



SUNDAY, MAY 31

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

This week's bulletin art is a painting by Paul Hobbs, "Three in One", 2000, acrylic on paper.

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 - *"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 - *Larghetto, Trio No. 5*, Luigi Boccherini, Jonah Falco & Lauren Falco, violin, Lucas Falco, cello

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 8)

O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars that you have established;

what are humans that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor.

O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

+ **HYMN 20** - *All Things Bright & Beautiful*

+ **CONFESSION & PARDON**

O Lord our God, you call us to proclaim the gospel, but we remain silent in the presence of evil. You call us to be reconciled to you and one another, but we are content to live in separation. You call us to seek the good of all, but we fail to resist the powers of oppression. You call us to fight pretensions and injustice, but we sit idly by, endangering the lives of people far and near. Forgive us, O Lord. Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit, and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. 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

Speak to us, living God, as you have spoken to our ancestors: through the voices of your prophets, the breath of your Spirit, and the life of your Son, so that we may live according to your word; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - 2 Corinthians 13.11-13 NT pg 186 (NRSVUE)

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

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

ANTHEM - *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*, arr. Dawson, Chancel Choir, Jay McNamee, solo

SCRIPTURE READING - Matthew 28.16-20 NT pg 34 (NRSVUE)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

SERMON - "Students of Grace", Rev. Matt Falco

+ STATEMENT OF FAITH - From The Confession of 1967 - The Inclusive Version

9.37 The church disperses to serve God wherever its members are at work or play, in private or in the life of society. Their prayer and Bible study are part of the church's worship and theological reflection. Their witness is the church's evangelism. Their daily action in the world is the church in mission to the world. The quality of their relation with other persons is the measure of the church's fidelity.

9.38 Each member is the church in the world, endowed by the Spirit with some gift of ministry and is responsible for the integrity of his or her witness in each particular situation. Each member is entitled to the guidance and support of the Christian community and is subject to its advice and correction. In turn, each member, in her or his own competence, helps to guide the church.

+ HYMN 456 - *Listen, God Is Calling*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

• OFFERTORY - *Allegro, Trio No. 4, The London Trios*, Joseph Haydn, Jonah Falco & Lauren Falco, violin, Lucas Falco, cello

+ • 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 757 - *Today We Are All Called to Be Disciples*

+ 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 - *Allegro moderato, Trio No. 1, The London Trios*, Joseph Haydn, Jonah Falco & Lauren Falco, violin, Lucas Falco, cello

*Sanctuary Flowers are given to the glory of God by The Copley's in celebration of Chris's birthday.
Join us in the Punch Parlor after worship at the rear of sanctuary for conversation and community.
Punch is generously provided by Jim Olive.*

JOYS & CONCERNS

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

PARTICIPANTS

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

ACOLYTE: AJ Schwake

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 31, 2026

First Reading: Genesis 1.1-2a

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 13.11-13

Psalm: Psalm 8

Gospel: Matthew 28.16-20

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

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, May 31

9:30am - Adult Sunday School

10:00am - Summer Choir

10:30am - Worship

Monday, June 1

5:30pm - Trustees

7:00pm - Session

Wednesday, June 3

5:30pm - Budget & Stewardship

Thursday, June 4

5:30pm - Thursday Night Meal

Friday, June 5

6:30pm - Words & Wine

Sunday, June 7

9:30am - Adult Sunday School

10:00am - Summer Choir

10:30am - Worship

11:45am - Deacons' Ice Cream Social

FELLOWSHIP

Words & Wine

Friday, June 5, at 6:30pm

Words & Wine Book Group will meet Friday, June 5th to discuss the book *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans. In July, we will meet on July 10th to discuss our next book, *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett. Questions? Contact Lauren Falco (laurenfalco@yahoo.com).

MISSION

June Random Act of Kindness

With school now out, it's important to recognize that some of our children may not be receiving the proper nutrition they need. This month, we are asking for non-perishable food items to support the resource room at WestMinster. Maxwell has built a strong connection with WestMinster, and we would be grateful to help ease some of the burdens faced by families.

SUMMER CHOIR

Our summer choir will begin next Sunday, June 7. We don't rehearse on Wednesday evenings, and we don't wear robes. If you enjoy singing, please join us upstairs in the Choir Room at 10 AM to prepare a simple anthem for worship.

DEACONS' ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Sunday, June 7, after worship

Hot summer days have already arrived! On June 7th, cool off with your MSPC friends after worship with Ice Cream Sundaes on the playground.

MSPC LABOR OF LOVE GROUP

Do you need a helping hand around the house, a ride to church or a doctor's appointment, or a meal when you're feeling under the weather? Your Maxwell Street friends want to help. Please contact Ann Farrer (afarrer83@gmail.com) or the church office if you need a helping hand or would be willing to help out when needed.

MAKING WORSHIP INCLUSIVE

We want our worship life at Maxwell Street to be a place where everyone can participate as fully as possible. We recognize that for some, the experience of worship can be challenging—whether because of sensory sensitivities, neurodivergence, physical needs, or mental health concerns. If you experience these challenges yourself, or care for someone who does, we would be grateful to learn from you. Your perspective can help us grow in how we gather, worship, and welcome.

If you're willing to share your experience or offer suggestions, please plan to stay after worship on **June 14th** or reach out to me (matt@maxpres.org) directly. Your voice matters, and it will help shape how we move forward together.

MSPC SUMMER READ

"This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation, and the Stories That Make Us" by Cole Arthur Riley.

"From the womb, we must repeat with regularity that to love ourselves is to survive. I believe that is what my father wanted for me and knew I would so desperately need: a tool for survival, the truth of my dignity named like a mercy new each morning." As I was searching for a book to suggest as our summer read, I came across this quote from Cole Arthur Riley's *This Here Flesh* and knew right away this was the one. I had heard of Riley, especially her book *Black Liturgies*, but I was not familiar with this memoir/spiritual reflection. The phrase "to love ourselves is to survive" caught my attention.

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 me at matt@maxpres.org, and I'll help you get connected. We'll read two chapters per week beginning **Sunday, June 7th**.

PER CAPITA

Thanks to everyone who contributed to Per Capita. We've raised \$5,128.55 of our \$17,302 commitment. Per Capita is \$41 per member and can be paid online or by check to Kate.