

I've been
meaning
to ask...
are you hurting?

SUNDAY, JULY 18, 2021

MAXWELL STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
180 E. Maxwell St. Lexington, KY
www.maxpres.org



SIGN IN OR GIVE ONLINE

You can scan the QR code to the left with your smartphone or device to go directly to our sign in page and online giving portal.

We are so glad you are with us today. Sign in and let us know you are joining us, just like we previously did with the pew cards and pens. We also offer, easy, secure online giving. Your generosity is what makes our ministry and programming possible at MSPC. Thank you!

WELCOME

- GREETING
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- PRELUDE - *Standing on the Promises*, arr. James Kimball
Handbell quartet: Lauren Falco, Vange Lear, Janet Lumppp, Robin Morrill

CALL TO WORSHIP

Here in this space, we wear our hearts on our sleeves.

There is no use in filters or walls.

This space is an authentic space.

This space is a brave space.

For when it comes to God, we are always invited to bring our full selves into the room.

So come into this space with your hurt and your joy, your prayers and your dreams.

All of God's children are welcome here.

Let us worship God.

+ HYMN 2 - *Come Thou, Almighty King*

*Please feel free to interchange Father, Mother, Parent, Spirit as you would like.

+ CALL TO CONFESSION

+ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Side 1: I've been meaning to ask...

Side 2: How are you? What has your year been like? Did you know that I have been thinking of you? I have been meaning to ask...

Side 1: Is your mom okay? Did your sister find a job? Did you ever think we'd still be here? I've been meaning to ask...

Side 2: Did it get easier? Did the grief subside? Were you ever able to sleep at night?

I've been meaning to ask...

Both sides: but I haven't—

Side 1: Because it's hard.

Side 2: Because I want to say the right thing.

Side 1: Because I'm not sure what you need.

Side 2: I've been meaning to ask, so I'm sorry for my silence.

Side 1: Forgive me. May I ask, are you hurting?

Both sides: Let's start again. Hear now our silent prayers.

- ASSURANCE OF PARDON

- GLORIA PATRI - Hymn 581 ~ *Glory Be to the Father*

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 THE PEACE

As we resume passing the peace, we ask you to notice how those around you want to share the peace. It might be a handshake, a bow, a simple head nod, or the classic peace sign. Let us mindfully extend the peace we have received to those around us.

PRAYER FOR OPENNESS

Holy God, Dust off our ears and stretch open the canvases of our hearts and the imaginations of our minds, so that in our longing, our dreams, our pain, our hope... we might lean upon one another as we lean into you. Pull us close. We are listening. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - 1 Samuel 1.1-18

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANTHEM - *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*, arr. Lipscomb

Jonathan Adkins, Olivia Hubbard, Mason O'Brien, Emma Scott, choir

Beth Wilson, Choir Director

SCRIPTURE READING - Luke 24.13-35

SERMON - "*I've been meaning to ask... are you hurting?*" - Rev. Matt Falco

+ HYMN 435 - *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Hymn 851 - *Come, Bring Your Burdens to God*

Please note: Choir will sing once, then congregation repeat twice.

Come, bring your burdens to God;
come, bring your burdens to God;
come, bring your burdens to God,
for Jesus will never say no.

Come, bring your burdens to God;
come, bring your burdens to God;
come, bring your burdens to God,
for Jesus will never say no.

Leader:
Come, bring your burdens;
O come, bring your burdens;
O come, bring your burdens.
Jesus will never say no.

Come, bring your burdens;
O come, bring your burdens;
O come, bring your burdens.

STEWARDSHIP

- OFFERTORY ~ *His Eye is on the Sparrow*, Charles Gabriel

+ DOXOLOGY - Hymn 607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise Christ, all people here below;

praise Holy Spirit evermore;

praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

- CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

The Christian life is marked by the offering of one's self to God. In worship, God presents us with the costly self-offering of Jesus Christ, who has claimed us and set us free. In response to God's love in Christ we offer our lives, our gifts, our abilities, and our material goods for God's service. *The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, The world, and those who live in it. (Psalm 24:1)*

- PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+ **HYMN 749** - *Come! Live in the Light!*

+ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

- **RESPONSE** - Hymn 175 - *Seek Ye First* (verses 1 and 2)
Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, Alleluia!
Ask, and it shall be given unto you; Seek, and you shall find;
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE ~ *Postlude-Cantique*, Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Like any gathering place, a church has a personality. Our historic building and beautiful sanctuary embody the spirit of tradition, yet our Sunday morning services are frequently punctuated by laughter. Diversity, inclusion, and mission are the heartbeat of our church family. We reach out and embrace everyone regardless of socioeconomic status, race, or sexual orientation. MSPC also witnesses to God's love as we stand with the marginalized and advocate for social justice.

At MSPC, you're sure to find someone like you: college students, singles, boomers, retirees, and children and families of all descriptions. You can also find space here to recharge, linger in the depth of message and music, and connect with others who readily accept you and rejoice in varied opportunities to be the church together. 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.
- An elevator is located in the Education Building for your convenience.
- **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.

