



ELEMENTS

BREAD

AIR

WATER

WOOD

STONE

WELCOME

- Greeting
- Announcements
- Minute for Presbyterian Women - Linda Ensminger presenting the Honorary Life Membership
- Prelude ~ *Carillon*—Philip M. Young
Westminster Bells

Entrance of the Light of Christ

We invite you to sign and pass the Fellowship Pad located at the end of your pew during the Prelude and then return it to the center aisle so that you can turn and greet one another during the Passing of the Peace.

CALL TO WORSHIP

- Lord, open my eyes,
so I might see the vision of your truth.
- Lord, open my ears,
and I will hear your word.
- Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

+HYMN 475 ~ *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

+CALL TO CONFESSION

+ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we confess that we often look back. We look back on mistakes we have made, work left undone, people we have hurt, and excuses we have made. We see these as things for which we feel guilty. We overwhelm ourselves with regret. Free us, O God, from self-condemnation that immobilizes us. Allow us to remember that you call us to look back, to remember those times of joy, to remember those people who were kind and compassionate, to remember that we did the best we were able to do, to remember that in Christ our past is transformed, to remember that you journey with us each day of our life. May we continue to grow in grace and truth. Hear now our silent prayers to you.

- Kyrie - Hymn 602 ~ *Holy Lamb of God*
Holy Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.
Holy Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.
Holy Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.
Grant us your peace. Grant us your peace. Grant us your peace.
- Assurance of Forgiveness
- Sung Response - Hymn 447 ~ *We Are Forgiven*
We are forgiven. (2x) Thanks be to God. (2x)
We are forgiven. (2x) Thanks be to God. (2x)
- Passing the Peace

CHILDREN'S CHOIR - *Grant, O God, Your Blessing*, Michael Bedford

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

BAPTISM OF DANIEL JACOBSON

Baby Daniel was born to Becca and Dean Jacobson on December 29, 2019. Becca teaches Language Arts at Beaumont Middle School. Dean is the Controller at Shaker Village. Assisting in the service is Becca's father, PC(USA) honorably-retired pastor Rev. Jim Gilbert.

HYMN 486 ~ *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* verses 1 and 4

PRAYER FOR OPENNESS TO GOD'S WORD

Inhabit our hearts, God of history, as you once inhabited human flesh. Be here among us with all of your wisdom, all of your power, all of your mercy, all of your love, that we might learn to be like God, from our God who came to be like us. Holy are you. Holy are we who are one with you forever. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING - John 3.1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life." For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

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

ANTHEM ~ *Lift Thine Eyes* from Elijah, Felix Mendelssohn
Women of the Chancel Choir

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes,
to the mountains, whence cometh,
whence cometh, whence cometh help.

Thy help cometh from the Lord,
the Maker of heaven and earth.
He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved.

Thy Keeper will never slumber,
will never slumber, never slumber.

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes,
to the mountains, whence cometh,
whence cometh, whence cometh help.
whence cometh, whence cometh,
whence cometh help.

SERMON ~ *The Wind Blows Where it Chooses* - Rev. Kristy Ehlert

+HYMN 292 ~ *As the Wind Song*

SHARING OF CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (debts/debtors)

STEWARDSHIP

• Call to Stewardship - Blessed to be a blessing. We believe Maxwell Street exists to bless others, and stewardship is an opportunity to consider what God has given to us to help "deliver the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper..." (from Ps. 72.10) Your generosity makes the ministry of our congregation possible. There are many ways to give including online, through direct withdrawal from your bank account, and by placing an offering in the plate. This time is an opportunity to reflect upon what you have been given, what you have given, and what God is inviting you to give in the future. Give thanks, for God is good.

• Offertory ~ *Le Onde*, L. Einaudi,
Robin Morrill, piano

• Doxology ~ Hymn 607 - *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

• Prayer of Dedication

+HYMN 645 ~ *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* verses 1, 3 and 4

+BENEDICTION

+BENEDICTION RESPONSE ~ Hymn 698 - *Take, O Take Me As I Am*

**Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

POSTLUDE ~ *Canzona*—Andrea Gabrielli

Welcome to Worship

Welcome to Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church, a congregation known for its focus on 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.

