

WEST END UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP March 23, 2025 at Eleven O'Clock Third Sunday of Lent

GATHERING

Voluntary: Chorale Prelude on <i>Our Father in Heaven</i> Georg Böhm			
Welcome			
Introit: Make Me a Clean Heart			
† Processional Hymn No. 160: Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart			
† Call to WorshipShannon Baxter		-	
Liturgist:	Hear this: "The next time you put on a dinner, don't just invite your friends, and family, and rich neighbors"		
People:	Instead, we will open our doors to anyone in need and		
Liturgist:	celebrate life with those who rarely get invited to our tables. Then the unity of God's love, which goes far beyond our self-centered ways of loving, will bless you and those who gather with you.		
People:	As we join each other in worship today, may we hear and know this truth and lean into this most Christian way of life.		
† Call to Confession			

† Prayer of Confession

God of the uninvited,

we know you have already made a place for us at your heavenly table, whether we sit at the head or not.

Forgive us for losing our connection to your way as we calculate who should or shouldn't have a seat with us.

We admit that our sense of self-importance can keep us from realizing who is truly important in your kin-dom.

Open our spirits so that we can live out your loving generosity with those who rarely get invited to the party.

Help us open the doors of our hearts so that we may allow the lonely and forgotten to have a place here.

† 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!

Glory to God. Amen. All:

† Passing the Peace

Liturgist: As a forgiven and reconciled people, let us exchange signs of

reconciliation and love. The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you. People:

† 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.

let all the nations know, to earth's remotest bound:

the year of jubilee is come: return ye ransomed sinners home.

Extol the Lamb of God, the all atoning Lamb; redemption through his blood throughout the world proclaim. The year of jubilee is come: return ye ransomed sinners home.

The gospel trumpet hear, the news of heavenly grace; and, saved from earth, appear before your Saviour's face. The year of jubilee is come: return ye ransomed sinners home. (Charles Wesley)

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 and these two adults 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 and these adults with a community of love and forgiveness that they may grow in service with others. We will pray for them to be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

[†] Silent Confession

Thanksgiving Over the Water

† Commendation and Welcome

Liturgist: Members of the household of God, I commend Edward Deane, 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, Edward

Deane, 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.

Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign; with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.

Ministry Moment: Rejoice Ballet

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Transforming God, teach us the power of community that you create at your table so that, in receiving your Word today, we will open our hearts and invite all to have a seat at our tables.

A Lesson from the Gospel.....Luke 14:1, 7-14

Response to the Lesson

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Children's Moment

Children's church is located in Scales Chapel, which is down the hall from the sanctuary. If it's your first time, a grown-up should please follow us after the children's moment to drop off.

Pick up will at the same location immediately following the service.

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus,

the Word made Flesh, to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Joys and Concerns of the Church

Salutation......Rea Green

Liturgist: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Liturgist: Let us pray.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Jesus lay your head in the window,

and hear some sinner pray.

The wind blows east and the wind blows west,

it blows on judgment day.

And every soul that ever did pray will be glad to pray on that day.

O Lord, hear my prayer.

Please forgive me,

for I have fallen short of Thy glory.

Please Lord deliver me.

(Traditional Spiritual)

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** Welcoming of New Members Commendation and Welcome Liturgist: Family of God, Alex, Julie, and Melody are now entrusted to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hopes, 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.

† Recessional Hymn No. 339: Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast Hursley

† Benediction

† Benediction ResponseTallis' Canon

Throughout these Lenten days and nights, we turn and walk the inward way, where meeting Christ our guide and light, we live in hope till Easter Day.

The congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

The altar flowers are given today to the glory of God and in memory of Travis and Elsie Dubree by their daughter, Marilyn Dubree.

Greer Elisabeth Dabbs, daughter of Emma Sholl and Spence Dabbs, was presented for baptism today at the early service.

Edward Deane Eisemann, son of Ben and Carolyn Eisemann, is presented for baptism today.

William Alexander Richardson and Melody Heart Suite will be baptized today, as well.

