jesus, born to bring us second birth,
you have come to stand beside us, knowing weakness, knowing
earth.
Priest who shares our human struggles, Life of Life, and Death of
Death, Risen Christ, come stand among us, send the Spirit by your
breath.

Brooding Spirit, move among us; be our partner, be our friend.
When our memory fails, remind us whose we are, what we intend.
Labor with us, aid the birthing of the new world yet to be,
Free of servant, lord, and master, free for love and unity.

Mother, Brother, Holy Partner; Father, Spirit, Only Son:
We would praise your name forever, One-in-three, and Three-in-one.
We would share your life, your passion, share your word of world
made new, ever singing, ever praising, one with all, and one with
you.

Children’s Moment

Sermon: Following an Unnamable God 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: How Excellent Thy NameHoward Hanson
O Lord our Lord, how excellent thy name in all the earth! Who hast set thy glory above the heavens. When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and stars, which thou hast ordained; what is earth that thou art mindful of us? and the Son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor. Thou madest him to have dominion over the work of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet. Alleluia. (Psalm 8: 1, 3-6)

† 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.

Welcoming of New Members
Commendation and Welcome
Liturgist: *Family of God, these persons are now entrusted 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

† Recessional Hymn No. 111: How Can we Name a Love Terra Beata

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: Bind Us Together 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 G Major, BWV 541 J. S. Bach

*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.*

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

The altar flowers are given with love, joy and remembrance of Francie Wiegand for her third birthday by her family: Martin, Jane and Tripp Wiegand.

Hilliard John Wright, son of Justin and Laura Wright, was presented for baptism at the early service 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 Call to Worship is adapted from a resource by Ruth Duck in her book, "Touch Holiness." The Prayer of Confession is adapted from a prayer by Bishop Kenneth H. Carter, Jr. in his book, "Prayers and Liturgies of Confession and Assurance."

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

Today's Music: Our recessional hymn, "How Can We Name a Love" was written in 1973 for the publication *New Church Praise*, 1975. The author, Brian Wren, wrote of the hymn, "It marks the beginning of an attempt to break out from the heavy masculinity of traditional metaphors of God." (Carlton Young) Text for "Womb of Life" copyright GIA Publications, 1992. Reprinted with permission, Onelicense.net #718007.

Cover art: "Moses and the Burning Bush," painted in 1960 by Marc Chagall. Chagall (1887-1985) was born into a Jewish family in what is now Belarus. He lived much of his adult life in France but escaped during World War II and spent some years in New York before returning to France. Among his paintings he produced many works based on themes from Hebrew Scriptures.

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.

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.



WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JOURNEY TOWARDS JUSTICE

What is needed in this day and age to challenge the injustices of racism? What can we learn from the horrors of the racism in the past, the commitment of those who participated in the civil rights movement, and how that learning translates into real change toward the beloved community? We invite you to a year long journey into learning in a way that challenges us to act today. We will be looking at the throughline of history to see how the transatlantic trade of enslaved humans directly influenced voting, housing, mass incarceration, and violence. We will also be forging relationships between members of four congregations (Gordon Memorial, Clark Memorial, West End, and Mt Pisgah UMCs). We will work side-by-side to live into our baptismal vows to resist evil, injustice and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves. Interested? Join us on January 29th at 2 PM in McWhirter Hall for a worship service and information session.

Volunteer With Our Spotlight Organization

Our Church chooses a "Spotlight Organization" to give a sizable grant from our Outreach Ministries. The Villages of Glencliff is in the second year for this grant. As a church, we commit our time and funds to this organization throughout the year. Kay Gray is managing our volunteers for Glencliff, and she has given those volunteers the nickname "village people"!

The first volunteer opportunity for this year is to be "a village person for a VIP." The VIPs are the residents who are there on short medical respite. This task is solely for friendship: you will receive the name and contacts for your VIP and you may send a card, call them, and if willing, a short visit. Volunteers will be given guidance and, since the VIP will be leaving the Village within 2 months, the village person volunteer will have a definite end time for the commitment. There are ten residents so we would be happy for 10 "village people" here at West End to step up now at westendumc.org/glencliff.