- **A Welcome Folder** is located in every pew. You are encouraged to either take it with you or use the link on the cover to download information about life at Maxwell Street.
- **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 Ministry**

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 tables are 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

Kristy Ehlert, Matt Falco, Linda Ensminger, Beth Wilson, Ted Gentry, Robin Morrill, Westminster Bells, and the Women of the Chancel Choir.

Reader

Cynthia Bruno

Acolyte

Samara Smith

Ushers

The ushers are Suzanne Burns, Cindy and Ralph Bollinger, Tim Costich, Tom Dixon, Greg Harper, and Alicia Hart.

Punch is served in the West Parlor. Also, the Girl Scouts welcome you in the punch parlor and will be sharing Girl Scout cookies. All are welcome.

The flowers are given to the glory of God by Alicia, Mark, Mason and Lauren Hart in remembrance of Alicia's mom's (Diane Becker's) birthday.

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

Emma Davenport, Jim Akin, Amanda Hale, Joy Malone, Rusty Haydon.

Nancy Gamble's sister - Tammy Dyer, Leah Buckley's mom - Jean Hartlove.

Congratulations to Rachel & Wes who welcomed their baby boy Benjamin on Tuesday, March 3! Everyone is healthy and doing great!

SERVICE WOMEN AND MEN

Jake Abernathie, grandson of Dorothy & Loren Tice USS Harry S Truman.

Trevor Anderson-Cooper (Naval Air Station, Falcon NV), son of Debra Anderson & Bill Cooper.

Tyler Buckley, son of Leigh Buckley.

Clark Gookin, (Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes IL)

son of Jill & Cliff Gookin.

Clayton Tyler - SOI (school of infantry) Camp Geiger in NC, brother of Jessica Lear.

Nathan Stepp (Everett, WA) grandson of Mary Anna & Fayette Stepp.

Griffin Rice

PEACEMAKERS AROUND THE WORLD

Valerie Rowles works for Relief International in countries of the Middle East.

Reina Slaymaker is working at Little Mountain School in Guatemala.

We give thanks for Marylynne Anderson - Cooper and Dylan who served as a Peace Corps volunteers in Tanzania.

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

MAXWELL STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DIVERSITY • INCLUSION • MISSION

180 E. Maxwell St. Lexington, KY 40508

PHONE 255.1074

WEB www.maxpres.org

Pastor Matt Falco

Associate Pastor Rachel VanKirk Mathews

Choir Director Beth Wilson

Organist & Bell Director Ted Gentry

Mission Outreach Coordinator Shelli Gregory

Director of Children's Ministry Michelle Jones

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

YOUTH meet in Fellowship Hall for youth group. Pick up is at 1:30.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE meets after worship in the Field Room.

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

10:30am Pastor's Coffee meets at Coffea
5:30pm Trustees meeting
6:00pm Al-Anon
7:00pm AA
7:00pm Session meeting

TUESDAY

8:30am Sweet Blessings
6:15pm Women's Support Group
6:30pm ACOA
6:30pm Centering Prayer
7:00pm UKirk Campus Group meets in the Anderson Room off of the balcony.
7:00pm AA

ASH WEDNESDAY

10:30am Kerygma
5:45pm Fellowship Dinner
5:45pm Children's Choir
6:30pm Chancel Choir
7:30pm Westminster Bells

THURSDAY

9:00am Canterbury Bells
6:00pm Neighborhood Meal
7:00pm AA
7:00pm Needles & Angels

SATURDAY

9:00am Mahan Woodshop
2:00pm AA

FAMILY LIFE ST. PATRICK'S DAY EVENT - The Family Life Committee invites you to attend a festive lunch, games and crafts in celebration of St. Patrick's Day on Sunday, March 15. Please sign up so we will have plenty of food and supplies.

MEAL TRAIN FOR RACHEL AND WES - Rachel and Wes Mathews have welcomed their baby boy and are in need of meals! If you'd like to help support them in this joyous and stressful time, please consider signing up to provide them with a meal in the month of March. Food will help them focus on recovery, rest, and baby snuggles in the first month. You can sign up to prepare a meal for them at <http://www.mealtrain.com/trains/g40lol>. Dietary restrictions, favorite meals, and delivery directions are included on the website. For any additional questions, you can contact Wesley at (256) 652-5253.

