



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025

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

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.

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE - *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, arr. McChesney, Westminster Bells

CALL TO WORSHIP - Adapted from Psalm 107

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;
God's steadfast love never ends.

**We are the ones God has gathered in—
those rescued from storms, from confusion, from fear.**

When we were lost and weary, hungry for hope and thirsty for peace,
we cried out to the Lord in our trouble—and God heard us.

**God calmed the chaos around us
and brought us safely to a place of rest.**

Let us thank the Lord for steadfast love,
for mercy that holds us fast in every storm.

**Let us lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving—
for the One who stills the wind and quiets the waves is with us even now.**

+ **HYMN 409** - *God Is Here!*

+ **CALL TO CONFESSION**

+ **A PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy and gracious God, we confess that when the storm rises, we often lose sight of you. We let fear shape our choices, we let worry drown out your word of peace. You call us to trust, but we cling to control. You speak, "Peace, be still," but we remain anxious and restless. Forgive us, Lord. Calm the waves within us. Still the winds around us. Speak your peace into our hearts, so that we may trust you more deeply and follow you more faithfully. 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

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - Revelation 21.1-5, NT pg 205 (NRSVUE)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true."

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

ANTHEM - *The Ground*, Ola Gjeilo, Chancel Choir, Loren Tice, piano
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is he who comes. Hosanna in the highest.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world.
Grant us peace.

SCRIPTURE READING - Mark 4.35-41, NT pg 82

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion, and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" And waking up, he rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Be silent! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

SERMON - *The Home of God* - Rev Matt Falco

STATEMENT OF FAITH - Confession of 1967 Section C - 9.20

God the Holy Spirit fulfills the work of reconciliation in human life. The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church as the community in which people are reconciled to God and to one another. The Spirit enables people to receive forgiveness as they forgive one another and to enjoy the peace of God as they make peace among themselves. In spite of their sin, the Spirit gives people power to become representatives of Jesus Christ and his gospel of reconciliation to all.

+ **HYMN 653** - *Give Thanks to God Who Hears Our Cries* (vs. 1, 4, 5, and 6)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

- INVITATION
- OFFERTORY - *Lord, I Want to be a Christian*
- 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**

Almighty and Everlasting God, we give You thanks this day as we gather the pledges of support for Your Church in the coming year. We bring them before You with eager anticipation and hope.

Hear us, O God, as we give You our thanks and praise.

For those whose lives have been touched by Your Spirit, who have increased their commitment,
We give You thanks and praise.

For those who are responding to Your creative grace by pledging for the first time,

We give You thanks and praise.

For those who are tithing, and even exceeding a tithe,

We give You thanks and praise.

For those whose lives are in transition or turmoil and who feel they cannot pledge, but who continue to be a vital part of our community,

We give You thanks and praise and we pray for peace in their lives.

For committee workers who have labored in this effort to enable Your people to make a pledge of support for Your Church,

We give You thanks and praise.

That each one of us, and Your whole Church, become more faithful to the call of service in Jesus Christ,

We ask Your continuing guidance and care.

That these pledges may emerge as real gifts, thereby enabling the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ to move forward through this congregation and the Church Universal,

In the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to this action. Amen

+ HYMN 837 - *What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine*

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE - Hymn 541 "God Be with You Till We Meet Again" vs. 1 & 3

**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.**

**3 God be with you till we meet again; when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you: God be with you till we meet again.**

POSTLUDE - *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*, arr. Sherman



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. You are welcome here, and you are loved.

- 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 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 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 available in the basement restrooms or nursery.

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 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.

JOYS & CONCERNS

Greg Harper, Dan Goulson, Hugh Huffman, John Cantrell, Carolyn Hale, Josh England's aunt; Martin Hendrix's mother, Margaret; Elizabeth Leatherman's father; Ann Farrer's mom

Punch is served in the Punch Parlor by Zane Kerksmar. All are welcome.

PARTICIPANTS

WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev Matt Falco, Hallie G. Bagley, Ted Gentry, Loren Tice, Chancel Choir, Westminster Bells

ACOLYTE: Laurel Bullock

USHERS: Derrick Meads, Jeff Ehlert, Ann Farrer, and Heidi Robbins Hall

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

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for Sunday, November 9, 2025

First reading and Psalm: Haggai 2:1-2:9 Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 or Psalm 98

Alternate First reading and Psalm: Job 19:23-27a Psalm 17:1-9

Second reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Tuesday, November 11

12:30pm - Centering Prayer

Wednesday, November 12

10:30am - Kerygma

6:30pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

7:00pm - UKIRK Campus Group

Thursday, November 13

5:30pm - Neighborhood Meal

Friday, November 14

All Day - BW All Church Retreat (Day 1/3)

Saturday, November 15

All Day - BW All Church Retreat (Day 2/3)

Sunday, November 16

9:30am - Third Space Sunday Fellowship

9:30am - Adult Sunday School

10:30am - Worship

10:45am - Children's Sunday School

11:30am - Children's Choir

KERYGMA CLASS

New Class starting November 19!

