

The background of the entire page is a highly textured, impressionistic painting. It depicts a man wearing a wide-brimmed hat and a light-colored shirt, walking across a field. The field is rendered with dense, overlapping brushstrokes in shades of blue, yellow, and brown, creating a sense of movement and depth. The overall style is reminiscent of the Impressionist movement, with a focus on light and color over fine detail.

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Baptism
July 12, 2026

GATHERING

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

David Cherwein

Chorale Prelude on ASH GROVE

About the Prelude

The Prelude is a musical offering to help move the hearts and minds of the gathering community from the daily struggles of life to the worship of God.

Worship on the Lord's Day

Worship begins as the people gather - greeting one another, praying in silence, or offering music to the glory of God. The act of assembling in Jesus' name bears witness to the Church's identity and mission as Christ's body in the world.

On the cover

Gogh, Vincent van,
1853-1890.
The Sower.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and God's courts with praise. Give thanks to God and bless God's name. For the Holy One, our God, is good. God's steadfast love endures forever and God's faithfulness to all generations.

Psalm 100, vs. 4-5

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

**Almighty God,
in you there are no shortages and nothing lacking.
We thank you for giving us nourishment
from the flourishing fields of creation.
Form and reform us by your word,
that we may rejoice in your bounty
and share your inheritance of abundance,
all the days of our lives. Amen.**

*(The Cross and Bible lead the procession, symbolic of the centrality
in worship of Jesus Christ - the Living Word,
and the Bible - the written Word.)*

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 305

DARWALL'S 128TH

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

CALL TO CONFESSION

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence.

Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16

In faith and penitence let us confess our sin before God and one another.

305 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

1 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
 2 Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns su - preme,
 3 Let cour - age be our friend; let wis - dom be our guide,
 4 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the a - ges long!
 em - power - ing us to catch the vi - sion, dream the dream!
 as we in mis - sion mag - ni - fy the Cru - ci - fied!
 For Christ the Lord has tri - umphed o'er the a - ges long!

In bold ac - cord, come cel - e - brate the jour - ney now and praise the Lord!

This text was the winner in a hymn competition sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Bicentennial Committee for the 1988–1989 observance, which had the theme “Celebrate the Journey.” The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) is appropriately celebratory.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

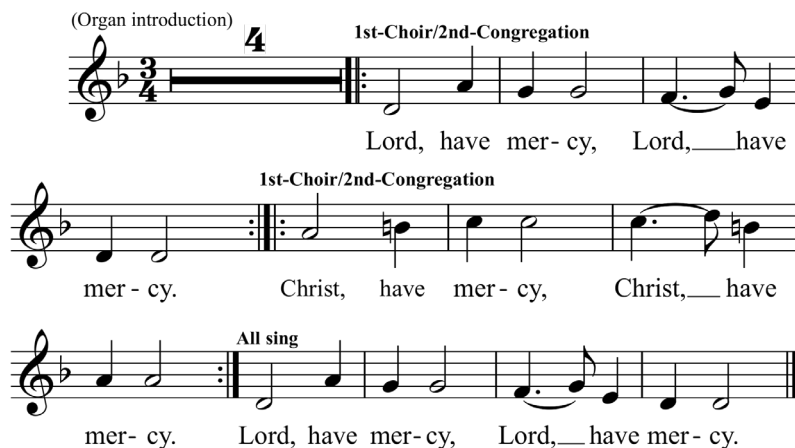
**O God, we have not tended the soil of our lives.
We let it stay shallow and rocky
by ignoring your Word and disobeying your commands.
We let it be riddled with thorns
by succumbing to our own prejudices.
Life-giving God,
Open us to being challenged,
enable us to learn,
so that your word will take root
and bear good fruit in our lives.**

(Silent confession)

Kyrie

James MacMillan

(Organ introduction) **4** 1st-Choir/2nd-Congregation



Lord, have mer- cy, Lord, ___ have
mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy, Christ, ___ have
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, ___ have mer - cy.

1st-Choir/2nd-Congregation

All sing

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the Good News: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

*The Peace

Since God in Christ has forgiven us,
let us also forgive one another.
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*(Please exchange the peace with the words,
"The peace of Christ be with you.")*

Call to and Prayer of Confession

A call to confession expresses God's initiative in calling for repentance and promising forgiveness in Christ. As members of Christ's body, we confess the reality of sin, captivity, and brokenness in personal and common life and ask for God's saving grace.

About the Kyrie

The Kyrie (Greek "kyrios" [Lord]) is a corporate musical prayer for grace.

