



WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP
DECEMBER 1, 2024 AT EIGHT FORTY-FIVE
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

GATHERING

Voluntary: Chorale Prelude on *Savior of the Nations Come*.....J. P. Sweelinck
Chorale Prelude on *Savior of the Nations Come*..... Johann Pachelbel

Welcome..... Will McLeane
Please take a moment to let us know you are here today by either filling out the attendance form in the pew or by visiting westendumc.org/attendance. If you are a first-time guest with us today, please share a way to connect so that we can share more information about West End UMC with you!

Introit: Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus.....Christian F. Witt

Lighting of the Advent Candle.....Sanctuary Choir

† Processional Hymn No. 211: O Come, O Come, EmmanuelVeni Emmanuel
(Verses 1-4)

† Call to Worship Will McLeane
Liturgist: Where do we find our hope?
People: Our hope runs in the streams, blooms in the flowers, and sings throughout creation.
Liturgist: As we gather in worship, may we recall the source of this hope.
People: We find reassurance in God, and hope abounds in the presence of our eternal creator.

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession
Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience, 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 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.

† An Act of Praise
Antiphon



PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for IlluminationBrant Phillips
As your Holy Spirit spoke to the prophets of old, speak to us now through your Word, that by listening to your voice we, too, will make a way for your hope to come into the world. Amen.

A Lesson from the Old Testament.....Jeremiah 33:1-3, 14-16

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.

Communion Meditation: Our Hope Is BuiltCarol Cavin-Dillon

† Affirmation of FaithShannon Baxter
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

Liturgist: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Liturgist: Let us pray.

Prayers of the People

Offertory: Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes.....Hal H. Hopson

Thou shalt know him when he comes
not by any din of drums nor manner of his airs
nor by anything he wears.
Thou shalt know him when he comes
not by his crown or his gown but his coming known shall be
by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.
(Anonymous)

† 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.**

† Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

† Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving

† Sanctus and Benedictus

† Sanctus and Benedictus cont.

Prayer of Remembrance

Prayer of Consecration

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.**

The Breaking of Bread and Taking of the Cup

*The congregation is invited to join the choir in singing the following hymns:
214, 216, and TFSW 2092*

† Prayer after Receiving

Celebrant: You have given yourself to us, Lord.

People: Now we give ourselves for others

Celebrant: Your love has made us a new people;

People: as a people of love we will serve you with joy.

Celebrant: Your glory has filled our hearts;

People: help us to glorify you in all things. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn no. 206: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light Houston

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (refrain).....Veni Emmanuel

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel

has come to you, O Israel!

Voluntary: Chorale Prelude on *Hyfrydol*..... Ralph Vaughan Williams

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

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

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

The altar flowers today are provided by the Flower Fund.

Many thanks to those who have contributed to the fund. Donations designated for this fund are used on Sundays when there are no individual donors.

A rose on the table celebrates the birth of Marian Margaret Lewis to Lauren Lewis, WEUMC preschool teacher. She is also welcomed by her grandmother, Cindy Siemer, WEUMC Senior Administrative Assistant.

Today's liturgy was written by our Pastoral Intern for Mercy and Justice, Rea Green.

Music Participants

The Sanctuary Choir

Andrew Risinger: Director / Organist

Matthew Phelps: Assisting at the Organ

Today's Music

In monasteries as early as the nineteenth century during Advent vespers, the eight days before Christmas, seven "O" antiphons and an eighth antiphon to Mary were sung before and after the *Magnificat*. (Mary's song from Luke, chapter 1) A metrical form of the antiphons was prepared as early as the 12th century and a version printed from the 18th century was used by John Mason Neale for his translation—*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*—in *Mediaeval Hymns and Sequences*, 1851.

The service music printed in the order of worship is by Sally Ahner ©1983.

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Bulletin Cover Art

"Jeremiah on the Ruins of Jerusalem," by Horace Vernet, 1844. This painting depicts Jeremiah sitting in the foreground atop a broken pillar. He looks toward the heavens, as if in deep thought, as he writes on a scroll of paper. He wears a red scarf around his head that drapes around his neck, as well as a cloak the color of midnight over a white robe. In the background, we find more broken and toppled pillars that illustrate the "ruined" nature of Jerusalem.

PRAYER REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

♦ Sympathies to Jennifer Fox and family as they grieve the death of Jenn's mother, Lucy Fox, on November 22. A service of remembrance will be held in Hendersonville on December 14th.

♦ **Prayer Requests:** Babs White; Kathy Osten; those who are navigating the holidays in new ways this year; individuals in the hospital having procedures, recovering from illness or injury, those in treatment, and the families that are caring for them; peace in Palestine/Israel, Haiti, Sudan, 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 December 2-8 will be Rev. Shannon Baxter. To submit a prayer request, visit westendumc.org/prayerrequest.

