

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

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

Today's bulletin art is a painting by American folk artist, Grandma Moses (21860-1961), "Thanksgiving", 1956. Grandma Moses- also known as Anna Mary Robertson Moses- was a self taught painter who began painting at the age of 76 years old.

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 - *Voluntary on Grosser Gott,* Diane Bish

CALL TO WORSHIP - *Psalm 100*

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.
Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.
Know that the LORD is God.
It is God who made us, and we belong to God;
we are God's people and the sheep of the Shepherd's pasture.
Enter the LORD's gates with thanksgiving and courts with praise.
Give thanks to God; bless the LORD.
For the LORD is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.

+ HYMN 4 - "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

+ CONFESSION & PARDON - *adapted from a prayer by Fiona Kendall*

Loving God, we come to You, distracted. Still our minds, dear Lord, as we take stock. Here, we take time to acknowledge to ourselves and to You all that we have done and all that we have not done; those we have hurt and those we have ignored; our careless stewardship of all that You have given us; and the lack of attention we have paid to You. We come, aware of how this diminishes us and how this dishonors You. We come with heavy hearts.

And yet, we come in the knowledge that, despite it all, You care for us; despite it all, You love us; despite it all, You forgive us. And You invite us, too, to care for, love and forgive those who seek to make their peace with us and those who do not. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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 - Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24 OT pg 803 (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 Will Give Thanks,* Craig Courtney, Chancel Choir, Loren TIce, piano

SCRIPTURE READING - Matthew 25.31-46 NT pg 28 (NRSVUE)

SERMON - "I Will Feed Them"

+ STATEMENT OF FAITH - *A Contemporary Interpretation of Heidelberg Catechism Q.86*
Q. 86. If we are loved and accepted by God through grace, and not because of anything we have done, why should we do good works?
A. **Because God's grace does more than assure us that we are loved; it transforms us. Through the Holy Spirit, God continually shapes us in the likeness of Christ, inviting us to live with gratitude, compassion, and love. Our good works do not earn God's favor, but are a response to the love we have already received. By seeking justice, showing mercy, and caring for our neighbors, we participate in God's work of healing and renewing the world. In this way, our lives bear witness to God's love, our faith grows deeper, and others may encounter the grace of Christ through us.**

+ HYMN 343 - "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"

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

OFFERING

- INVITATION
- OFFERTORY - *My Shepherd Shall Supply My Need,* arr. Whitworth

\+ • 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 263 - "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

+ 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 - *Crown Him With Many Crowns*, arr. Hustad

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for Thanksgiving Lunch followed by the Maxwell Street Annual Meeting.

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

PARTICIPANTS
WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Matt Falco, Rob Wethington, Helen Richardson, Dr. Ted Gentry, and the Chancel Choir
USHERS: Jeff Ehlert (Head Usher), Cynthia Bruno, Zane Kercsmar, & Katherine Bullock
VIDEO AND SOUND CREW: Rich Copley, Jim Lumpp, Bill Smith, Jay Vessels, Jonah Falco, Hannah Allen

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for November 22, 2026
First Reading and Psalm: Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24 and Psalm 100
Alternate First Reading and Psalm: Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24 and Psalm 95.1-7a
Second Reading: Esphesians 1.15-23
Gospel: Matthew 25.31-46

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 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

Wednesday, November 25
Church Office Closed
If you require Pastoral Care while the office is closed, please contact Pastor Matt directly by text or call at 814-273-0885.

Thursday, November 26
Happy Thanksgiving!
No Thursday Night Meal

Friday, November 27
Church Office Closed

Sunday, November 29
9:30am - Adult Sunday School
10:30am - Worship
10:45am - Children's Sunday School
11:30am - Children's Choir
11:30am - Youth Group
11:30am - Advent Workshop

THANKSGIVING DINNER & ANNUAL MEETING

TODAY, 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. 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. If you or your child will be attending, please RSVP to Ms. Michelle (michelle.jones@maxpre.org) by Wednesday, November 25th.

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.

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.

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 at joeandpamboldt@gmail.com or 859-619-7737.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sunday, December 14 during Worship
Our Maxwell Street Children's Ministry will be performing, "The Road to Bethlehem Reflections on the Nativity", a Santuary Drama by Robert Blaskey. Expect music, costumes, joy, and a beautiful reminder that the story of Christ is for every nation and every people. All are welcome for this special service!

CAROLING FOR MSPC MEMBERS

Sunday, December 13, after worship
Join the Deacons for lunch, then head out to sing your favorite Christmas carols with our Maxwell Street friends who are unable to join us in person on Sunday morning. We hope you'll join us and help spread some Christmas joy!