



# SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 2025

MAXWELL STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
180 E. Maxwell St. Lexington, KY  
[www.maxpres.org](http://www.maxpres.org)

## GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** - *Andante from Manfred*, Carl Reinecke (1824-1910)

**CALL TO WORSHIP** - adapted from "Liturgies from Below" Carvalhaes  
Come! Come into the place where God listens!

**Where you need no money, no status, no fine clothes!**

Come as you are

**Broken, whole**

Sick, well

**Satisfied or with deep needs**

Come to sing

**Come to cry**

Come to hear

**Come to see**

Come ready or Come to be made ready

**We are here**

God is here too

**Let us worship God together!**

+ **HYMN 667** - *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

## + CALL TO CONFESSION

### + A PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Host of the heavenly banquet, we give thanks for your generous invitation. Not only have you offered us a seat at the table, but you have lovingly prepared for us a feast. Help us to not think more highly of ourselves than we ought. We admit to withholding our affection from those whom you have called us to love. We feel uncomfortable at the table with those who are different from us and with those with whom we can't see eye-to-eye. We neglect to share what we have. Forgive us and lead us to serve one another with open hearts. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

- ASSURANCE OF PARDON

- RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS: Hymn 581 Gloria Patri

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## PRAYER FOR OPENNESS

Lord God, pour out your Spirit upon us to bring good news to the oppressed, and let your word be fulfilled among us; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READING** -Hebrews 13.1-8, 15-16 - NT pg 227

Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

**ANTHEM** - *Christ, the Vine*, Robert J. Powell, Chancel Choir

**SCRIPTURE READING** - Luke 14:1, 7-14 NT pg. 77

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

**SERMON** - "*You're Invited*" - Rev. Matt Falco

**STATEMENT OF FAITH** - *The Belhar Confession* Adapted by Nolan Palsma

We believe that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged; that God calls the church to follow him in this, for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind; that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly; that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering; that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream... To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever.

+ **HYMN 762** - *When the Poor Ones*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER****OFFERING**

- INVITATION
- OFFERTORY - *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*
- 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 320** - *The Church of Christ in Every Age*

**CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE** - Hymn 372, *O For a World* (verses 1 and 5)

**1 O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,  
where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.**

**5 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** - *Festive Trumpet Tune*, David German (b. 1954)



### **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.

- 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 left to access the app. You can also sign in via the app.

- You can also go to [www.maxpres.org/give](http://www.maxpres.org/give) to support our ministry.

- 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 are available from the ushers.

- LARGE PRINT 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 available in the basement restrooms or nursery.

**+ Indicates that the congregation is invited to stand in body and/or spirit.**

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. You are welcome here, and you are loved.

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

We also offer a class for older students that are in Grades K-5. Children 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](http://www.maxpres.org) for details about our ministries for all ages and interests. We also have an active Facebook page - [www.facebook.com/maxpres](http://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](http://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.

### **JOYS & CONCERNS**

Greg Harper, Dan Goulson, Hugh Huffman, Jim Mahan, John Cantrell, John Cantrell, Carolyn Hale, Josh England's aunt, Martin Hendrix's mother, Margaret

Punch is served in the West parlor by Gretchen Bishay. All are welcome.

The flowers are given to the glory of God by Troy, Megan and Clara Cooper in celebration of Eli's 6th birthday.

### **PARTICIPANTS**

Worship Leaders: Rev. Matt Falco, Katherine Barth, Ted Gentry and the Chancel Choir

USHERS: Tracy Bruno, Cynthia Bruno, Zane Kercksmar, Matt McMahan

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

### **Revised Common Lectionary Readings for Sunday, August 31, 2025**

First reading and Psalm: Jeremiah 2:4-13 Psalm 81:1, 10-16

Alternate First reading and Psalm: Sirach 10:12-18 or Proverbs 25:6-7 Psalm 112

Second reading: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Monday, September 1

Church Office Closed - Labor Day

### Tuesday, September 2

12:30pm - Centering Prayer

### Wednesday, September 3

10:30am - Kerygma

6:30pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

7:00pm - UKIRK Campus Group

### Thursday, September 4

5:30pm - Neighborhood Meal

### Friday, September 5

6:30pm - Words & Wine

### Sunday, September 7 - Rally Sunday

9:30am - Adult Sunday School

10:30am - Worship

10:45am - Children's Sunday School

11:30am - Youth Group

11:30am - Children's Choir Begins

### SPECIAL OFFERING FOR IMMIGRANT SUPPORT

Thanks to all of you, we have raised \$5032.86 for the special offering from last week. Each dollar will help immigrants in need. What a blessing!

