



SUNDAY, MAY 17

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

This week's bulletin art is a depiction of the ascension by Methodist minister and artist John Bower titled "Coming and Going" from his book, *Exploring Christian Faith Through Art*, 2014.

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 - *Hail, Jesus Christ, Our Redeemer*, Hugh S. Livinston (1945-2014)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let the righteous be joyful; let them be jubilant before God.

Sing to God, sing praises to the name of the Lord.

Lift up a song to the Lord, who rides upon the clouds.

God is the parent of orphans and the protector of those who mourn.

Awesome is God in the sanctuary; the Lord gives power and strength to the people.

Blessed be the Lord!

+ **HYMN 246** - *Christ Is Alive!*

+ CONFESSION & PARDON

Eternal God, you have loved us from generation to generation. You have shown your faithfulness more often than we can recall. The Bible tells us of your steadfast mercy. You even pray for us. Yet we live holding on to past hurts; we are not open to your new creation. We prefer the safety of what we know to the excitement of discipleship. Forgive us, we pray, and make us again as you would have us be. We make all of our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ. 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

TEACHER APPRECIATION

PRAYER FOR OPENNESS

Pour out your Holy Spirit, O God, and prepare our hearts to accept your word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that, hearing, we may also obey your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - 1 Peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11 NT pg 235 (NRSVUE)

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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

ANTHEM - *O Christ, Surround Me*, arr. McNair, Chancel Choir, Susan Carey, piano

SCRIPTURE READING - John 17.1-11 NT pg 111 (NRSVUE)

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

SERMON - "We May Be One" Rev. Matt Falco

+ STATEMENT OF FAITH - From a portion of the PC(USA) Brief Statement of Faith

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

+ HYMN 260 - *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

• OFFERTORY - *Solemn Melody*, John Dixon (b. 1957)

+ • 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 295** - *Go to the World!*

+ **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 - *Crown Him With Many Crowns*, arr. Don Hustad (1918-2013)

*Sanctuary Flowers are given in the Glory of God by the Cooper Family in celebration of Clara's birthday.
Join us in the Punch Parlor after worship at the rear of sanctuary for conversation and community.
Punch is generously provided by Sharron Townsend.*

JOYS & CONCERNS

Nancy Field, Susan Neill, Greg Harper, Kenny Leatherman, Carolyn Hale, Martin Hendrix's mother; Kenny Way, Kaye Morgan's son-in-law, Georgia Bacquet's brother; Emmie, Debra Anderson's niece, Alicia Hart, Adam Boldt, Rich Copley's brother-in-law Dan, Robin Morrill's mother Donna Leath

PARTICIPANTS

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

ACOLYTE: Laurel Bullock

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 17, 2026

First Reading: Acts 1.6-14

Second Reading: 1 Peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11

Psalm: Psalm 68.1-10, 32-35

Gospel: John 17.1-11

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 17

9:30am - Adult Sunday School
9:30am - Ethics of War with Rev. Ensminger
9:30am - Third Space Sunday
10:30am - Worship
10:45am - Children's Sunday School
11:30am - Youth Group
11:45am - End of Year Children's Picnic
6:00pm - NADYA

Monday, May 18

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

Wednesday, May 20

10:30am - Kerygma
6:30pm - Chancel Choir
7:00pm - Social Justice Committee

Thursday, May 21

5:30pm - Thursday Night Meal

Saturday, May 23

12:00pm - Stitchmates

Sunday, May 24

9:30am - Adult Sunday School
10:30am - Worship
11:30am - Youth Group Party

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 wish-list. If you are able to help support the office, please scan the QRC to the right to view and order from this wishlist.



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**.

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.

LEXPRIDE

Saturday, May 30, 12:00-8:00pm

Sign up to volunteer at our PRIDE table! Opportunities include helping load and unload supplies, bringing cut flowers from your garden, staffing the table to hand out flowers, wildflower seeds, and popsicles, and helping with cleanup afterward. Follow the link to sign up. Questions? Contact Helen Richardson at richelenson@gmail.com.



MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Please consider joining summer choir! We do not have Wednesday rehearsals during the summer months. Instead, we meet before worship on Sunday mornings to prepare simple anthems. We don't wear robes, so it's an informal introduction to choir ministry at MSPC.

If you would like to play an instrument for a prelude, offertory, or postlude, please contact Ted (ted@maxpres.org).

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 on the MSPC website. Questions? Contact Kate.