Reading God's Story Together

There are 175 people signed up to read the Bible with us thru 2023. It's not too late to join us. Sign up now at westendumc.org/bibleyear to find all the information you need to participate in reading with us, plus how to get involved in a small group, upcoming large group gatherings, reading guides and more. Come and be part of the story!

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT WEST END

Take a moment in the middle of your week to fellowship with other believers and encounter God. It starts with Wednesday Night Dinner at 5:15 p.m. Children Choirs and the new Encounter worship service begin at 6:15 p.m. Find out more and RSVP for dinner at westendumc.org/Wednesday.

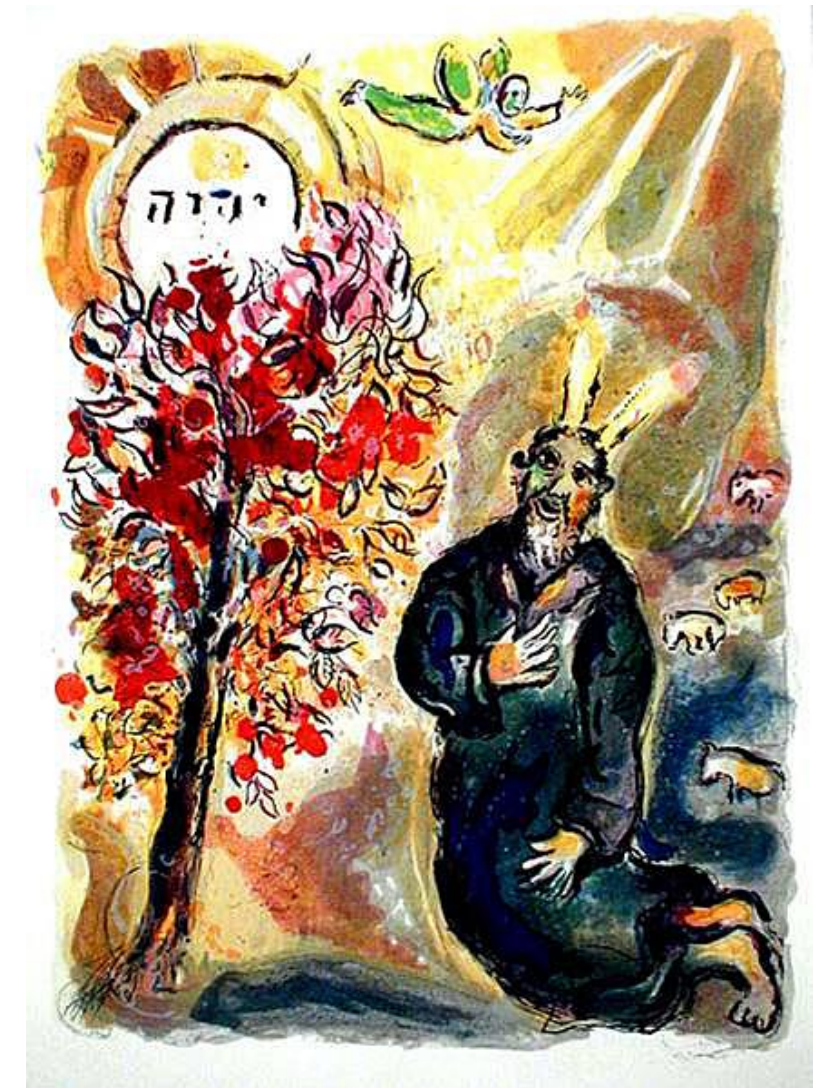
JOIN A SUNDAY MORNING CLASS

Looking for a way to connect further on Sunday mornings outside of our worship service? We have several welcoming Sunday Morning Classes where you can find community and deepen your spiritual relationship. Visit the Welcome Center or westendumc.org/sundayschool to find out more.



WORSHIP INFORMATION ONLINE

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



ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
January 22, 2023 at Eleven o'clock
Third Sunday after the Epiphany

2200 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

615.321.8500
www.westendumc.org