### WORDS & WINE

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 AT 6:30PM

Words & Wine meets Friday, September 5 from 6:30-8:00pm at Becky Kemper's home to discuss *The Names* by Florence Knapp. For the October 3 meeting, we are doing something a little different: choose your own banned book. As we were contemplating what to read for October, we noted that Lula Dean's Little Library contained a wonderful reading list, so we decided to go with "choose your own banned book" for that meeting. Here is a list with some banned books: [www.bannedbooksweek.org](http://www.bannedbooksweek.org)

### RALLY SUNDAY

#### Sunday, September 7

Let's fill the sanctuary this Sunday! All our Fall Programs will be up and running. It's a great day to get back to Maxwell Street!

### LEXINGTON SACRED MUSIC FESTIVAL

You are invited to "In One A-Chord: Lexington Sacred Music Festival," presented by CHI Saint Joseph Health, September 21-28, 2025, as part of Lexington's 250th celebration. As part of the festival, Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church will host a free concert on Tuesday, September 23 at 6:30 PM. All are welcome.

### WELCOME COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you remember when you first attended Maxwell Street Presbyterian? You may have been welcomed at the front or side door by an usher or volunteer. We are looking for volunteers, of all ages, to be the point of contact at the side door, elevator access. Families, couples or singles are welcome to volunteer for Sunday worship. The committee meets quarterly, to create a schedule. You would only be needed once or twice every 3 months. We also provide the doughnuts on Third Sundays of the month! No special "training"! Bring your welcoming smile! **Contact: Toni Carter, 231-499-2923, [tonicarter1410@gmail.com](mailto:tonicarter1410@gmail.com)**

### MAXWELL STREET YOUNG ADULTS

#### SEPTEMBER 11, 7PM

Our 22- 39-year-oldish (we don't card and our leader is not nearly that young) young adults — both single and married — love connecting and deepening their faith together. You'll often find them sharing meals at local spots, pitching in with mission projects, and helping lead church programs. They will regularly meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. This month, they're gathering at the home of Michelle Jones for food and conversation about Holy Troublemakers led by Matt. Come, join the fun! **For location and more info, contact Matt. [matt@maxpres.org](mailto:matt@maxpres.org)**

## UKIRK COLLEGE MINISTRY

### UKIRK CAMPUS MINISTRY

#### Wednesdays at 7pm | Dinner and fellowship

Faith. Friends. Free food. Join us Wednesdays at 7:00pm for dinner, fellowship, and conversation about life and faith. Don't miss our University Community Brunch after worship on September 7. Come connect, grow, and be part of something bigger!

### UKIRK BRUNCH

#### Sunday, September 7 after worship

Calling all college students...AND college faculty and staff! We'd like to invite you to an open house and grand opening of the NEW college room on Sunday, September 7 after worship! We'll have brunch together and give students and faculty/staff to meet one another, too. Students - just bring yourself. Faculty/staff - if you could bring a dish to share, that would be most appreciated! **Questions? Contact Sarah Kerksmar at [sarah.kerksmar@uky.edu](mailto:sarah.kerksmar@uky.edu).**

## MISSION

### CLOTHING DRIVE ITEMS NEEDED

With the arrival of the cooler months, we are hoping to fill the clothing room with plenty of warm items. If you find you have too many taking up space at your place, I would love for it to take the space here at Maxwell Street.

#### Items needed most:

- Sweatpants
- Bath towels
- Long sleeve and short sleeve t-shirts
- Sweaters
- Blankets

### RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS

UK's Big Blue Pantry Needs our Help!

The University of Kentucky has the largest incoming class in history, over 6,500 students! Maxwell Street helps the Big Blue Pantry (a food pantry for UK students) by taking specific donations to help make sure no student goes hungry. They are in need of the following items:

- Tuna
- Pasta Sauce
- Cooking Oil
- Dry Pasta
- Granola Bars
- Rice

### THURSDAY NIGHT MEAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We're looking for a few more volunteers to help with Thursday Night Meals this summer. There's always room for extra helping hands—whether it's serving food, welcoming guests, or supporting the team.

**If you'd like to be part of this meaningful ministry, please reach out to Laura Zolman at [volunteer@maxpres.org](mailto:volunteer@maxpres.org)**

# 667 When Morning Gilds the Skies

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing  
 2 Does sad - ness fill my mind? A so - lace here I  
 3 Let earth's wide cir - cle round in joy - ful notes re -  
 4 Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di -

cries: may Je - sus Christ be praised! A -  
 find: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Or  
 sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let  
 vine: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be

like at work and prayer to Je - sus I re -  
 fades my earth - ly bliss? My com - fort still is  
 air and sea and sky from depth to height re -  
 this the e - ter - nal song through all the a - ges

pair: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 this: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 ply: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

This is not just a morning hymn, though this excerpt from an English translation of an early 19th-century German text may not convey how thoroughly the original deals with different kinds of time throughout the day. The tune was composed as a setting for this English text.

