

# SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

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

*Today's bulletin art is a painting by American landscape artist, April Gornik (b. 1953), titled "The Unbroken World", 2023.*

**INTROIT 305 -** "Come Sing, O Church, In Joy"

1 **Come sing, O church, in joy!**
**Come join, O church, in song!**
**For Christ the Lord has led us**
**through the ages long! (***Refrain***)**

3 **Let courage be our friend;**
**let wisdom be our guide,**
**as we in mission magnify**
**the Crucified! (***Refrain***)**

*Refrain*: **In bold accord,**
**come celebrate the journey now**
**and praise the Lord!**

**GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE -** *Prelude in G Minor,* Johann Krebs (1713-1780)

**CALL TO WORSHIP** - *From "The Timeless Psalms", Joan Stott, 2011.*

Come, let us gather to worship our timeless God.
**We gather together to share with our children the past blessings we have received from our God.**
Come, let us gather to worship our awesome God.
**We gather to listen for God's word for us today.**
Come, let us gather to worship our glorious God, Who delights in worship, witness, and service.
**We gather together to share our hope and trust in our Merciful God, who has never failed or forgotten us. Amen.**

**+ HYMN 37 -** "Let All Things Now Living"

**+ CONFESSION & PARDON**

**God of Mystery, we want to stay awake and be ready for you, but we are tired and complacent with our ordinary routine. We want to believe that we are reflecting Your light to the world, but we fear that we are not enough. We have neither loved our neighbor as ourselves nor honored ourselves as Your beloved creation. We have judged unjustly and regarded others ungenerously. We turn from You and are prone to hoarding Your abundant gifts. We long to live in accord with Your desire that compassion, kindness and mercy govern our hearts and minds. Hear now our silent prayers… Come to us again O God. Awaken us with Your unexpected grace. Shock us with Your expansive mercy and give us the courage to live by faith. Amen.**

• ASSURANCE OF PARDON
• RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS: 581- Gloria Patri

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**PRAYER FOR OPENNESS**
**Come, Holy Spirit, open our minds and hearts this day, that we may be illumined by your living Word and walk together as children of light.**

**SCRIPTURE READING** - Amos 5:18-24 OT pg 854 (NRSVUE)
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** - *I'd Rather Have Jesus*, Shea/Martin, Chancel Choir, Susan Carey, piano

**SCRIPTURE READING** - Matthew 25.1-13 NT pg 28 (NRSVUE)

**SERMON** - Rev. Kristy Ehlert

**+ STATEMENT OF FAITH** - (PC(USA) Confession of 1967 Inclusive Version 9.10)
9.10 **The risen Christ is the savior of all people. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as God's reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which began with the apostles and continues through all generations. The same Jesus Christ is the judge of all people. His judgment discloses the ultimate seriousness of life and gives promise of God's final victory over the power of sin and death. To receive life from the risen Lord is to have life eternal; to refuse life from him is to choose the death which is separation from God. All who put their trust in Christ face divine judgment without fear, for the judge is their redeemer.**

**+ HYMN 314** - "Longing for Light, We Wait in the Darkness"

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (DEBTS & DEBTORS)**

**OFFERING**
• INVITATION
• OFFERTORY - *Holy Spirit with Light Divine*, arr. Parker
+ • 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 749** - "Come! Live in the Light!"

**+ CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

**+ BENEDICTION RESPONSE** - Hymn 542, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" *(verses 1 and 4)*

**1 God be with you till we meet again;**
**loving counsels guide, uphold you,**
**with a shepherd's care enfold you:**
**God be with you till we meet again.**

**4 God be with you till we meet again;**
**keep love's banner floating o'er you;**
**smite death's threatening wave before you:**
**God be with you till we meet again.**

**POSTLUDE -** *Praeludium in C,* Johann Krieger (1651-1735)

*Please join us in the West Parlor after worship for punch and fellowship.*

**JOYS & CONCERNS**
Leo LoNigro, Betty Gabehart, Greg Harper, Ruth Rowles, Harry Johnson's brother Paul and his caregiver, Kate.

*We extend our condolences to Laura Raine Williams and family on the death of her husband Jeff Williams who died recently from colon cancer. Jeff is the son-in-law of Lucy and Randy Raine and brother-in-law of Emily & Takeshi Koyagi.*

**PARTICIPANTS**
WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Kristy Ehlert, Bailey Liebhart, Matthew Jones, Dr. Ted Gentry, and the Chancel Choir
USHERS: Jeff Ehlert (Head Usher), Cynthia Bruno, Zane Kercsmar, & Katherine Bullock
ACOLYTE: Lily Bryant
VIDEO AND SOUND CREW: Rich Copley, Jim Lumpp, Bill Smith, Jay Vessels, Jonah Falco, Hannah Allen

*Punch is graciously provided by Frannie Wethington.*

**Revised Common Lectionary Readings for November 15, 2026**
First Reading and Psalm: Judges 4.1-7 and Psalm 123
Alternate First Reading and Psalm: Zephaniah 1.7, 12-18, Psalm 90.1-8, 9-11, 12
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11
Gospel: Matthew 25.14-30

**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 make an offering online and more. You can scan the QR code to the right to access the app.
• Please be aware that today's service is being live-streamed and recorded. Portions of the service, 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 and basement levels. Baby changing stations are in the basement restrooms or nursery.