Assurance of Pardon

A declaration of forgiveness proclaims the good news of God's mercy and offers the assurance of pardon in Jesus' name. The liturgist pours water into the font, which reminds us of the grace and cleansing of our Baptism, and the baptismal call to new life in Christ.

Act of Praise

The Act of Praise brings together the choir and congregation to sing God's praise in response to the Assurance of Pardon as the last phrase.

Scripture

The scriptures bear witness to the word of God, revealed most fully in Jesus Christ, the Word who "became flesh and lived among us." (John 1:14) Where the word is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the living Word is present by the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, reading, hearing, preaching, and affirming the word are central to Christian worship and essential to the Service for the Lord's Day.

***ACT OF PRAISE**

John Weaver

Glory to God in the Highest

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! **Our ears are open.**

Isaiah 55:1-13

(Old Testament, page 685 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 65, All Sing

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

Every heart its tribute pays,
every tongue its song of praise;
sin and sorrow, guilt and care,
brought to him who answers prayer;
there by grace may humankind
full and free forgiveness find;
called and chosen, loved and blest,
in his presence be at rest.

Ever while his deeds endure
our salvation stands secure;
he whose fingers spun the earth,
gave the seas and mountains birth,
tamed the ocean, formed the land,
spread the skies with mighty hand:
far-off shores revere his Name,
day and night his power proclaim.

Year by year, the seasons' round
sees the land with blessing crowned,
where caressed by sun and rain
barren earth gives life again;
sunlit valleys burn with gold,
nature smiles on field and fold,
byre and barn with plenty stored:
all things living, praise the Lord!

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

(New Testament, page 13 in your pew Bible)

SERMON "Scattered Grace" Sarah Bird Kneff

(A moment for meditation)

***HYMN 37** ASH GROVE

Let All Things Now Living

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (8:30 AM)**

**The life, death, resurrection,
and promised coming of Jesus Christ
has set the pattern for the church's mission.
His human life involves the church
in the common life of all people.
His service to men and women
commits the church
to work for every form of human well-being.
His suffering makes the church sensitive
to all human suffering
so that it sees the face of Christ
in the faces of persons in every kind of need.
His crucifixion discloses to the church
God's judgment on the inhumanity
that marks human relations,
and the awful consequences
of the church's own complicity in injustice.
In the power of the risen Christ
and the hope of his coming,
the church sees the promise
of God's renewal of human life in society
and of God's victory over all wrong.
The church follows this pattern
in the form of its life
and in the method of its action.
So to live and serve
is to confess Christ as Lord.**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32-33



The sacrament of baptism will be administered today at the 11:00 AM worship service to:

Thomas Francis Corcoran

son of Francie and Tom Corcoran

The Baptismal Rite

The Apostles' Creed: The oldest surviving baptismal liturgy, dating from around the year 200 C.E., describes the candidate for baptism standing in water and affirming the faith by responding to three questions. Each question corresponds to one person of the Trinity. The Paschal Candle is symbolic of Christ's death and resurrection. The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, is our Paschal sacrifice. The Paschal Candle also symbolizes the light of the risen Christ, shining in the world. The use of this symbol dates from the early days of the Church. New Christians were given a lighted candle, symbolic of their having died and been raised to new life in Christ through baptism.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00 AM only)

Presentation

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ...

Obeying the word of our Lord Jesus,
and confident of his promises,
we baptize those whom God has called.

**In baptism God claims us and seals us
to show that we belong to God.
God frees us from sin and death,
uniting us with Jesus Christ
in his death and resurrection.
By water and the Holy Spirit,
we are made members of the Church,
the body of Christ,
and joined to Christ's ministry
of love, peace, and justice.
Let us remember with joy our own baptism,
as we celebrate this sacrament.**

Questions to the Parents, Congregation, and Children of the Church

***Profession of Faith**

Through baptism we enter the covenant...
With the whole Church, let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven;
he is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, Eternal God...lives and reigns forever.
Amen.

The Baptism

Welcome

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into the body
of Christ.

**Live as a child of the light
and let your light shine before others. Amen.**

Baptismal Anthem

David J. Evans
arr. Richard Shephard

Be Still for the Presence of the Lord

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here;
Come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear.

In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground;
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire, with splendor he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place;
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.
No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him;
Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

Offering

The collection of tithes and offerings takes place as a response to the Word. These actions are signs of our gratitude for the grace of God proclaimed in the gospel.

To give, please scan the QR code below:



Doxology

A short hymn of praise to the triune God (God, Jesus Christ, Holy Spirit).

