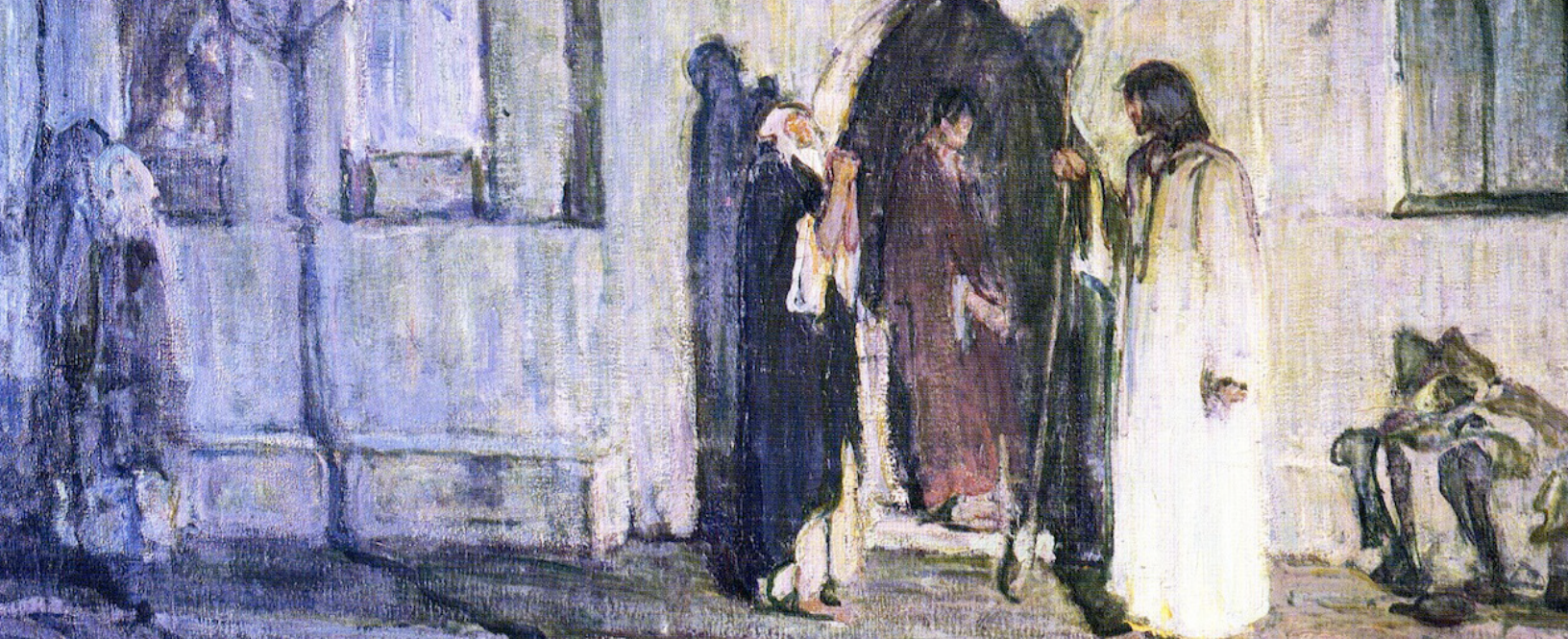




# SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

MAXWELL STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
180 E. Maxwell St. Lexington, KY  
[www.maxpres.org](http://www.maxpres.org)

Today's bulletin art is, "Christ with the Canaanite Woman and Her Daughter" by Henry Ossawa Tanner (1859-1937), 1909. Born to an African Methodist Episcopal bishop father, Tanner became the first African-American painter to gain international acclaim.

## INTROIT 411 - "God Is Here Today (first time in English, second time in Spanish)

God is here today;  
as certain as the air I breathe,  
as certain as the morning sun that rises,  
as certain when I sing you'll hear my song.

Dios está aquí,  
tan cierto como el aire que respiro,  
tan cierto como la mañana se levanta,  
tan cierto como que le canto y me puede oír.

## GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** - Agincourt Hymn, John Dunstable (c.1370-1435). This hymn was written to celebrate a British victory over the French during the Hundred Years War. The text praises God and includes the Deo Gracias refrain (Thanks be to God).

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

**Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.**

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

**Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.**

The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

**Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.**

Let us worship God together!

