



SUNDAY, MAY 10

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

In celebration of Mother's Day, this week's bulletin art is a painting by Nigerian artist, Njideka Akunyili Crosby (b. 1983) titled "Still You Bloom in This Land of No Gardens", 2021.

Welcome to Maxwell Street! We hope you will consider wearing a nametag so that we might get to know one another better. They can be found in the lobbies outside the sanctuary. You can find more helpful information inside this bulletin.

INTROIT 692 - *Spirit, Open My Heart (sing twice)*
Spirit, open my heart, to the joy and pain of living.
As you love, may I love, in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE - *The Rejoicing*, G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to celebrate the God of wonder and majesty!

Awesome God, help us to worship you in spirit and in truth.

We gather to celebrate Jesus Christ, who was dead and buried, and now risen indeed!

Jesus, renew our hope in your great power and love.

We gather to celebrate the Holy Spirit, our promised comforter and guide!

Come Holy Spirit! Fill us with your presence and peace.

We gather to celebrate the ancient hope of Christians:

God is with us and will never let us go.

+ **HYMN 405** - *Praise God for This Holy Ground*

+ **CONFESSION & PARDON**

Ever-present God, we come before you knowing we have ignored your promised Holy Spirit living within us. Therefore, we forfeit peace and bear needless worry. We become confused and deaf to your voice of truth. We struggle with obedience to your Word and fight an overwhelming sense of loneliness. Forgive us! Help us to remember that we are never alone, that you are with us and for us, by the power of your Spirit abiding in us, the Spirit of Jesus the Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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:** Hymn 588 *Alleluia!*

Alleluia, Alleluia! **Alleluia, Alleluia!** (repeats 4 times)

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR OPENNESS

Come Holy Spirit! As the Scriptures are read and the Word proclaimed, bear witness to the truth in our hearts and minds, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - Acts 17.22-31 NT pg 137 (NRSVUE)

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.'

Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.

ANTHEM - *I Will Arise*, Alice Parker and Robert Shaw, Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING - John 14.15-21 NT pg 108 (NRSVUE)

If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.

SERMON - "Closer Than You Think", Rev. Matt Falco

+ **STATEMENT OF FAITH** - from The PC(USA) Study Catechism

Question 54: What do you believe when you confess your faith in the Holy Spirit? **Apart from the Holy Spirit, our Lord can neither be loved, nor known, nor served. The Holy Spirit is the personal bond by which Jesus Christ unites us to himself, the teacher who opens our hearts to Christ, and the comforter who leads us to repentance, empowering us to live in Christ's service. As the work of the one Holy Spirit, our love, knowledge, and service of Christ are all inseparably related.**

+ **HYMN 282** - *Come Down, O Love Divine*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

• OFFERTORY - *Ave Maria*, J. S. Bach (1685-1750) & Charles Gounod (1818-1893)

+ • 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 29** - *O God, You Search Me*

+ **CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

+ BENEDICTION RESPONSE - Hymn 80, *You Shall Go Out With Joy (The Trees of the Field)*
**You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands, while you go out with joy.**

POSTLUDE - *Trumpet Tune in F*, Roy Brunner (1945-2024)

*Join us in the Punch Parlor after worship at the rear of sanctuary for conversation and community.
Punch is generously provided by the Herron-Meads Family.*

JOYS & CONCERNS

Adam Boldt, Nancy Field, Susan Neill, Joan Colborn, Greg Harper, Kenny Leatherman, Carolyn Hale, Martin Hendrix's mother; Kenny Way, Kaye Morgan's son-in-law, Georgia Bacquet's brother, Fayette Stepp, Rich Copley's brother-in-law Dan, Robin Morrill's mother.

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of Jane Stephenson.

PARTICIPANTS

WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Matt Falco, Dr. Ted Gentry, Chancel Choir

ACOLYTE: Penelope Fruecht

USHERS: Jeff Ehlert, Debbie Acker, Matt McMahan, Cynthia Bruno

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

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for May 10, 2026

First Reading: Acts 17.22-31
Psalm: Psalm 66.8-20

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3.13-22
Gospel: John 14. 15-21

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 and BULLETINS 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

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, May 10

9:30am - Adult Sunday School

10:30am - Worship

10:45am - Children's Sunday School

Tuesday, May 12

7:00pm - Mission Committee

Wednesday, May 13

10:30am - Kerygma

6:30pm - Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 14

5:30pm - Thursday Night Meal

Sunday, May 17

9:30am - Adult Sunday School

9:30am - Ethics of War with Rev. Ensminger

10:30am - Worship

10:45am - Children's Sunday School

11:30am - Youth Group

6:00pm - NADYA

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Kerygma

Wednesdays at 10:30am

Kerygma is reading and discussing "Being Presbyterian in a Dysvangelical America". Join us at 10:30 am on Wednesdays in the library.

Ethics of War: Before, During, After May 17 - 9:30am Field Room

Join Rev. Douglas Ensminger for a prelude to a deep dive coming this September. Douglas is a retired Chief Chaplain, MEDVAMC, Houston, TX. Join him as he considers how Christianity, Islam, Judaism, and the Geneva Conventions understand the ethics of war before, during, and after conflict.

FELLOWSHIP

NADYA

Sunday, May 17, 6:00pm - 7:30pm

NADYA will meet on the evening of Sunday, May 17th, to discuss the book "North Woods" by Daniel Mason. For the address, please contact Jason. *Questions? Contact Jason Williams (jasonmckinleywilliams@gmail.com).*

MISSION

The Social Work Department is asking for donations directly from their Amazon wishlist. If you are able to help support the office, please scan the QRC to the right to view and order from this wishlist.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

End of Year Picnic

May 17, immediately following Worship

All are welcome to attend this special end-of-year celebration for our MSPC Children! We will be meeting at the picnic shelter at Woodland Park for food, games, and fun. Please RSVP to Ms. Michelle (michelle.jones@maxpres.org) by May 15th.

GeNext Mystery Trip

May 30th

GeNext will be adventuring out for a very fun day full of surprises, fun, and fellowship. GeNext parents- please contact Michelle as soon as possible to confirm your kid's participation for this exciting day.

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group End of Year Party

Sunday, May 24th, after Worship

The MSPC Youth will be celebrating the end of the school year with a trip to Main Event. Contact Rob (rob@maxpres.org) to RSVP.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Mental health is part of everyday life, shaping how we think, feel, and connect. If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, free and confidential help is available 24/7. Trained counselors can provide immediate support, along with connections to local resources for care and basic needs. Call or text 988, or visit 988lifeline.org for chat support.

CALLING ALL GRADUATES!

Do you have a graduating senior in your family? We'd love to celebrate them! Please submit a photo and a brief paragraph including their name, where they are graduating from, and their plans after graduation. Send submissions to hannah@maxpres.org by **May 18th**.

PER CAPITA SUNDAY

Sunday, May 17

We'll celebrate Per Capita Sunday with yummy cookies baked by your Budget & Stewardship Committee.

What is Per Capita? Per Capita is a set amount paid to the PC(USA) to help cover the expenses of the church at large. This year, we pay \$41 per congregation member. Your contributions help offset these costs. Payments may be made via check or online. Questions, contact Kate.