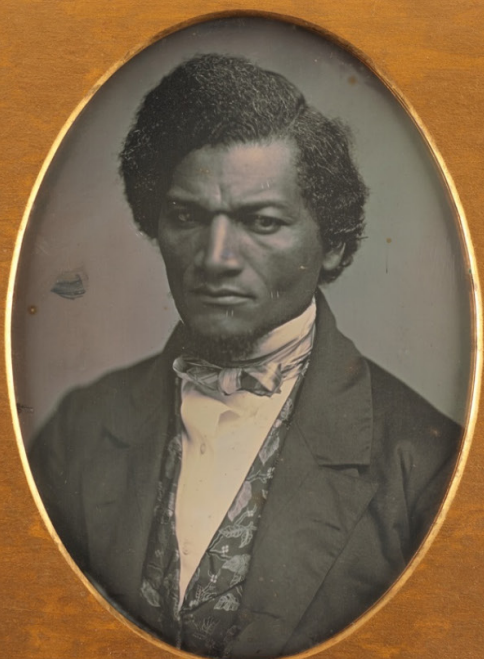




SUNDAY, JULY 5

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

From left to right: Frederick Douglass, daguerreotype portrait taken by Samuel J. Miller, 1847-1852. Emma Lazarus, portrait by Allison Adams. bell hooks, photo by Margaret Thomas for The Washington Post, 1999.

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 - *Sortie on National Hymn*, Kamiki Smith (1934-2015)

CALL TO WORSHIP - Based on Psalm 145.8-13

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you.

They shall speak of the glory of God's kingdom, and tell of God's power,

to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of God's kingdom.

God's kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and God's dominion endures throughout all generations.

+ HYMN 331 - *God of the Ages*

+ CONFESSION & PARDON

Creator of all things good, on this weekend that we celebrate our nation's independence, we confess our failings and the ways that we have fallen short of who you call us to be. We have enslaved others in pursuit of our own prosperity. We have used our military and national resources for political gain rather than for peace. We have closed off our borders to those most in need of refuge and help. Forgive us, O God. Help us to remember the fullness of our history, to repent of what has harmed your children, and to work so that the actions and values of our nation reflect your love for the whole world, and not only for ourselves. Listen now as we offer 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

God of abundant life, your grace is our daily bread. Nourish us by your Word and fill us with your Spirit so that we may grow in faith and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - Matthew 11.27-30 NT pg 11 (NRSVUE)

OFFERING

- INVITATION
- OFFERTORY - *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*, Dodd Lamberton, Chancel Choir, for text see No. 377 in the hymnal

SERMON - "Independence, Freedom, Welcome, and Love"

Jesus said, **"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."**

+ STATEMENT OF FAITH - From The Barmen Declarations 8.16-18

"Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body [is] joined and knit together." (Eph. 4:15-16.)

The Christian Church is the congregation of the [kindred] in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord in Word and Sacrament through the Holy Spirit. As the church of pardoned sinners, it has to testify in the midst of a sinful world, with its faith as with its obedience, with its message as with its order, that it is solely his property, and that it lives and wants to live solely from his comfort and from his direction in the expectation of his appearance.

We reject the false doctrine, as though the church were permitted to abandon the form of its message and order to its own pleasure or to changes in prevailing ideological and political convictions.

+ HYMN 338 - *O Beautiful, For Spacious Skies*

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Response 559 - *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Response 560 - *Christ Has Died; Christ Has Risen*

THE LORD'S PRAYER (DEBTS & DEBTORS)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The congregation is invited to come forward to take a piece of bread and dip it in the cup. There is gluten-free bread on the table. If you would prefer to receive Communion in your pew, an elder or deacon will serve you. After consuming the bread and the cup and returning to your seat, turn your mind to what God is inviting you to consider in this moment of stillness.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourishing God, thank you for inviting us to your table where all are welcome, and for feeding us with the bread of life and quenching our thirst with the cup of blessing. As you have filled our lives with love and hope, may we be a source of your love and hope for others who hunger and thirst for good news. Amen.

COMMISSIONING OF THE MSPC YOUTH GROUP

+ HYMN 378 - *We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom*

+ 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 on "America"*, Douglas J. Benton (b. 1948)

The flowers are given to the glory of God by Gretchen Bishay.

