



WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



ORDER OF WORSHIP
DECEMBER 29, 2024 AT TEN O'CLOCK
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER ADVENT

GATHERING

Voluntary: Sleep, Holy Babe.....Philip G. Kreckel
Coventry Carol..... William Lloyd Webber

Welcome.....Stacey Harwell-Dye
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: See Amid the Winter's Snow John Goss

† Processional Hymn No. 240: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing..... Mendelssohn

† Call to Worship Emily Robbins

Liturgist: Lord, we come into your house today to be filled with your strength and wisdom.

People: May our hearts overflow as we pour out our praise!

Liturgist: Make us new this day so our lives reflect your love and grace to all we meet.

People: May our hearts overflow as we pour out our praise!

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession

**Dear God,
your Spirit provides us wisdom each day
for how to live fully devoted to you.**

You offer a path for us to follow that opens to eternal life.

**Yet, too often we try to sustain ourselves through things
that offer no true purpose for our lives.**

**Forgive us for chasing after ideas that cannot fulfill your promise
of an abundant life.**

Mold our hearts today to desire your wisdom

which provides for more than we can ask or imagine.

† 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.

† 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: Still, Still, StillNorman Luboff

Still one can hear the falling snow.

For all is hushed, the world is sleeping,
holy star its vigil keeping.

Sleep 'tis the morn of our Savior's birth.

The night is peaceful all around you,
close your eyes, let sleep surround you.

Dream of the joyous day to come.

While guardian angels without number
watch you as you sweetly slumber.

(Keith and Bergman)

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for IlluminationAndrew Breeden

**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 2:41-52

Response to the Lesson

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

People: Thanks be to God.

† Hymn No. 224: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice! In dulci jubilio
*Children may begin making their way to the front for the Children's Moment
during the final verse of the hymn.*

Children’s Moment

Sermon: Smells Like Teen Spirit Khetta Cox

† Affirmation of Faith Stacey Harwell-Dye

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

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.**

Offertory: Amid the Cold of Winter’s Snow Matthew Armstrong

Amid the cold of winter’s snow, a rose will bloom, a flower grow.

Within a stable meek and low, a tiny babe is born this night.

Of Jesse’s root, a chosen rod: This Holy Child, the Son of God.

A tender stem up through the sod; the Prince of Peace, the Lord of Light.

Angel choirs in the distant skies declare his Holy birth.

In a manger the Baby lies; a heavenly King come down to earth.

Isaiah’s prophecy fulfilled, conceived and born as God has willed.

His restless cry is gently stilled by Virgin song and coo of dove.

The Savior comes, the seed is sown. His life He’ll give, our hearts He’ll own.

The Paschal Lamb ascends the throne; the earth shall know his wondrous love.

(Armstrong)

† Doxology No. 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 251: Go, Tell It on the MountainGo Tell It on the Mountain

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: Angels We Have Heard on High (*refrain*)..... Gloria

Gloria in Excelsis Deo!

Gloria in Excelsis Deo.

Voluntary: Go Tell It on the Mountain.....Wilbur Held

*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 are given today to the glory of God and as comfort to anyone who has experienced the death of a family member, partner, or friend during Christmas, by Trey and Susan Harrell. Trey's mother, Linda Harrell, died on this date nine years ago. May their memories be a blessing.

Today's liturgy was written by Rev. Shannon Baxter.

Music Participants

*Members of the Chancel and Sanctuary Choirs
Matthew Phelps: Director / Organist*

Today's Music

The tune for *Go Tell It on the Mountain* is attributed to John Wesley Work, but adapted from an African-American spiritual that dates back to at least 1865. Work was born in Nashville, TN and studied at Fisk University, later teaching there and leading the famed Fisk Jubilee Singers.

Bulletin Cover Art

"The Boy Jesus in the Temple" by James He Qi. Having visited West End UMC in November, 2022 to give insight into his background and inspiration for Biblical artwork, Dr. He Qi's paintings have been frequently featured on our bulletin covers. You can also find many prints of his work in the Bowen Library.

PRAYER REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

♦ **Prayer Requests:** The family of Suzanne Lewter; Babs White; Kathy Osten; our unhoused neighbors looking for a warm place to sleep; 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 30 - January 5 will be Rev. Maggie Jarrell. To submit a prayer request, visit westendumc.org/prayerrequest.

DECEMBER COMMUNION OFFERING

Our December Communion Offering will go toward 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.

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 budget for the coming year. You can find a card in the pew back, scan the QR code, or visit westendumc.org/estimatetnow to turn in your estimate.

***As of December 18, we have received
295 Estimates of Giving for 2025 for a total of \$1,951,834***

CHURCH CLOSED JANUARY 1

The Church Offices and Preschool will be closed on January 1 to allow our staff and clergy to celebrate the New Year's holiday with their families. If you have an emergency, please call 615.321.8500 and you will be directed to the minister on call.

TAIZÉ LABYRINTH SERVICE // JANUARY 5

Experience the beauty and peace of Taizé worship around the labyrinth in the 4th Story Theater. Our labyrinth service that is usually on New Year's Eve will take place on Sunday, January 5 at 5:30 pm. Opportunity is offered for individual prayers and anointing for healing. The Taizé team will welcome you with beautiful music and warm smiles. Let go of the burdens of 2024 and enter 2025 with renewed hope and peace.

NEW YEAR YOGA EVENT // JANUARY 5

Start the new year with peace, purpose, and mindful movement. This 2-hour workshop is perfect for all levels—no yoga or meditation experience is needed. You'll enjoy a gentle yoga flow, a calming guided meditation, and space to reflect and set meaningful intentions for the year ahead. Register at westendumc.org/yogaevent.

BREWED THEOLOGY // JANUARY 7

Brewed Theology will meet again on Tuesday, January 7 at 6:30 pm at Tailgate Brewery East (811 Gallatin Ave). 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.

FIRST WEDNESDAY: WITH PASTOR CAROL // JANUARY 8

Join us on January 8 for a time of fellowship and learning around the table. The Rev. Dr. Carol Cavin-Dillon will lead our programming as she shares what she learned and discovered during her recent renewal leave. Supper starts at 5:15 pm, and the event begins at 6 pm. Register for dinner and the event at westendumc.org/firstwednesday.

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 Gurgenidze*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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