Today's liturgy was written by Andrew Callis.

Music Participants

Chancel Choir
Andrew Risinger: Director / Organist
Chris Muller: Bass
Viji Burma: Soprano solo
Carla Fox: Flute

Today's Music

Edward H. Plumptre is the author of "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart." It was written as a processional for the 1865 Peterborough Choir Festival at the Peterborough Cathedral in England. Plumptre published it in his *Lazarus and Other Poems* in 1865 or 1868. Its first inclusion in a hymnal was in the *Appendix to Hymns Ancient and Modern* in 1868.

Today's Table Transformation

The table in the center of the chancel has been transformed into one where there are open seats and places set for anyone to join. The place settings are used for Room in the Inn each Wednesday evening, a time and place when our unhoused neighbors are treated with the generosity and hospitality Jesus calls us to provide in today's scripture.

PRAYER REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

• **Prayer Requests:** Nancy Jones; Kathy Osten; individuals in the hospital having procedures, recovering from illness, those in treatment, and the families that are caring for them; the US government and the peaceful change of leadership; peace in Palestine/ Israel, Haiti, Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine.

If you have an emergency and need to contact one of the pastors after hours, please call 615.321.8500, Ext. 8853. The Pastor-on-Call for March 24-30 will be Rev. Stacey Harwell-Dye. To submit a prayer request, visit *westendumc.org/prayerrequest*.

MARCH COMMUNION OFFERING BENEFITS REJOICE BALLET

Motivated by Christ's love, Rejoice School of Ballet empowers youth to realize their potential by training, nurturing, and celebrating dancers from diverse racial, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds. Rejoice utilizes our fourth story theater for their performances. Give online at westendumc.org/give.

CHAT & CHEW LUNCH // TODAY

All local Nashville undergrad and grad students are invited to attend lunch at a local restaurant (West End's treat!) each Sunday after the 11 am service throughout the semester. Contact Rev. Aimee Baxter at abaxter@westendumc.org to find out more.

WEST END FAMILY MEET UP // TODAY AT TAILGATE BREWERY

Join us for the next West End Family Meet Up at Tailgate Brewery on Sunday, March 23 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. We'd love to see current and visiting families for fun, food, games, and fellowship! 7300 Charlotte Pike, Nashville, TN 37209

TRIVIA NIGHT TO SUPPORT VANDY WESLEY // MARCH 28

Come play Trivia in the 4th Story Theater at 6pm on March 28th to support students of Vandy Wesley! Register your team or ask to join one at vandywesley.org/trivia-night. Funds raised will support their campus outreach efforts at Vanderbilt University.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 31

The West End Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for the 2025 -2026 academic year. Deadline for receipt of all application materials is Monday, March 31, at 5 pm. Find out more at westendumc.org/scholarships.

BREWED THEOLOGY // APRIL 1

Young Adult Gathering 1st Tuesday of the Month - Brewed Theology will meet Tuesday, April 1 at 6:30 pm at Martin's on Elliston. All young adults are invited to join us for a laid-back conversation around a particular theological topic each month. For more information, contact Rev. Aimee Baxter at abaxter@westendumc.org.

WEST END IS HIRING

West End UMC is seeking an experienced Facilities Manager. If you or someone you know is interested in joining our staff full-time, please check out the job posting at westendumc.org/jobs.

ATTENTION COLLEGE SPRING GRADUATES

If you are graduating from one of our local colleges/universities this Spring and want to be recognized at our Senior Sunday on April 27 at the 11:00 service, please let Pastor Aimee know via email (abaxter@westendumc.org) by April 15.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



Julie Ackley



Kurt Tarter



Huntley and Wilson Robinson





Melody Suite



Wes Clayton



Jordan and Glory Herring

Ashley Anderson

Jenny Graf

TABLETRANSFORMATIONS

Throughout the season of Lent, we invite you to experience the power of sharing a meal. West End members are hosting tables throughout the season of Lent for groups of 10-12 people to break bread, share stories, and abide in God's delight. If you would like to learn more about finding your seat at the table, visit westendumc.org/table to learn more and register.