FAITHFUL GIVING 2025

Help our church thrive and grow in 2025. Our church depends on the financial support of its members to carry out the ministries and programs that allow West End United Methodist Church to be the loving light of Christ, connecting, transforming. By turning in your 2025 Estimate of Giving, you help our church staff and leaders plan and budget for the coming year. You can find a estimate card in the pew back, scan the QR code, or visit westendumc.org/estimatetnow to turn in your estimate.



*As of November 20, we have received
273 Estimates of Giving for 2025 for a total of \$1,821,477.*



We are headed to Guatemala again in 2025 and there are two trip options!

♦ **Antigua // Transitions Trip** – All ages are invited to stay in Antigua for a shorter Mission Trip Saturday - Thursday, March 8-13 to work with Transitions and other organizations in the Antigua area.

♦ **ODIM** – We will be going back to Lake Atitlan (to the communities of San Juan La Laguna and San Pablo La Laguna) to work with ODIM Saturday to Saturday, March 8-16. We need medical field professionals for this trip to see patients in two clinics, as well as a Healthy Mommy and Me program that could use any practitioners who work with pregnant women and/or infants. We will also have a team building stoves in the surrounding community.

If you have questions about either trip, contact Rev. Stacey Harwell-Dye at sharwelldye@westendumc.org. You can register now at westendumc.org/guatemala.

Registration deadline is TODAY, December 1, 2024.

DECEMBER COMMUNION OFFERING // PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Our December offering will go towards the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, which is one pot of money we use to help people with their mortgage, rent, utilities, and bus fare to get back home. Your generosity to this fund in December is what we use to budget for the upcoming year.

ADVENT SPECIAL OFFERING - LUNCHES FOR HOPE

This year's Advent Offering will go to the Lunches for Hope Program in the Dassa-Zoume region of Benin, Africa. The funds will be used by former West End member Hilarion Vegba who worshiped and studied with us when he was enrolled in a program at Vanderbilt. Thirty girls will receive lunch five days a week for nine months of school. 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 \$10,800 which will fully fund lunches for two years. You can give online at westendumc.org/give or by check with "Advent Special Offering" in the memo line.

CHAT & CHEW LUNCH // TODAY

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

BREWED THEOLOGY // DEC 3

Young Adult Gathering 1st Tuesday of the Month - Brewed Theology will meet Tuesday, December 3 at 6:30 pm at St. Nicky's at Nicky's Coal-Fired Pizza in the Nations. 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.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR KIDS IN FOSTER CARE

We are excited to offer an opportunity to buy Christmas gifts for area kids in foster care. Gifts need to be at the church no later than December 10. Find out more at westendumc.org/christmasgifts.

CLOTHING AND OTHER SUPPLIES NEEDED

Our guests have access to our clothing closet, and we can always use your gently used men's clothing, shoes, and sock donations. New donations of underwear and undershirts are always needed. Our Amazon wishlist with our top needs on it at westendumc.org/clothingcloset.

YOUTH SUMMER 2025 SERVICE TRIP

All 8th-12th graders are invited to serve in Alaska from Friday, May 30-Friday, June 6, 2025 Register at westendumc.org/missiontrip until Wednesday, December 4

Church family - we welcome prayers for our team from now through June 6.

YOUTH SECOND SUNDAY SERVICE

All youth are invited to join us at Trinity Community Commons next Sunday, December 8 from 4:45-7 p.m. for dinner, board games and gift creation! If you ever want to help us provide a meal any of our 2nd Sundays- email Emily at erobbins@westendumc.org for the list.

ADVENT MINISTRY MARKETS IN REED HALL TODAY

Don't miss our annual Advent Ministry Market that begins today in Reed Hall! Markets will be from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm on December 1, 8, 15, and 22 in Reed Hall. Come purchase items that help support a social mission here and around the world!

MAKE SOMEONE'S HOLIDAY SPECIAL: DELIVER POINSETTIAS

Each year, West End delivers Christmas Poinsettias to members of the church who are homebound or have experienced the death of a loved one in the last year. If you are able to make deliveries of December 9-12, register westendumc.org/poinsettidelivery. Deliveries do not require long visits and can also be done on your schedule.



First Wednesday: *Messages of Hope*

December 4 // Dinner at 5:15 p.m. // Program at 6 p.m.

Join us on Wednesday, December 4 at 6 pm for learning, fellowship, and creative writing. Together, we will learn about the unique way Israel's prophets shared their visions of hope and spend time writing hopeful letters to friends within our church and neighbors across our city. We will also have dinner starting at 5:15 pm. Registration is required for dinner at westendumc.org/firstwednesday.