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Anthem

arr. Eric Nelson

For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friend on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring.
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely giv'n;
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our grateful hymn of praise.

*DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**God of compassion,
you have opened the way for us
and brought us to yourself.
Pour your love into our hearts,
that, overflowing with joy,
we may freely share the blessings of your realm
and faithfully proclaim the good news of Christ. Amen.**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SENDING

***HYMN 307**

CWM RHONDA

God of Grace and God of Glory

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

David Lasky

Trumpet Rondeau in C

**(Those who are able may stand.)*

About Hymn 307

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

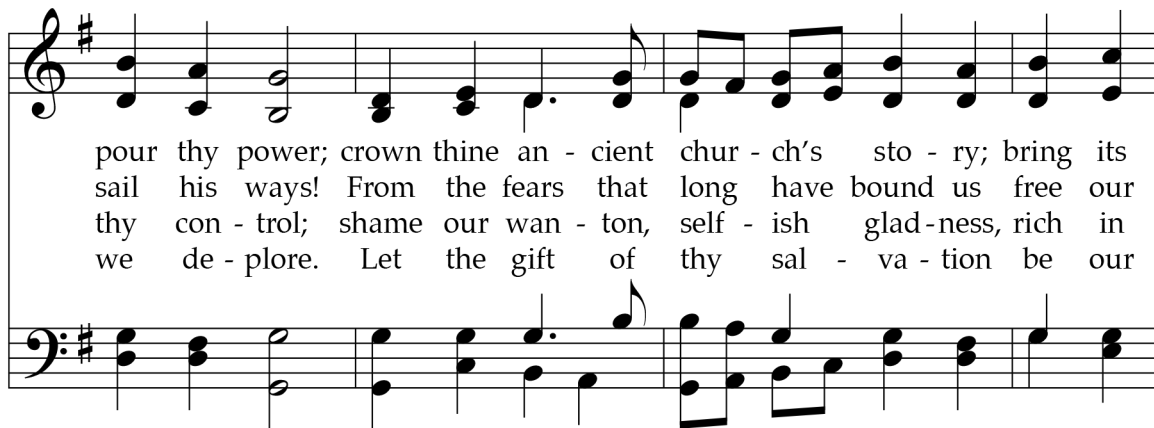
About the Postlude

The Postlude is considered the final Alleluia of worship.