WEEKLY DINNER FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS - UKirk feeds 10-15 college students dinner a week. Gathering around nourishing, home-cooked meals is one of the greatest gifts Maxwell Street offers each college students each week. Thank you to all of those who have helped feed the college students in semesters past! If you are willing to cook or pick-up a meal to bring to the church on a Tuesday evening for UKirk or if you have questions, please contact Kate in the office (255-1074 or kate@maxpres.org) Thank you in advance!

UPDATE ADDRESS AND PHONE - If you move or change phone numbers, please contact Kate in the church office so the information may be updated. (kate@maxpres.org or 255-1074).

YOUTH LOCK IN is March 13-14. Youth gather Friday night at 7 for a fun night of games and fellowship. Please bring \$17 to cover costs.

THE NEXT EVERYBODY'S BREAKFAST is on March 18 at 8:30 am in the Scout Room. Betty Gabehart will be the speaker. Come for her presentation and for coffee and a doughnut \$1.

"NEW-ISH" TO MAXWELL STREET? We want to invite you to dinner on Saturday, March 28th from 6:00pm-8:00pm. Enjoy a good meal, get to know other Maxwell Streeters, and learn a bit more about what happens at Maxwell Street. Free! RSVP to Kate in the church office or by marking the pew pad when it comes by. Family-friendly and feel free to bring friends. Been around Maxwell Street awhile, but know someone who is new-ish? Invite them to come with you!

N.A.D.Y.A. BOOK GROUP is finishing *Born a Crime: Stories From a South African Childhood* by Trevor Noah on March 22 from 6-7:30pm at Jason and Andrea's house. Questions: contact Jason at jasonmckinleywilliams@gmail.com.

THEOLOGY ON TAP meets at Marikka's Restaurant & Bier Stube on Monday, March 23 at 7pm. The group is reading and discussing *Sabbath as Resistance* by Walter Brueggemann.

LENT 2020: ELEMENTS

The theme we'll be exploring this Lent "Elements" because in each of the scripture readings we'll be exploring, we'll examine a particular physical element of the story: Bread, Air, Water, Wood, and Stone. These "Elements" appear over and over again in scripture and play essential roles in shaping our faith and tradition.

LENTEN JOURNAL - This year, our Lenten Devotional will be a little different from your previous experiences of a devotional. We're inviting you to create a devotional of your own through the spiritual practice of journaling. We're going to provide a scripture passage and several questions to ponder, then ask you to write stream of consciousness style for just 10 minutes a day. To join the email list sign up below -- please include your name and email address. Happy Journaling!

LOVE LIFE, LIVE LENT for Children offers forty activities—one for each day of Lent—for elementary age (6-10 years old) readers or for a parent to use with them. The booklets are a great way for families to participate in Lent together. Michelle will have special prizes to coordinate with each week's activities. Join us for Sunday School to learn more!

EASTER EGG HUNT PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 5 All are invited to Palm Sunday Brunch in Fellowship Hall after worship on April 5. Following brunch, children of Maxwell (pre-K-5th grade) will get to "hunt" for Easter eggs that have been stuffed and hidden. Let's worship together, enjoy brunch and hunt for eggs!

MISSION OFFERINGS DURING LENT We come to worship each Sunday to connect with God and one another. It's also an opportunity to connect with our neighborhood friends. There are simple products that people need week in and week out, and our Mission Coordinator Shelli Gregory is able to help with those needs, unless her cupboard runs bare. You can place the suggested items in the drop-off containers in the Lobby outside the church office. If you miss a Sunday or get too rushed to pick up any items, you can always place a check in the offering plate and designate it for Lent Offering. This week we will be collecting the following items:

- Dish Detergent
- Laundry Detergent
- Toilet Paper
- Deodorant
- Household Cleaners
- Facial Tissue

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.

the following, using more than one line if needed.

1. Everybody's Breakfast - March 18
2. Lenten Journal (Name and email)
3. New to MPSC Dinner - March 28
4. Easter Egg Hunt/Brunch - April 5
5. Youth Lock In - March 13-14
6. St. Patrick's Day Family Life Event - March 15