



GUARDING WORDS AND ACTION  
ARTIST: POFF, STEPHEN DATE: 2009

**WELCOME**

- Greeting
- Announcements
- Prelude *Contemplation* --Robert W. Thygerson

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Look at the heavens!

**They are shouting the glory of God.**

The days and the nights declare the magnificence of God's creative works.

**Their voice goes through all the earth  
and their words reach the ends of the world.**

Let our words, our thoughts, our songs of praise be acceptable to you.

**Our Lord, our rock, our redeemer!**

+HYMN 726 ~ *Will You Come and Follow Me*

**+CONFESSION**

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your way. We protect what is dear to us and neglect what is dear to you. We preserve our own way of life and profit at the expense of others. Forgive us, God of grace. Show us the error of our ways, and guide us back to your path of righteousness, justice, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Hear now our silent prayers...**

- *Lord, You Are The Giver of Mercy* ~ Hymn 437  
**You are the Lord, giver of mercy! You are the Christ, giver of mercy! You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**
- Assurance of Forgiveness
- Response of Thanksgiving ~ Hymn 581  
**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.**
- Passing of the Peace

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**PRAYER FOR OPENNESS TO GOD'S WORD**

**Holy God, whose Spirit comes to us in moments of both strength and weakness, come now into our midst that we might be able to hear your Word in fullness and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**Epistle Reading** - James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect,

able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

This is the written testimony to the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### **ANTHEM** ~ “The Heavens Are Declaring” -- Beethoven

The heav'ns are declaring the Lord's endless glory, Thro' all the earth his praise is found. The seas re-echo the marvelous story, O man, repeat that glorious sound. The starry host He orders and measures, He fills the morning's golden springs. He wakes the sun from his night curtained slumbers, Oh, man adore the King of Kings.

The power and splendor, and wisdom and order. In Nature's mighty plan unroll'd! Thro' space and time to infinity's border. What wonders vast and manifold. The earth is His, and the Heav'ns o'er it bending. The Maker in his works behold! He is, and will be Thro' the ages unending, a God of strength and love untold.

#### **GOSPEL READING** - Mark 8:27-38

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

#### **SERMON** ~ Saying it Openly

**+HYMN 693** ~ Though I May Speak

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Sharing Celebrations and Concerns  
Prayer and Lord's Prayer

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

- Call to Stewardship

Stewardship is a time to consider all our gifts. Think of how Jesus teaches us to spend the time, talents, and money with which we've been blessed. Think of how we each can use them to bring God's love to our neighborhood and to our world. Though many of us contribute electronically or by a check in the mail, your holding and passing the offering plate is an act of blessing and dedication.

- Offertory — *God Is My Shepherd* --Dvorak David Foster, Baritone

+ Offertory Response (Hymn 607) — *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

- Prayer of Dedication

**+HYMN 722** ~ *Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak* verses 1, 2, 4 and 5

#### **+BENEDICTION**

**+BENEDICTION RESPONSE** - (Hymn 765) — *May the God of Hope Go with Us*

**May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race.**



Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with all,  
Working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

+ **POSTLUDE** ~ Voluntary on Azmon

--Carl G. Gläser

## Welcome to Worship

Welcome to Maxwell Street, a church known for its diversity, inclusion and mission. This is Christ's Church and all are welcome. Bring your burdens as well as your hopes. Bring your disappointments as well as your joys. There is a kind of space here into which all are invited to be themselves and to feel at home. Participate to the degree you feel comfortable. Here is some information to help make you feel at home.

- LARGE PRINT BIBLES are available from the ushers.
- LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available from the ushers.
- Hearing help is available with a personal amplification device from the ushers.
- An elevator is located in the Education Building for your convenience.
- **Visitors interested in learning more** are invited to meet with a pastor or member of the Welcome Team in the Johnston Parlor after the service. We are glad you are here today.
- **Children are welcome in worship.** All children are encouraged to be in worship with their families so they may share in hymns, scripture, prayers, and other parts of worship. There is a booklet available in the narthex, in classrooms, and the lobby with details about our Children's classes and upcoming events. Below is a list of classes for children.

**Infant to pre-K** are welcome in the Nursery following Children's Moment or anytime during the morning. Come to the Young Children's Area in the basement. Professional caregivers and church volunteers will greet you there.

**K – 5th grade** after the children's message, children can go to our Sunday School program where age-appropriate activities will be available for all children ages k-5th grade.

**Class: One Room Sunday School**

**Curriculum: Deep Blue Connects**

**Location: Big Blue Room and Children's Library (both rooms on Lower Level near Nursery)**

- **WIFI - Router Name: Maxwell - ORBI38**

**Password: maxpres180**

- Accessible restrooms are on the main level and basement level. Baby changing stations are available in the basement restrooms or nursery.
- Follow us on Twitter @maxpreschurch or tag #maxpres if you want to share a thought from today's service.
- + Indicates that the congregation is invited to stand in body and/or in spirit.

