



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 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

RECOGNITION OF EAGLE SCOUT LEAH COLLINS

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

PRELUDE - *Awake the Trumpets Lofty Sound*, G. F. Handel

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather here in your presence, God,
in our need, and bringing with us the needs of the world.
We come to you, for you come to us in Jesus,
And you know by experience what human life is like.
We come with our faith and with our doubts;
we come with our hopes and with our fears.
We come as we are because you invite us to come;
And you have promised never to turn us away.

+ **HYMN 664** - *Morning Has Broken*

+ CALL TO CONFESSION

+ A PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, too often we have lived for ourselves, and apart from you, when we want to live for your sake and abide in your presence. We have turned from our neighbors, tuned out the pain of the world, and passed by so many in need of what we have to offer. In your great mercy forgive us and free us from selfishness. Help us follow you more closely and love you more fully. We ask this in the name of through Jesus Christ your son. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

- ASSURANCE OF PARDON
- RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS: Hymn 447 - *We Are Forgiven*
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. (sing 2x)

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR OPENNESS

Holy and gracious God, may your Holy Spirit give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation as we listen for your word to us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - 1 Timothy 2:1, NT pg. 203

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

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

ANTHEM - *Rejoice!*, Johnie Dean

Commissioned by the City of Lexington in celebration of the city's 250th Anniversary

SCRIPTURE READING - Jeremiah 8:18-9:1, OT Pg 708

My joy is gone; grief is upon me; my heart is sick.

Listen! The cry of the daughter of my people from far and wide in the land:

"Is the Lord not in Zion? Is her King not in her?"

("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?")

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."

For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken,

I mourn, and horror has seized me.

Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there?

Why then has the health of the daughter of my people not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water and my eyes a fountain of tears,

so that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!

SERMON - Rev. Kathy Riley

STATEMENT OF FAITH - Brief Statement of Faith, lines 27-51

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

+ **HYMN 346** - *For the Healing of the Nations*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

- INVITATION
- OFFERTORY - *Meditation*, Raymond Haan
- 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 769** - *For Everyone Born*

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE - Hymn 539, *We Will Go Out with Joy*

We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.

All: We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.

Refrain: Alleluia! We will go out with joy. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Now anyone who's born of the Spirit, sing a new song of joy.

Now anyone who's born of the Spirit, sing a new song of joy. (Refrain)

POSTLUDE - *Entrata Festiva*, David Lasky

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



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

The flowers are given to the glory of God by Anne Chesnutt and Sherrie Webb in honor of Leah Collins for her work on the Maxwell Street Native Garden.

Punch is served in the West Parlor by Martin Hendrix. All are invited.

PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leaders: Rev. Kathy Riley, Nan Nickou, Rob Wethington, Ted Gentry, and the Chancel Choir

USHERS: Derrick Meads, Alicia Hart, Tony Sidor, and Sharron Townsend

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

ACOLYTE: Nan Nickou

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for Sunday, September 21, 2025

First reading and Psalm: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 Psalm 79:1-9

Alternate First reading and Psalm: Amos 8:4-7 Psalm 113

Second reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Tuesday, September 23

6:30pm – Sacred Music Festival Concert

Wednesday, September 24

10:30am – Kerygma

6:30pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

7:00pm – UKIRK Campus Group

7:30pm – Canterbury Bells Rehearsal

Thursday, September 25

5:30pm – Neighborhood Meal

Saturday, September 27

12:00pm – Stitchmates

Sunday, September 28

9:30am – Adult Sunday School

9:30am – UKIRK Leadership Meeting

10:30am – Worship

10:45am – Children's Sunday School

11:30am – Youth Group

11:30am – Children's Choir

LEXINGTON SACRED MUSIC FESTIVAL

This Tuesday at 6:30pm

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. Check out the list of other events happening during the Sacred Music Festival here: 250lex.com/sacred-music

NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS

Presbyterian Churches have three offices: Teaching Elders (Ministers of Word & Sacrament), Ruling Elders, and Deacons. Elders and Deacons are elected from the congregation, and our Nominating Committee needs your help! You can nominate elders, deacons, and future members of the Nominating Committee by filling out the form linked below, or by filling out paper form available in the church lobbies. Ruling Elders serve alongside pastors in leadership, decision-making, and spiritual guidance. Deacons are called to ministries of compassion, service, and care for those in need. Please prayerfully consider who God may be calling to help lead Maxwell Street and submit your nominations today! forms.gle/KPgERWeBAaGE14V6A

CONFRONTING THE DEMONS

Begins Sunday, October 5 at 9am | 6 week class

Ever think to yourself that our political system could use an exorcism? You're not alone! Bring your crucifix and some Holy Water (just kidding) and join Douglas Ensminger in his battle against the "dark powers" at work in our world today. Come ready to think big, wrestle with demons and challenging questions, and maybe laugh along the way. This six-week class will meet in the Library at 9:30 AM beginning October 5th.

CROP WALK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 | 3PM

Join the 2025 CROP Walk on Sunday, October 12 at 3pm, starting at Second Presbyterian. This annual event supports local hunger missions through God's Pantry Food Bank. Walk with us or donate to the church for the CROP Walk. Questions? Contact Judy Maxson at 859-699-9454 or jke659@gmail.com. Learn more at www.crophungerwalk.org/lexingtonky

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**

MAXWELL STREET BLOCK PARTY

October 18, 2025

Come enjoy food, games, and live music at Maxwell Street! More details to follow!

ALL-CHURCH RETREAT

November 14-16

Get away for a weekend to enjoy the beauty of Burnamwood and good fellowship with your Maxwell Street friends.

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!

WE WANT TO STAY IN CONTACT WITH COLLEGE STUDENTS IN OTHER PLACES TOO!

Do you have a college or graduate student who is studying AWAY from Lexington? We'd love to keep in touch with them! Please send their address to Agnes Donohue on the Campus Ministry committee: agnesdonohue@rocketmail.com

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, we would love for it to take the space here at Maxwell Street. Sweatpants, sweaters, towels, blankets, short and long sleeve shirts needed most.

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, dry pasta, pasta sauce, granola bars, cooking oil, 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

Morning Has Broken

664



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

This 20th-century text was created to provide words for this traditional tune named for a small village on the Isle of Mull, off the west coast of Scotland. Through repeated use of "new" and "first," each morning is treated as a re-creation of the promise of the original day.

346 For the Healing of the Nations

1 For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with
 2 Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your
 3 All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the
 4 You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on

one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing
 world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred,
 earth be banned: pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing,
 hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness,

of the things that earth af - fords; to a life of
 all may come and go in peace. Show us how through
 dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our com - mon
 bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our re -

love in ac - tion help us rise and pledge our word.
 care and good - ness fear will die and hope in - crease.
 quest for jus - tice may we hal - low life's brief span.
 sponse and ser - vice earth its des - ti - ny may find.

The first line of this text quotes the declared purpose of the leaves of the tree of life growing beside the river of life in the heavenly Jerusalem (Revelation 22:2). The hymn continues by identifying some of the many ways we are called to share with God in this healing work.

769

For Everyone Born



1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,
 for young and for old, the right to be - long,
 for just and un - just, a new way to live,
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,

This hymn from a noted New Zealand hymnwriter affirms that God's hospitality transcends the barriers erected by human society and that we who have been created in God's image are called to live in ways that reflect our Creator's values: justice and joy, compassion and peace.

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

Refrain



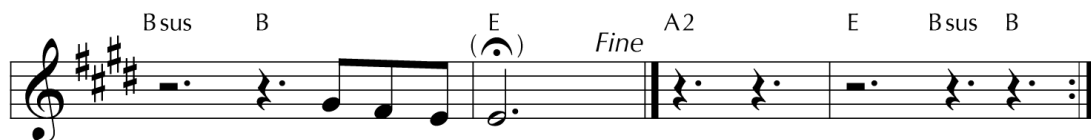
and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and



joy, com-pas - sion and peace: yes,



God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,



jus-tice and joy!