+ **HYMN 611** - Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

## + CONFESSION & PARDON

Loving God, You have shown us Your great mercy and compassion and we have responded to You with faith and worship. We are all different people and have come from different places, yet through the gift of Your Holy Spirit, we are all known as Yours. We confess that we have not been as generous with our love or grace as You call us to be. We have classed those who are Your beloved children as different, as foreign, as those not worthy to receive our love. We have placed limits on our compassion and have been jealous of our resources. Through this service today may we hear Your voice more clearly, and may our inclusive and expansive love bring a glimpse of You to those who need to see You most. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

- ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

- RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS: 581- Gloria Patri

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### PRAYER FOR OPENNESS

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

### SCRIPTURE READING - Isaiah 56.1, 6-8 OT pg 634 (NRSVUE)

Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant— these I will bring to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel: I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us

ALL: **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

### ANTHEM - *How Great Thou Art*, Drew Palus, piano

### SCRIPTURE READING - Matthew 15.21-28 NT pg 17 (NRSVUE)

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

### SERMON - "Make Them Joyful" - Rev. Matt Falco

### + STATEMENT OF FAITH - From The Belhar Confession

We believe... that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world; (...and) that any teaching which attempts to legitimate such forced separation by appeal to the gospel, and is not prepared to venture on the road of obedience and reconciliation, but rather, out of prejudice, fear, selfishness and unbelief, denies in advance the reconciling power of the gospel, must be considered ideology and false doctrine.

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

### OFFERING

- OFFERTORY - *Great is Thy Faithfulness*, text in Hymnal No. 39. Lyrics written by Kentucky native, Thomas O. Chisholm in 1923 with music composed by his friend, William Runyan.

- + • DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessing flow Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

- + • PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### + HYMN 761 - *Called As Partners in Christ's Service*

### + CHARGE & BENEDICTION

**+ BENEDICTION RESPONSE** - Hymn 372, *O For A World* (verses 1 and 5)

O for a world where everyone  
respects each other's ways,  
where love is lived and all is done  
with justice and with praise.

O for a world preparing for  
God's glorious reign of peace,  
where time and tears will be no more,  
and all but love will cease.

**POSTLUDE** - *Toccata in G*, William Hieronymous Pachelbel (1686-1764, son of Johann)

Please join us in the Punch Parlor after worship in the West Parlor for conversation and community.

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**JOYS & CONCERNS**

Nancy Field, Greg Harper, Kenny Leatherman, Carolyn Hale, Kenny Way, Kaye Morgan's son-in-law, Harry John's borthor, Susan Carey's husband, Noah Hall's father.

**PARTICIPANTS**

WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Matt Falco, Katie Whaley, Dr. Ted Gentry

USHERS: Tracy Bruno, Sarah Kercsmar, Lauren Falco, Jim Olive

VIDEO AND SOUND CREW: Rich Copley, Jim Lumppp, Bill Smith, Jay Vessels, Jonah Falco

*Today's flowers are given by Harry and Rowena Johnson in celebration of Rowena's birthday.*

*Punch is generously provided by the Herron-Meads Family.*

**Revised Common Lectionary Readings for August 16, 2026**

First Reading and Psalm: Genesis 45.1-15 and Psalm 133

Alternate First Reading and Psalm: Isaiah 56.1 & 6-8 and Psalm 67

Second Reading: Romans 11.1-2a, 29-32

Gospel: Matthew 15.10-20, 21-28

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

Welcome to Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church. We're so glad you've chosen to be with us today for worship. This bulletin will be a helpful guide to our service, but here is some additional information we hope will help you feel at home. Maxwell Street Presbyterian is a More Light Congregation. More Light Presbyterians are dedicated to allowing the full participation of LGBTQIA+ people in the life, ministry, and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in society. We strive to use inclusive language that reflects the beauty of God's diversity. You are welcome here, and you are loved.

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

**BOLD TEXT indicates that you are invited to join the congregation in unison.**

- A Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church App is available from the Apple and Google App Stores. This App will enable you to register your attendance, make an offering online, and more. You can scan the QR code to the right to access the app. You can also sign in via the app.
- Please be aware that today's service is being live-streamed and recorded. Portions of the service, including video and audio, may be shared online. By attending, you acknowledge that your image and/or voice may appear in these recordings.
- LARGE PRINT BIBLES, BULLETINS, and HYMNS are available from the ushers.
- Hearing help is available with a personal amplification device from the ushers.
- For your convenience, an elevator is located in the Lobby off the parking lot/playground.
- WIFI - Router Name: Maxwell - ORBI38 Password: maxpres180
- Accessible restrooms are on the main level and basement level. Baby changing stations are in the basement restrooms or nursery.