## WORSHIP TODAY

### Worship Leaders

Matt Falco, Rachel Vankirk Mathews, Ted Gentry, Kaitlin DeSpain, the Chancel Choir

The reader is Linda Ensminger.

The acolyte is Julia Weitkamp.

The flowers are given to the glory of God by Kate and Rich Copley in celebration of Rachel's arrival and in thanksgiving for MSPC family and volunteers.

Punch is served in the West Parlor by Jack and Betsy Morgan. All are welcome.

The ushers are Ralph and Cindy Bollinger, Tim Costich, Tom Dixon, Joe and Sandy Kyle, and Jack Morgan.

## CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

Rev. James Akin, Tammy Lane, Florence Dasher, Gerry Gillespie, Josh & Kathleen's friend, Ron & Georgia Bacquet's great niece Briana, Bonnie Litteral's brother, Leigh Buckley's brother, Tish Platt's cousin and friend, Dawn Strickler's aunt & uncle

## SERVICE WOMEN AND MEN

Jake Abernathie, grandson of Dorothy & Loren Tice

USS Harry S. Truman.

Trevor Anderson-Cooper (AOAN Weapons Department G-3), son of Debra Anderson & Bill Cooper.

Tyler Buckley, son of Leigh Buckley.

Clayton Tyler (Marine Bootcamp), brother of Jessica Tyler.

Nathan Stepp (Newport, R. I.) grandson of Mary Anna & Fayette Stepp.

*for all the families and loved ones of our service women and men; for all peace-keepers and peacemakers in families, communities and the world.*

## TODAY

**Youth** All youth are invited after worship to come meet Rachel (or get to know her better if you've already met) and get the ball rolling. Lunch is provided.

**GeNext** ~ After worship, all 4th and 5th graders are invited to join in some games, cooking and fun activities at Maxwell Street.

**UNIVERSITY MIXER** Following worship, all students, faculty, and staff of area colleges and universities are encouraged to stay following worship to get to know your Maxwell Street connections. A light, free lunch will be served.

**NADYA Book Group** meets at 6:00pm the home of Jason and Andrea Williams to discuss the first four chapters of Mike McHargue's book *Finding God in the Waves: How I Lost My Faith and Found It Again Through Science*.

## MAXWELL STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DIVERSITY • INCLUSION • MISSION

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Pastor Matt Falco

Associate Pastor Rachel Vankirk Mathews

Chair Director Kaitlin DeSpain

Organist & Bell Director Ted Gentry

Mission Outreach Coordinator Shelli Gregory

Director of Children's Ministry Michella Jones



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THIS WEEK

### MONDAY

10:30am Pastor's Coffee at Coffea

### TUESDAY

8:30am Sweet Blessings  
9:00am Staff Meeting  
7:00pm Centering Prayer  
8:00pm UKirk College Group

### WEDNESDAY

8:30am Church Breakfast  
10:30am Morning Kerygma  
5:45pm Children's Choirs  
5:45pm Dinner  
6:30pm Evening Kerygma  
6:30pm Chancel Choir  
7:30pm Westminster Bells

### THURSDAY

9:00am Canterbury Bells  
6:00pm Neighborhood Meal  
6:00pm Burnamwood Commission Meeting  
7:00pm Needles & Angels

### FRIDAY

6:00pm Kids' Night Out

### SATURDAY

9:00am Mahan Woodshop

**YOUTH GROUP** meets every Sunday after worship in the youth room upstairs until 2:00. If you're a middle schooler, grade 6, through high school we hope you'll join us for study, fun, and community engagement. Lunch and friends provided, just bring yourself!

**THE GREAT ROOM CLASS IS NOW "THE LEFT HAND OF GOD CLASS"** in the Marshall parlor, led by Douglas Ensminger, will explore "Process Relational Theology" and begin to unpack this approach to understanding God, Sin, Christ, the Bible and the Christian life. All inquiring minds are welcome. If you have not attended before we will be glad to add you to our conversation.

**FAITH PHARMACY SPAGHETTI DINNER** is Thursday, September 20 at 6pm at Hehman Hall, Cathedral of Christ the King (299 Colony Blvd). This annual fundraiser is a huge support for the organization. Tickets are \$16/adults; \$10 for UK students and children, ages 12 and under; or you may reserve a table of 8 with a bottle of wine for \$133. For tickets, contact Jordan Harra at [jordan.harra@uky.edu](mailto:jordan.harra@uky.edu) or 931-374-5611. All proceeds benefit Faith Pharmacy, a local non-profit pharmacy that helps those who cannot afford their medication. The pharmacy is located in Mission Lexington (230 S. Martin Luther King Blvd).