Join us for a conversation about Matthew Skinner's book, "Voices of Advent." Read one chapter a week, and we'll watch a video by the author in class together before we discuss his book. Skinner leads readers through biblical texts of Advent and explores how they shape our lives and Christmas celebrations. Read Chapter One for the 19. Contact Matt if you have any questions. matt@maxpres.org

NEWSLETTER REMINDER

Deadline for the December 2025 MIM is Friday, November 14, 2025.

Please submit all items/articles to Marrienne Russell, our Communications Director. If you have articles ready before the deadline, send them in. You may send it via email to marrienne@maxpres.org

THANKSGIVING DINNER AND ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, November 23

In the Presbyterian Church (USA), congregations are to hold an annual meeting to elect ruling elders and deacons, and to approve proposed changes to the terms of call of the pastor. The 2025 Annual Meeting will be held following the Thanksgiving Dinner on November 23rd in the Fellowship Hall. In addition to the official business, we'll also learn who this year's recipients of Endowment Grants are.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Sunday, November 23 after meeting

We encourage anyone who wants to help to stay after worship to participate in this tradition of decorating the church as we begin the Advent season soon.

N.A.D.Y.A. BOOK GROUP

Sunday, November 23 at 6pm

NADYA Book Group's next book is Mary Shelley's Frankenstein. Join us on Sunday, November 23 from 6:00-7:30pm at Jason and Andrea's house to discuss this interesting read. Questions, contact jasonmckinleywilliams@gmail.com

ADVENT 2025

Sunday, November 30

"Advent" means "coming" or "arrival." During the season of Advent, we celebrate Christ's coming into the world and watch with expectant hope for his coming again. In its historical origins, the season of Advent was patterned after the season of Lent, a six-week period of penitence and preparation for Easter. Similarly, the four weeks of Advent present an opportunity for communal discernment and personal examination, as the church prepares to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord and looks with hope for Christ's return. We'll enjoy a Christmas Cantata on December 7 by John Randall Dennis, performed by the Chancel Choir and brass quintet. We will also have our Children's "Joy Around the World" Christmas Pageant on December 14, and our traditional Christmas Eve services at 7:30pm and 11:00pm.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

ADVENT WORKSHOP

Sunday, November 30

The Advent Workshop is an annual event to usher in the season! It's a family friendly afternoon full of crafts and fun. All are welcome! Please let us know that you will be joining us by emailing Michelle - michelle.jones@maxpres.org with the number of adults and children who will be attending.

MISSION

E7 CHRISTMAS SHOP

Sunday, December 7

Our kiddos are already buzzing with excitement, and we can't wait to make this year's event extra special. Donations are accepted now through December 7, and we'd love your help. To donate or volunteer, contact Ashlee Vogelsang at ashlee@maxpres.com.

Here's what we need:

- Gifts: Gently used or new toys, and gifts for men, women, and teens
- Volunteers: Help make the magic happen
- Wrapping Materials: Gift wrap, bags, tissue paper, tape, and more

E7 BLUEGRASS GIVES DAY

Coming Up - December 2, 2025

Bluegrass Gives is here, and E7 is thrilled to see the results this year. Last year we reached 92% of our goal, this year we aim to exceed it! The Giving Day is December 2, one powerful day with hourly matches! With your support, the possibilities for Lexington's kids are endless. Donate December 2 and double your impact!

HELP SUPPORT OUR SOCIAL WORK OFFICE!



Our social work office is in need of a few essential items to better serve our community. We've created an Amazon Wish List to make giving simple. Items you purchase will be sent directly to our office. Every contribution, big or small, helps us continue providing care, comfort, and support to those who need it most. Thank you for your generosity.

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God Is Here!

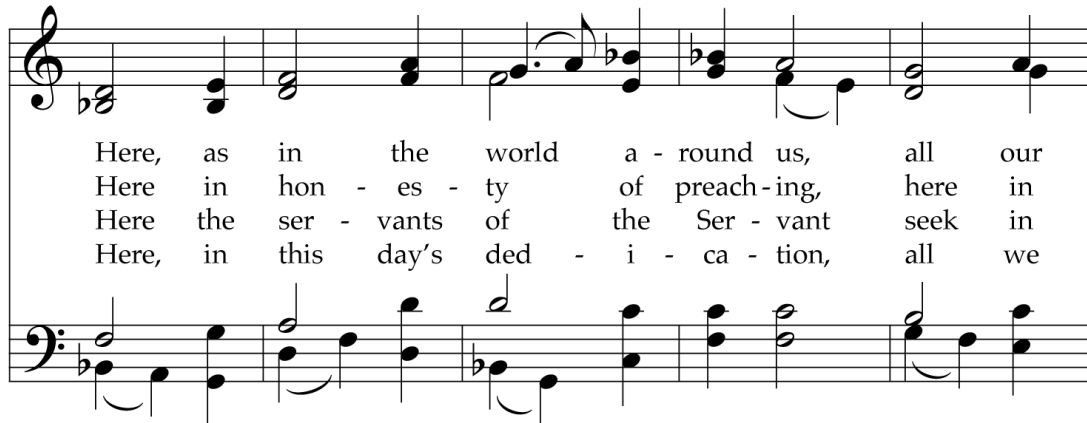
1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an