*In leui of punch this week, please join us for the Independence Day Potluck. If the weather cooperates, we will
congregate in the back courtyard, but if not we will be in the Fellowship Hall.*

JOYS & CONCERNS

Nancie Field, John Cantrell, Greg Harper, Kenny Leatherman, Carolyn Hale, Martin Hendrix's mother; Kenny Way, Kaye Morgan's son-in-law; Emmie, Debra Anderson's niece, Alicia Hart, Robin Morrill's mother Donna Leath, Noah Hall's father, Wayne.

PARTICIPANTS

WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Matt Falco, Janet Kalika Rob Wethington, Luke Morgan, Emma Stowe, Janet Lumppp, Dr. Ted Gentry, Chancel Choir

USHERS: Katie Whaley (Head Usher), Sharron Townsend, Tony Sidor, Ann Farrer

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

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for July 5, 2026

First Reading and Psalm: Genesis 24.34-38, 42-49, 58-67 and Psalm 45.10-17 or Song of Solomon 2.8-13

Alternate First Reading and Psalm: Zechariah 9.9-12 and Psalm 145.8-14

Second Reading: Romans 7.15-25a

Gospel: Matthew 11.16-19, 25-30

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.



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

Children Ministry (things are a little different during the Summer - regular Sunday School will resume in August)

Infant to 1st grade 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. Children are welcome in worship during the summer. We will have activities available in the Narthex.

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. 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. 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, July 5

9:30am - Adult Sunday School

10:00am - Summer Choir

10:30am - Worship

11:45am - Independence Day Potluck

Monday, July 6

7:00pm - Session

Thursday, July 9

5:30pm - Thursday Night Meal

Friday, July 10

6:30pm - Words & Wine

Saturday, July 11

12:00pm - Stitchmates

Sunday, July 12

9:30am - Adult Sunday School

10:30am - Worship

11:45am - After Worship Conversation

INDEPENDENCE DAY WORSHIP & PICNIC POTLUCK

TODAY, Sunday, July 5th, after worship

As the nation celebrates its 250th birthday, we'll remember the values that we hope will shape us as a nation. In worship, we'll hear the words from the Declaration of Independence, Emma Lazarus, Frederick Douglass, and Wendell Berry that remind us that the story of our nation is a small part of the much larger story of God's love for all. We'll also sing hymns that remind us of the blessings God has given us as a nation. Also, bring a dish to share for an Independence Day picnic potluck following worship. If the weather is nice, we'll set up tables in the courtyard and have fun activities for the kids. If it's just too hot or rainy, we'll be in the Fellowship Hall.

FELLOWSHIP

Words & Wine

Friday, July 10, 6:30pm

Words & Wine book club will be meeting on Friday, July 10th, hosted by Debbie Acker. The group will be discussing their book for July, "*Bel Canto*" by Ann Patchett. Can't make July, but want to read their next book? The group we reconvene in August to discuss "*The Academy*" by Elin Hilderbrand. For more information about Words & Wine, please contact Lauren Falco (laurenefalco@yahoo.com).

In need of hymns that have a bit more ease of reading? Copies of large print hymns are now available. If you would like copies, please ask your usher on Sunday mornings before worship.

MSPC SUMMER READ

Join us in reading "This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberations, and the Stories That Make Us", by Cole Arthur Riley. We're going to read it together this summer, and this year, we're going to use our MSPC App as a place for shared conversation about the book. If you'd like to join the virtual reading group, email Matt at matt@maxpres.org. We'll read two chapters per week.

AFTER WORSHIP CONVERSATIONS

This is a great summer opportunity to visit with Matt and others after worship. Grab punch and head to the Johnston Parlor for conversation about that Sunday's sermon, being Presbyterian, the Summer Read, or whatever else the Spirit might invite us to consider.

SANCTUARY SAFETY

You may have noticed new signs on the sanctuary doors indicating that bags are subject to search. Ushers have been trained to ask to inspect large bags to try to help ensure a weapon is not being brought into the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask an Usher or Matt.

MISSION

June Random Act of Kindness

Where does the time fly? The kids are going back to school next month. We are gathering school supplies and backpacks. Although we don't have the official list yet, based on past experience, we will likely need pencils, pencil cases, headphones, tissues, disinfectant, crayons, markers, notebooks, folders.

E7 Car Wash Fundraiser

Is your vehicle looking a bit grimy? Does it require a revitalizing wash? Allow the E7 kids to bring back the sparkle to your car! Come show your support at the E7 Summer Camp Car Wash on July 20th from 12-2pm at Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church.

LARGE PRINT HYMNS NOW AVAILABLE!