+ **Indicates that the congregation is invited to stand in body and/or in spirit.**

WAYS TO LEARN MORE

Please visit www.maxpres.org for details about our ministries for all ages and interests. We also have an active facebook page - www.facebook.com/maxpres and instagram - @maxpreschurch. If you would like to be added to our Friday email which has information about what is going on in the life of the church, you may do so at: www.maxpres.org. If you have questions, a pastor will be happy to talk with you at your convenience; simply call the church office at (859) 255-1074, 9am-4:30pm Monday-Thursday, 9am -1:30pm Friday

JOYS & CONCERNS

Graceson Olive, Doug Stretch, Anna Wethington, Julia Switzer, Craig Wilkie, Keller Campbell, Ron & Georgia Bacquet's son-in-law(Michael), Smith/Maines family, Billy Porter's family, Allen Gayheart's brother (Robert) & sister, Rowena's friend (Lynn).

PARTICIPANTS

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Matt Falco, Rev. Rachel VanKirk Mathews, Ted Gentry, Beth Wilson, Devon Bowling

Handbell quartet: Lauren Falco, Vange Lear, Janet Lumppp, Robin Morrill

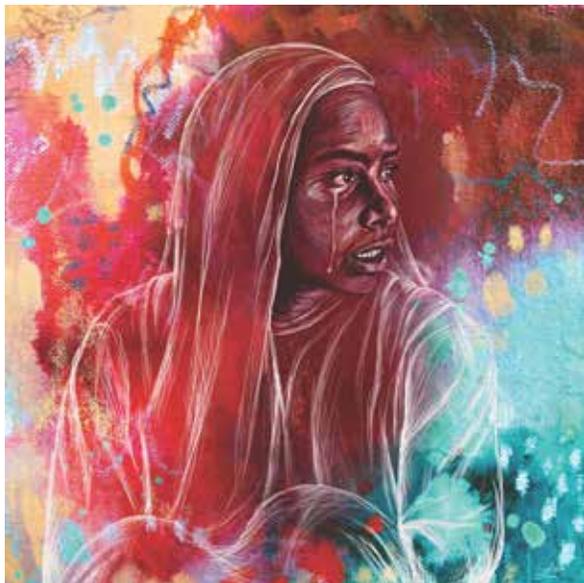
USHERS: Grace Goulson, Lauren Falco, John Shaw, Allen Gay, Tracey Bruno, Lon and Angela Keith, Ralph Bollinger

ACOLYTE: Theo Meads

CHOIR: Jonathan Adkins, Olivia Hubbard, Mason O'Brien, Emma Scott

VIDEO AND SOUND CREW: Rich Copley, Jim Lumppp, Kevin Moore, Bill Smith

GRAPHIC DESIGN: Marrienne Russell



COVER ARTWORK // FROM SERIES I've Been Meaning to Ask...

Seen

by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Inspired by 1 Samuel 1:1-18

Digital painting with mixed media collage

When I first started creating art for this series, I began by painting a collection of small abstract pieces using acrylic paint, pastel, and graphite. I cut small squares of canvas, taped them down to my art table, and began painting—moving intuitively from one piece to the next. My goal was to capture the emotional landscape of courageous conversations. The colors represent moments of warmth and connection, as well as dissonance and contrast. Like our voices, each hue bleeds into the next. The marks and textures evoke the rhythm of dialogue—rambling, sputtering, persuasive, bold. In these visual orchestras, I see fluidity and possibility. After I took photos of each painting, I used my stylus and iPad to digitally draw imagery inspired by each scripture—placing my subjects in the midst of these emotional landscapes. In Hannah, I see a woman who has been mocked, shamed, diminished, and ignored. However, she refuses to be silenced. In the presence of her pain, she grits her teeth, pours her heart out before God, and insists that we see her: “Just look at my pain and remember me!” (1 Samuel 1:11) I decided to render her body as fading into the scene to symbolize the invisibility she feels, and also the vulnerable transparency she exudes. When I look at this image, I remember when I have been Peninnah. Whose pain have I mocked? I remember when I have been Elkanah. Whose pain have I questioned? I remember when I have been Eli. Whose pain have I dismissed? And then I remember when I have been Hannah, and I look for who is screaming in my own midst. Where does it hurt? When I ask this question, I'll remember to also say: “I see you.”

—Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPONSORING FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP

Would you like to sponsor the flowers for the worship services? It's simple and easy. You can also sign up online at: www.maxpres.org/flowers or sign up on the bulletin board in the education lobby.

NEW(ISH) MEMBERS CLASS AUGUST 1 & AUGUST 8

Interested in joining or becoming a member of Maxwell Street? Already joined but would like to meet new people? Join us for a luncheon following worship on August 1st and August 8th following worship in the Library on the Sanctuary level of the church. Children welcome, too! Learn a little about the church and get to meet other Maxwell Streeters. RSVP to Matt (matt@maxpres.org) or by Sign-Up Genius.

THE NURSERY IS BACK!