of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in
 life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,
 Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and
 age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful

full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.
 font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.
 wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.
 to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.

Commissioned for the dedication of a renovated worship space in Austin, Texas, this text is one of the few to devote attention to how customary church features facilitate worship. The tune was composed in wartime Britain to replace a Haydn tune tainted by Nazi associations.

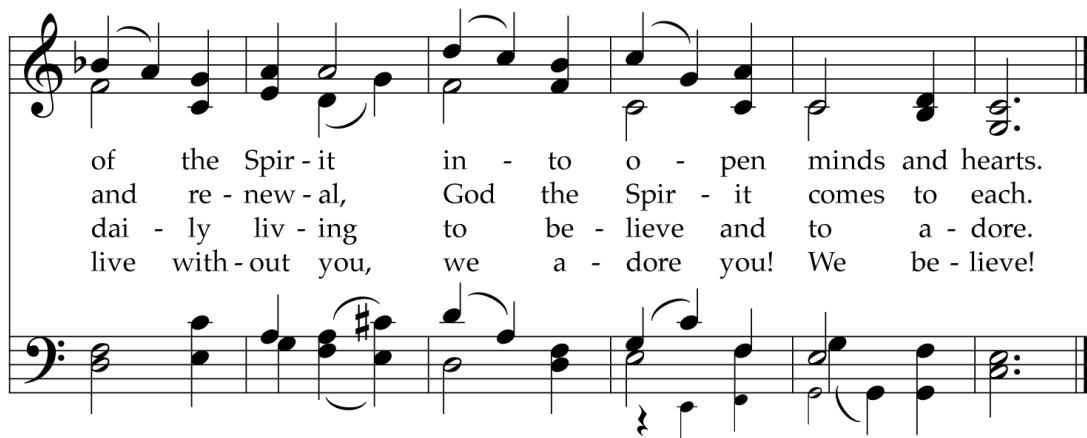
GATHERING



Here, as in the world a - round us, all our
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we



var - ied skills and arts wait the com - ing
 si - lence, as in speech, here, in new - ness
 wor - ship to ex - plore what it means in
 have to give, re - ceive: we, who can - not



of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

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Give Thanks to God
Who Hears Our Cries

(Psalm 107)

1 Give thanks to God who hears our cries and saves in
 2 If you have ev - er wan - dered where no hu - man
 3 If you have ev - er lived in - side the pris - on
 4 If you drew near the gates of death, too sick to

trou-bled days with won - drous works to hu - man - kind that
 help was near, and in your trou - ble cried to God, who
 of your gloom and cried to God, who broke your bonds and
 eat or dress, and cried to God, who heard your voice and

call for high - est praise. Let all who know God's
 res - cued you from fear, then thank the God of
 raised you from your tomb, then praise the One who
 healed all your dis - tress, then sing with sounds of

The singing of psalm paraphrases is the most long-standing musical practice in Reformed tradition, dating from John Calvin's own congregation in Geneva in the 16th century. This recent paraphrase of Psalm 107 illustrates the interpretive flexibility that is a hallmark of the form.

THANKSGIVING

sav - ing love sing grate - ful songs al - ways.
 stead - fast love who dries your ev - ery tear.
 sets you free, who makes dry plac - es bloom.
 ho - ly joy; God's won - drous works pro - fess.

5 If you have felt your courage fail
 before a violent sea
 and cried to God, who stilled the storm,
 and made the wild wind flee,
 then in the congregation praise
 the One who heard your plea.

6 So praise the One whose love is great,
 whose kindness is well-known.
 Consider well the healing hand
 and help you have been shown,
 and tell the world what God has done.
 Praise God and God alone!

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine 837

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

1 What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 2 O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-

last-ing arms; what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,
 last-ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last-ing arms? I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,

Refrain
 lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms. Lean-ing, Lean-ing on Je-sus,
 lean-ing, safe and se-cure from all a-larms; lean-ing on
 Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.

The composer of the tune (and creator of the refrain) asked the author of the stanzas to write a hymn based on the latter part of Deuteronomy 33:27 (as worded in the King James Version): "Underneath are the everlasting arms." Their joint effort has proved very popular.