**Ways To Learn More**

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



Download the Maxwell Street App  
Scan this code with your smartphone or device

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### **Sunday, August 16**

9:30am - Adult Sunday School  
9:30am - Third Space Sunday  
10:30am - Worship  
11:00am - Faith & Science Lesson  
4:00pm - Youth Group Kick Ball Kick Off

### **Monday, August 17**

5:30pm - Worship Committee  
7:00pm - Deacons

### **Wednesday, August 19**

6:30pm - Chancel Choir  
7:00pm - Social Justice Committee

### **Thursday, August 20**

5:30pm - Thursday Night Meal

### **Saturday, August 22**

12:00pm - Stitchmates

### **Sunday, August 23**

9:30am - Adult Sunday School  
10:30am - Worship  
11:00am - First Day of Sunday School  
11:30am - GeNext  
11:30am - Youth Group

## MISSION

### **August Random Act of Kindness Diaper Drive for The Nest**

During August, the Mission Committee is collecting diapers for The Nest, a Lexington non-profit assisting struggling families with their babies. All diaper sizes are welcome, however, sizes 4, 5 and 6 diapers are especially needed. Wipes are also welcome! Donations can be brought to the church office throughout August.

## FELLOWSHIP

### **MSPC Young Adults Group**

#### **Friday, August 27th, 7:00pm**

The Young Adults of Maxwell Street meet monthly for conversations of fellowship and faith. They will be meeting on August 27th at Helen & John's home at 7pm. For more details and to join the fun, please contact Helen (richelenson@gmail.com).

## CHANCEL CHOIR

### **Begins Wednesday, August 19th**

The Chancel Choir sings an anthem in most worship services. Included in this Fall's repertoire will be the Faure Requiem. If you enjoy singing, please consider choir even if you have never sung in any choir before. We rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30. Questions? Email Ted (ted@maxpres.org).

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### **Faith & Science**

#### **Sunday, August 16th**

Join us after the Children's Message for some fun science experiments and how they relate to our growing faith.

### **Sunday School Start Date**

#### **Sunday, August 23rd**

Save the date for the return of Sunday School! Our Children's Programming starts back on August 23rd directly after the Children's Message in worship. All children, Pre-K through 5th grade, are welcome. For more information, please contact Ms. Michelle.

### **GeNext**

#### **August 23rd, After Worship**

GeNext will also return on August 23rd. We will meet after worship in the Fellowship Hall. GeNext is a space for 4th and 5th graders to get to know each other and prepare for Youth Group.

## YOUTH GROUP

### **Youth Kickball Kick Off**

#### **Sunday, August 16th**

We are kicking off the new Youth Group year with our annual Youth vs. Parents Kickball game on August 16th at 4:00pm. Please RSVP via the youth website. For more information on Youth Group, RSVP to Youth Events, and view the Youth Group Calendar, please visit [www.maxpres.org/youth](http://www.maxpres.org/youth)

## UKIRK CAMPUS MINISTRY

### **Starting Wednesday, August 26th**

Welcome back College students! We will have weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 7:00pm starting on August 26th. UKirk provides professional support, empowerment, and community for those engaged in campus ministry. UKirk is available to all college students or students pursuing a higher degree. UKirk often participates in book discussions, relaxing crafts, and shares a meal as a community. For more information, please contact Matt (matt@maxpres.org).

## ENDOWMENT GRANT REQUESTS

### **Requests Due October 10th**

The Maxwell Street Endowment supports church programs and missions beyond the annual budget. Last year, we awarded twelve grants totaling over \$60,000, to various programs and missions, including a vehicle for our Guatemalan mission partner. We invite you to recommend worthy programs or projects for funding this year. Priority is given to MSPC-supported programs. If you are interested, please provide a written or email request with justification not later than October 10, 2026, so that the Committee will be able to give due consideration to your request. The awards will be announced at the annual meeting, November 2, 2025. Questions or submissions? Contact Jim Gardner at [jameswilsongardner@gmail.com](mailto:jameswilsongardner@gmail.com).