# 762

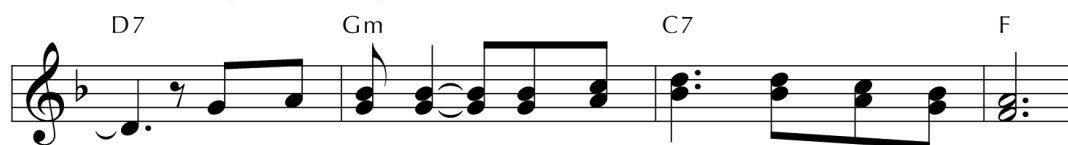
## When the Poor Ones

*Cuando el pobre*



1 When the poor ones who have noth - ing share with strang - ers,  
 2 When at last all those who suf - fer find their com - fort,  
 3 When our joy fills up our cup to o - ver - flow - ing,  
 4 When our homes are filled with good - ness in a - bun - dance,

1 Cuan - do el po - bre na - da tie - ne y aún re - par - te,  
 2 Cuan - do un hom - bre su - fre y lo - gra su con - sue - lo,  
 3 Cuan - do cre - ce la a - le - grí - a y nos i - nun - da,  
 4 Cuan - do a - bun - da el bien y lle - na los ho - ga - res,



when the thirst - y wa - ter give un - to us all,  
 when they hope though e - ven hope seems hope - less - ness,  
 when our lips can speak no words oth - er than true,  
 when we learn how to make peace in - stead of war,

cuan - do un hom - bre pa - sa sed y a - gua nos da,  
 cuan - do es - pe - ra y no se can - sa de es - pe - rar,  
 cuan - do di - cen nues - tros la - bios la ver - dad,  
 cuan - do un hom - bre don - de hay gue - rra po - ne paz,



when the crip - pled in their weak - ness strength - en oth - ers,  
 when we love though hate at times seems all a - round us,  
 when we know that love for sim - ple things is bet - ter,  
 when each strang - er that we meet is called a neigh - bor,

cuan - do el dé - bil a su her - ma - no for - ta - le - ce,  
 cuan - do a - ma - mos, aun - que el o - dio nos ro - dé - e,  
 cuan - do a - ma - mos el sen - tir de los sen - ci - llos,  
 cuan - do "her - ma - no" le lla - ma - mos al ex - tra - ño,

*Refrain / Estribillo*

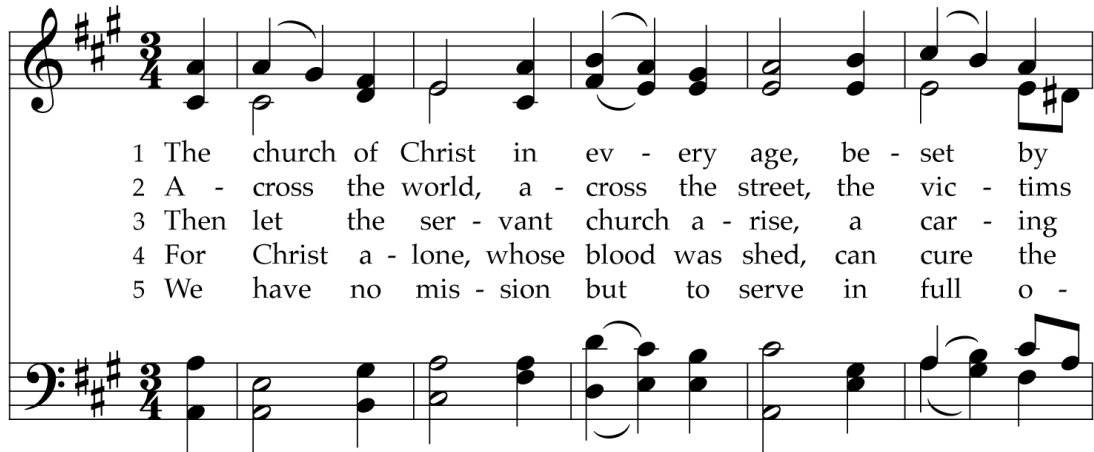


then we know that God still goes that road with us,  
 va Dios mis - mo en nues - tro mis - mo ca - mi - nar.



then we know that God still goes that road with us.  
 Va Dios mis - mo en nues - tro mis - mo ca - mi - nar.

## 320 The Church of Christ in Every Age



1 The church of Christ in ev - ery age, be - set by  
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims  
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing  
 4 For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the  
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its  
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for  
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's  
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to  
 be - dience to our Lord: to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.  
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.  
 out re - serve, and spread Christ's lib - er - at - ing word.

In this challenging text by a British Methodist minister, the odd-numbered stanzas develop the image of "the servant church," while the second surveys the many needs and the fourth describes the true source of strength for the task.