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

Infants & Toddlers 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.
Pre-K Sunday School Class (for ages 3,4 and 5**)**
This class is specifically designed (using the Grow, Proclaim, Serve! curriculum) for younger children, keeping them engaged
in fun bible-centered lessons. Please join us after the Children's Moment during worship.
Grades K-5 Sunday School
Children (grades K-5th) gather in large groups for the Bible story, music, and movement, then break into age-level small groups to dig deeper and apply the story to their daily lives. Please join us after the Children's Moment during worship.

**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, November 15**
9:30am - Adult Sunday School
9:30am - Third Space Sunday
10:30am - Worship
10:45am - Children's Sunday School
11:30am - Children's Choir
11:30am - Youth Group
11:30am - Pie Day

**Monday, November 16**
5:30pm - Worship Committee
6:00pm - Vision Committee
7:00pm - Deacons

**Wednesday, November 18**
10:30am - Kerygma
6:30pm - Chancel Choir
7:00pm - UKirk Campus Group
7:00pm - Social Justice Committee

**Thursday, November 19**
5:30pm - Thursday Night Meal

**Sunday, November 22**
9:30am - Adult Sunday School
10:30am - Worship
10:45am - Children's Sunday School
11:30am - Children's Choir
11:30am - Thanksgiving Dinner & Annual Meeting
1:00pm - Hanging of the Greens

## PIE DAY

**TODAY Sunday, November 15th**
Join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship to take home a sweet treat in benefit of the Youth Group's 2027 Mission Trip! All treats will be $15 and proceeds go to support the 2027 Youth Group Mission Trip.

## THANKSGIVING DINNER & ANNUAL MEETING

**Sunday, November 22**
MSPC holds an annual meeting to elect ruling elders and deacons and to approve proposed changes to the pastor's terms of call. The 2026 Annual Meeting will be held following the Thanksgiving Dinner in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP and sign up to bring a dish at the QRC or email Hannah (hannah@maxpres.org). Main dishes will be provided, side dishes and desserts are welcome. Please label ingredients for allergens.

## HANGING OF THE GREENS

**Sunday, November 22 after meeting**
We encourage anyone who wants to help to stay after the Annual Meeting to participate in this time–honored tradition of decorating the church in preparation for the Advent Season.

## ADVENT WORKSHOP

**Sunday November 29th, after worship**
The Advent Workshop is an annual event to usher in the season! All are welcome to join this family-friendly afternoon full of crafts and fun.

## MISSION

**November Random Act of Kindness**
This month, we will be collecting shelf stable, non-perishable food items for our neighbors at CRCKY (Community Response Coalition of Kentucky). Items requested for donation include, flour, sugar, salt, spices, rice, pasta, canned fruit or vegetables, boxed meals, cereals, or shelf-stable milk products. All items can be brought to the Church Office.

## KERYGMA

**Advent Study Starting December 2nd**
Adam Hamilton is the new Senator from Kansas. He's also a Methodist pastor and author of our Kerygma Advent Book study: "Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph." Join us at 10:30 on Wednesday mornings in the church Library or on Zoom.

## E7 CHRISTMAS SHOP

Sunday, December 6th, 1:00-3:00pm.
We are ecited to welcome our E7 kids back for the annual Christmas Shop. The kids get a $50 voucher to "buy" gifts for their loved ones. We are accepting gifts for adult men, women, teens, & children for our kids to shop from. Volunteers are needed to help "staff" our shop and wrap gifts. To volunteer, or for more info, contact Pam Boldt (joeandpamboldt@gmail.com or 859-619-7737.

## BIBLICAL BREWS

What is sin? How literally should we take the Bible? Is it OK to not forgive some people sometimes? A new monthly spiritual discussion group will be starting in January. The format is simple and casual. Each month we will choose a topic to brew on over a brew (beer, coffee, or tea). No homework, no pressure, no judgment. Location, day, and time to be determined based on amount of interest. Email Elizabeth Varney elizabeth.iffy@gmail.com if interested.

## GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP

**July 10-17, 2027**
Porch de Salomon has hosted short-term mission teams in Guatemala since 2006, and in recent yesrs, over 20 trips per year! The cost to join this trip is $500 for youth. A $100 deposit is due by **December 31st** and the remaining amount is due by April 30th. Please contact Rob with any questions (rob@maxpres.org). You can register by scanning the QRC to the right.