**LISTENING FOR GOD** Discussions centered on a wide variety of On Being podcasts. On Being is a public radio program hosted by Krista Tippett in which she interviews a wide range of people on a variety of meaningful topics. Transcripts will be available to be picked up the week before each Sunday discussion. Class meets in the Field Room at 9:30. Sept 23rd Class: Isabel Wilkerson: The Heart Is the Last Frontier

**NEEDLES & ANGELS** The Pieceful Haven Retreat is the last weekend in October, and it offers a great place to relax and work on projects. Total cost is \$80 (\$40/night) plus meals. If you'd like to participate in either of these, please contact Elise Kalika ( [elisekalika56@gmail.com](mailto:elisekalika56@gmail.com)). Mail deposit \$25 or full amount for the retreat to Elise (2192 Westmont Ct 40513).

**OUR COLLEGE FELLOWSHIP GROUP (UKirk)** meets every Tuesday night for conversation and food at 8:00pm in the Anderson Room off of the balcony. It's a great way to take a break from the routine and focus on your faith and spirituality.

**KIDS' NIGHT OUT** is Friday, September 21 from 6-9pm. It's a

chance for parents to have an evening out while the kids get to play games and have fun with the older youth of the church. This is a fundraiser for the Guatemala Mission Trip; please sign up through the office if you'd like to participate.

**CROP Walk** is September 30. Last year, \$9,000,000 was raised, and 107,000 people walked. Of 900 walks across the nation, Greater Lexington was in the top 10%. Join us Sunday afternoon (30th) at 3:30 for a 3 mile walk around historic Lexington as we team up with Second Presbyterian. Meet at Second Presbyterian's parking lot at 3:30. To pre-register or donate online, visit: [www.crophungerwalk.org/lexingtonky](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/lexingtonky). Together, we can help end hunger in our community and around the world.

**CHURCH BREAKFAST** ~ Join us in the Scout Room on Wednesday, September 19 at 8:30 for coffee, doughnuts, fellowship. Plus, come ready to hear from Sharron Townsend, who is currently working at EKU after many years with the Engineering Department at UK.

**THEOLOGY ON TAP** meets at Ethereal Brewing (1224 Manchester) on September 24 at 7pm. Join us for great conversation and drink.

**NEW MEMBERS CLASS** ~ On September 23rd, we are inviting individuals who are interested in becoming a member of Maxwell Street as well as recently joined members, to stay after worship to learn about Maxwell Street. We'll enjoy a light lunch, learn about programs at MSPC, get questions answered, take a tour of the facilities and much more.

**BLESSING OF THE PETS** is Saturday, September 29 at 10:00am. All are welcome to bring their pets to the Blevins Courtyard for this annual tradition. Questions, contact Matt at [matt@maxpres.org](mailto:matt@maxpres.org).

**DUTCH** is going to lunch at La Petite Creperie, 119 Marion (The Barn at the Summit) on Sunday, September 30 after worship.

**WORDS & WINE** is a small book group which offers fellowship food and friendship, along with interesting discussions of the latest works. Anyone is open to join the group. The next meeting is Friday, October 5 at 6:30 at the home of Toni Carter (3224 Drayton Place); they will discuss Barbara Kingslover's Prodigal Summer.

## Social Justice Ministry Network

**A Lunch and Learn** is scheduled for September 30 at 11:30. Join us as we discuss suggestions for **BUILD** this next year. BUILD is part of a national network of organizations that create positive community change by encouraging faith based groups to work together on large-scale challenges. The general concept is that faith based organizations don't have the financial power to influence these outcomes individually, but working together, we do have the people power to influence changes in civic structures that can improve our community.

With the help of community organizers, BUILD uses a process of "listening" to what our individual congregations are most concerned about in our community (what keeps us up at night). This is what we'll be discussing at the September meeting. Your Social Justice committee will also be seeking your input in deciding what additional Lunch and Learn topics we should be scheduling for the coming year.

## MISSION AT MAXWELL

**RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS** - For September, we will be collecting cleaning supplies for survivors of domestic violence that have stayed at Greenhouse 17 and are now moving into their own places. Items needed include:

- \* Laundry Baskets and Detergent
- \* Kitchen Size Trash Cans/Bags
- \* mops and mop buckets
- \* dish detergent/soap
- \* brooms and dustpans
- \* Household Cleaners... etc.

**THE FRIENDSHIP BOOK** can be found at the end of each pew. Please take the time to fill in your name, address, and phone. On the space at the end of the line, please be sure to sign up for any of the following, using more than one line if needed.

- A. Crop Walk
- B. New Members Class
- C. Social Justice Lunch and Learn
- D. Dutch
- E. NADYA Book Group
- F. Church Breakfast
- G. Theology on Tap