ADVENT WREATH WORKSHOP // DECEMBER 8

Join us as we gather in the gym to make wreaths to prepare for the Advent season of waiting and hoping for the birth of Christ. We hope to see everyone there, no registrations required! The wreath making event will include an Advent worship time, celebrating the 2nd Sunday of Advent! Resources and devotional materials will be available for church families to observe lighting the Advent wreath candles in their homes during the Advent season. We'll also have crafts, cookies and cocoa, and a mission station! Bring diapers and baby wipes for our collection to support Nashville Diaper Connection.

CANDLELIGHTING SERVICE // DECEMBER 15

On Sunday, December 15 at 5:30 pm, join West End's choirs and handbell choirs in our annual tradition of lessons and carols. Early arrival is recommended.

SERVICE OF THE LONGEST NIGHT // DECEMBER 18

Services of the Longest Night, traditionally held on the longest night of the year, are meant to hold space for those who may need a quiet place for reflection, prayer, and tears. In the midst of the darkest time of the year, this service draws people into a community of those who "get it," where candles are lit as a reminder that even in the midst of darkness, the Light of Christ is coming into the world.

On Wednesday, December 18, at 6 pm. West End will hold a Service of the Longest Night, both in-person and online. We will gather to hear words from Scripture, light candles, hear comforting music, receive Communion, and pray. Those joining us online will be able to submit prayer requests and someone in the Sanctuary will light candles on your behalf. Even if you are not experiencing a difficult season yourself, you are invited to attend and pray for those who are.



OEF CHRISTMAS PARTY

All 4th, 5th, and 6th Graders are invited to join us for a Christmas Party on Friday December 13 from 6 to 8 pm in McWhirter Hall. We'll eat, play Christmas themed games, and watch a festive Christmas classic movie. Each child should bring a gift-wrapped candy bar for the candy bar game and a donation of new men's socks for the Room in the Inn closet. RSVP at westendumc.org/oefparty by December 10.

YOUTH PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Wear your favorite Christmas Pajamas and join us on Friday, December 13 from 5:30-9:30 pm. We will travel together to the houses of Connor Harris, Peter Bigelow and Alex Stirling.

Bring a fast food gift card to share with our friends who live on the street and a gift for our Dirty Santa Gift Exchange! DO NOT BUY your gift - try to find something unique in your home to exchange! RSVP to Emily at erobbins@westendumc.org by December 8, if you plan to come.

SUGGESTED ADVENT READING

This Advent, our Spiritual Formation committee recommends that the church read *Season's Greetings: Christmas Letters from Those Who Were There*. The Rev. Ruth Boling tells the Christmas story through a series of letters written to us from the perspectives of minor and major characters in the Christmas story. Every letter ends with a guide to pray and reflect on how to prepare for Christ's arrival.

ADVENT DEVOTION AVAILABLE

This year the Children's ministry is providing a new Advent devotion great for families of all ages and sizes from Salt Project. This Advent season, as we prepare for Jesus to arrive, let's get to know Mary a little bit better, filling out her ordinary, extraordinary, inspiring portrait – all the while learning how we, too, can make our homes (and our hearts!) "houses of God."

Both the poster and devotion booklet will be available for pick up today in Reed Hall and will be available in a digital format on the website.

CHILD LED CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

All ages of children and families are invited to participate in our Child Led Christmas Eve Worship Service on Tuesday, December 24 at 3 pm. We are excited to have our children lead us in worship and participate in bringing the story of Jesus' birth to life for us on Christmas Eve. Any children who want to be included are invited to dress in costume to provide a visual image of the scripture. Children can choose to be a shepherd, a Wise One, one of the animals, or an angel. This service is lots of fun for all ages and we hope you will join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Join us at 5 pm on Tuesday, December 24 for our Christmas Eve service that will include carols, communion, and candles. For our 10 pm service, we will have the choirs, communion and candles. Organ Prelude begins at 9:30 pm.

These traditional services are highlights of our West End worship, celebrating Christ's birth as a gift for all time.

A Warm Welcome

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 West End UMC Ministers

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.....*Minister of Youth*
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.....*Music Intern*
Shelley Kuhlmeier.....*Communications Director*
Lazaro Kapella.....*Church Financial Officer*

Jim Raver.....*Property Operations Manager*
Shannon Meffert*HR Generalist*
Corye Nelson*Preschool Executive Director*
Christina Shoptaw*Preschool Operations Manager*
Cheryl Reeves*Preschool Curriculum Coordinator*
Karina Gurgenzidze*Childcare Coordinator*
Cindy Siemer..... *Senior Administrative Assistant*
Andrew Callis..... *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*



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