Infants and children up to age 5 are invited to come down to the nursery as early as 10:00am. Children under the age of 5 can also be escorted to the nursery after the children's message. Children between the ages of 3 and 5 will be encouraged to wear a mask. Contact Tina Durbin (tina@maxpres.org) or Matt (matt@maxpres.org) if you have questions.

MAXWELL STREET PARK DAY

Today after worship

Something for every age- lunch, live music, card games, board games, the playground, and disc golf! Drop-in to Shillito Park to share a meal, fellowship, and play around with your Maxwell Street family. The deacons hope, whatever your age, if you have children or don't, you will feel welcome to come sit awhile, listen to music, play cards or games or play on the playground. Maxwell Street will provide fried chicken and a vegan bean salad. Let your deacon or Rachel know if you're willing to bring something to share. Or, feel free to bring your own lunch!

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

SUNDAY August 8 Children, teachers, and school staff are encouraged to bring their bags or backpacks to the worship service, and Pastor Matt will have a special blessing as kids and teachers prepare to return to school. Please join us as we prepare to start a great school year!

RALLY SUNDAY, AUGUST 29 THE BEGINNING OF THE CHURCH YEAR!

Sunday school classes, youth group, choir and bells, and more begin this Sunday at Maxwell Street. Church programming and the Liturgical Calendar (the annual seasons of the church like Advent and Lent) run very similarly to the school calendar. As you settle back into your routine as summer winds down, join us for Rally Sunday to celebrate the beginning of another year of programming and worship together!

FALL ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Starting Sunday, August 22nd, 9:00am, Marshall Parlor
Paul's Letter to the Romans

When Paul wrote Romans, his back was against the wall. Vicious charges against him and his gospel had already reached Rome. His claim to be an apostle was weak. He had never known Jesus in the flesh; never heard Jesus speak beside the sea; never been one of the twelve disciples. Moreover, for a time he had vigorously persecuted the church. So some felt his claim to be an apostle was a fraud. Paul's letter to Christians in Rome is his most impassioned plea to live the life of faith. Over the course of 9 Sundays, we'll learn about Paul and study this letter that has shaped, for good and for bad, many of the most influential theologians since it was written. (If you would like the option to attend online, please let Matt know and he will be happy to make arrangements.)

2 Come, Thou Almighty King

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy
 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful,
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred
 4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal

name to sing; help us to praise:
 might - y Lord, our prayer at - tend.
 wit - ness bear in this glad hour.
 prais - es be, hence ev - er - more!

Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
 Come, and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy word suc - cess;
 Thou who al - might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,
 Thy sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,"

come, and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.
 and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power.
 and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore."

The author of this Trinitarian text is unknown, but this hymn has proved popular since the middle of the 18th century, partly because of its effective use of biblical metaphors, but also because of the strength of this tune, which was composed especially for these words.

435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy, like the wide-ness
 2 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures

of the sea. There's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice,
 of the mind. And the heart of the E-ter-nal

which is more than lib-er-ty. There is no place where earth's
 is most won-der-ful-ly kind. If our love were but more

sor-rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place
 faith-ful, we would glad-ly trust God's Word, and our lives re-

where earth's fail-ings have such kind-ly judg-ment given.
 flect thanks-giv-ing for the good-ness of our Lord.

These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

Come, Bring Your Burdens to God 851

Woza nomthwalo wakho

Leader
(no.)
Come, bring your bur - dens; O

All
Come, bring your bur - dens to God; come, bring your
Wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom -
come, bring your bur - dens; O come, bring your bur - dens.
bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for
thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho U -
(except last time)
Je - sus will nev - er say
Je - sus will nev - er say no.
ye - s' a - ka - so - za - thi hayi.

A great strength of music from southeastern Africa is that it usually emerges from communal life, and in singing such songs we unite our sung prayers with those of the people who created them. This one is based on the singing of the Mooiplaas congregation in South Africa.

607

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of chords and single notes. The lyrics are written below the top staff.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple

TEXT: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551
Text © 1990 Neil Weatherhogg

OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

749 Come! Live in the Light!

We Are Called



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,



to be light for the king - dom, to live in the
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and



free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 vio - lence will be no more.
 broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

175

Seek Ye First

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia,

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God
 2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you;
 3 You shall not live by bread a - lone,

al - le - lu - ia,

and its righ - teous - ness,
 seek, and you shall find;
 but by ev - ery word

The author and composer wrote the first stanza and folk-style tune after attending a Bible study on Matthew 6:33. The later stanzas, based respectively on Matthew 7:7 and Matthew 4:4 emerged anonymously. Such meditative singing of scripture is an important form of sung prayer.

al - le - lu - ia,

and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you.
 knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you.
 that pro - ceeds from the mouth of God.

al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

SPANISH

1 *Busca primero el reino de Dios
 y su perfecta justicia,
 que lo demás lo añadirá el Señor.
 Alelu, aleluya.*

KOREAN

1 너희는 먼저- 주의 나라와
 그의를 구하-면
 이모든것 내게 더하시리라
 알렐-루 알렐루야