2025 LENTEN OFFERING: OPEN TABLE NASHVILLE



Open Table Nashville is a non-profit, interfaith community that disrupts cycles of poverty, journeys with the marginalized and provides education about issues of homelessness. Will Compton from Open Table meets with people in our lower-level Thursdays during Quiet Place, and our offering goes to support the salaries of Will and others who meet with people where they are. You can give online at *westendumc.org/give* or text OPEN TABLE to 833.270.7424.

WEEKLY COMMUNION ON WEDNESDAYS

We experience the grace of God in its abundance at the table of Jesus. We will celebrate Holy Communion on the remaining Wednesdays of Lent at 8 am in Scales Chapel. All are welcome at the table.

LENTEN NOON CONCERT // MARCH 27



Our Lenten Noon Concert Series continues with harpist, Sarah K. Crocker. Dr. Crocker is based in Franklin, TN and can be found teaching, lecturing, and performing solo, chamber, and orchestral music throughout the United States and beyond. Adjunct Professor of Harp at Belmont University, Middle Tennessee State University, and Lipscomb University, she is principal harp of the Tennessee Philharmonic Orchestra and the North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra. Each half-hour concert will begin promptly at noon. Lunch is available in McWhirter Hall at 12:30 pm for \$12. Lunch requires reservations. Register online at westendumc.org/lentenconcerts.



FIRST WEDNESDAY - IMAGE OF GOD: SHARING THE TABLE WITH OUR JEWISH SIBLINGS // APRIL 2

All are invited to a dinner, night of teaching, and dialogue surrounding Jewish-Christian Relations! Thornton Muncher will be offering a primer on how The United Methodist Church engages our Jewish siblings through our Wesleyan theology, interreligious polity, and denominational practices. Additionally, he will be moderating a Zoom panel featuring a Reform Rabbi, two Rabbinical students, and the Rev. Dr. Soren Hessler. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask the panelists questions about the role of interfaith engagement in their work and should walk away with a better understanding of how we are all created in the image of God.

Dinner will be served at 5:15 pm with the program starting at 6 pm and you can rsvp online at *westendumc.org/firstwednesday*.





Welcome to West End United Methodist Church!

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.

Scan this QR Code or visit westendumc.org/links to register your attendance with us, find out more about our Sunday Morning Classes, sign up for our weekly email, and learn more about the different ways to give at West End.



We believe that God loves everyone unconditionally!

West End Staff

Members of Mest End OMC			
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Rev. Dr. Carol Cavin-Dillon	Senior Pastor		
Rev. Will McLeane	Spiritual Formation		
Rev. Maggie Jarrell	Children and Families		
Rev. Stacey Harwell-Dye	Mercy and Justice		
Rev. Shannon Baxter	Congregational Connection		
Rev. Aimee Baxter	Young Adults		
Emily C. Robbins			
Dr. Matthew Phelps	Minister of Music		
Andrew Risinger	Associate Minister of Music		
Dr. Tammy Lewis Wilborn	Congregational Care Intern		
Rea Green	Pastoral Intern		
Hampton Randall	Youth Ministry Intern		
Nico Zavala			
Shelley Kuhlmeyer	Communications Director		
Lazaro Kapella	Church Financial Officer		

Members of West End LIMC

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Jim Raver	Property Operations Manager
Shannon Meffert	HR Generalist
Corye Nelson	Preschool Executive Director
-	Preschool Operations Manager
Cheryl Reeves	Preschool Curriculum Coordinator
Karina Gurgenidze	Childcare Coordinator
Cindy Siemer	Senior Administrative Assistant
Andrew Callis	Administrative Assistant
Whitney Jones	Administrative Assistant
Tosha Jackson	Receptionist
Kathryn Ware	Receptionist
Chase Bencin	Media Coordinator
Ronnie Franklin	Building Superintendent
Andy Ulm	Safety and Security Coordinator
Richard Thomas	Custodian