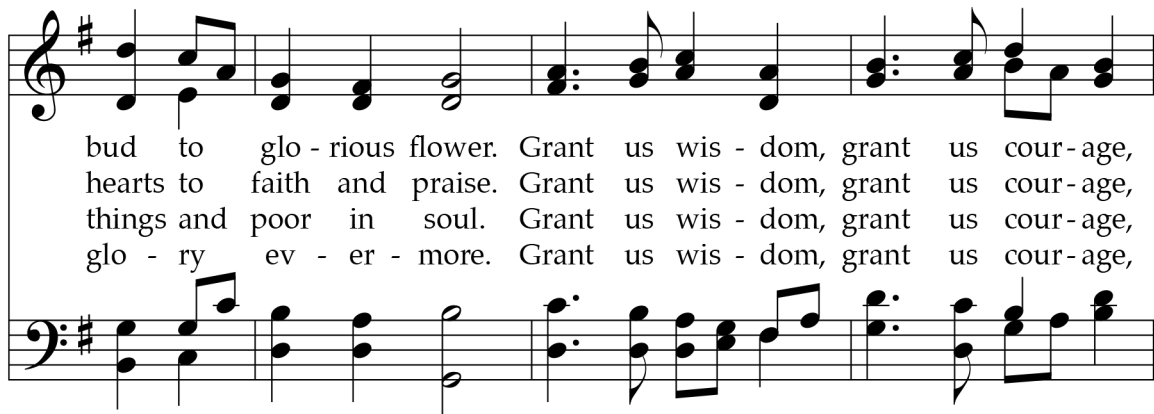
307 God of Grace and God of Glory



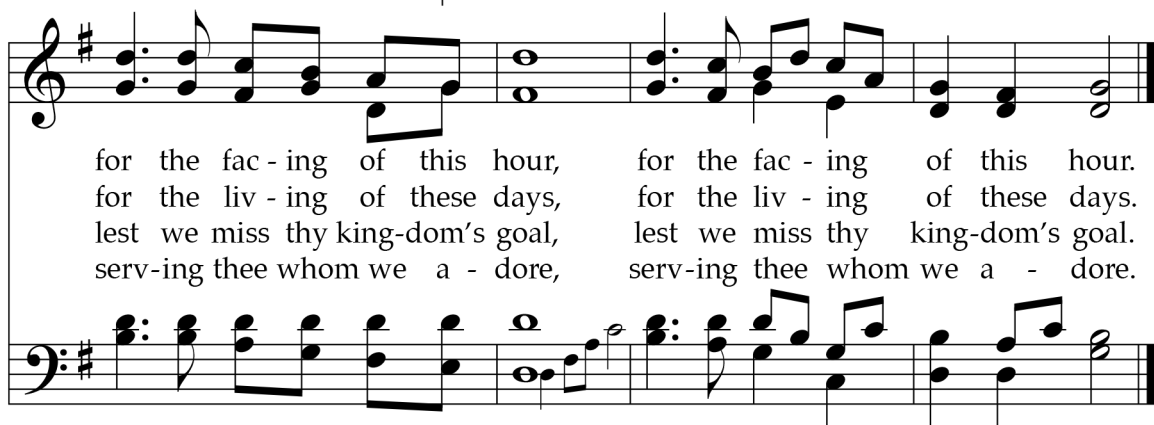
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our



bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

Today @ Westminster

Worship Leaders

Preaching

Rev. Sarah Bird Kneff

Liturgist

Julius Hooper

Lay Liturgists

8:30 AM Ann Neely
11:00 AM Hamilton Proctor

Presenting Elder

11:00 AM Marees Choppin

Music

8:30 AM Chamber Choir
11:00 AM Summer Choir

John Semingson
Director of Music Ministries

Stephen Z. Cook
Organist

Red Rose

The red rose in the Chancel gives glory and thanksgiving to God for the birth of a son, Hillis Paul Lakoff, on July 2, 2026, to Lincoln and Katie Lakoff. Catherine and Lincoln are proud grandparents. Susan and Madeline are loving aunts, and Logan is an excited uncle.

Hearing Assistance

We offer two options to assist with hearing during services. 1.) Download the Sennheiser MobileConnect app. 2.) Personal FM receivers with an earpiece. Receivers and instructions for both options are located in the Narthex and on the Welsh Dresser in the Parlor. Please see an Usher if you need assistance.

Large Print Hymns

Looking for large-print hymns? They can be found in the Narthex at the Sanctuary entrance or in the Parlor on the Welsh dresser.

Recorded Worship Services

To watch a service at a later time, go to www.nashvillewpc.church and scroll down to the Worship Service Archive. Click on the service you would like to view.

Dial-a-Sermon

Dial 629.206.1073 after 10:15 AM each Sunday morning to listen to the sermon. The sermon will be available all week.

Childcare

Childcare is available on Sundays from 8:15 AM to 12:00 PM.

Nursery - Room 146

Toddlers - Room 152

2s and 3s - Room 151

Copyright Information

The music used in the service this morning is copyrighted under Christian Copyright Licensing International, Inc., No. 1121525.

Our Mission

Ordinary people testifying to the extraordinary light found in our Lord Jesus Christ.

"For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us."

(2 Corinthians 4:6-7)



TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



**LIVING
OUT THE
WORD**

LOVE
RECONCILE
SHINE
TRANSFORM

"If you have ears, hear!"
Matthew 13:9

What does it mean to truly hear the Word?

Where have you seen God's Word bear fruit in your life?

Where do you find hope in this parable?

Welcome

Westminster Presbyterian Church welcomes you to share our common journey to become more faithful disciples of Christ. If you are interested in joining us in this journey, you are invited to contact Stephanie Boaz, sboaz@nashvillewpc.org.

Having trouble hearing during the service?

We have hearing aids available in the Narthex and instructions to download the Sennheiser MobileConnect app. The Sennheiser MobileConnect app is a Wi-Fi audio streaming solution that turns smartphones into personal listening and communication devices. It provides barrier-free hearing assistance and live translation directly through your personal headphones or hearing aids.

Summer "Drop-In" Choir Every week, Sunday, July 12 through August 16

Come sing with us whenever you can. Rehearsal is at 9:45 - 10:45 AM, and the choir sings for the 11:00 AM worship service. Anthems will be based on mostly familiar hymns.

Questions? Contact John Semington, Director of Music, jsemington@nashvillewpc.org. Come and make a joyful noise with us this summer.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School • 9:45 AM

Adults

Covenant Class | Goodpasture Hall | "Journey in Genesis"

Join us this summer in Goodpasture Hall as we explore the Old Testament lectionary readings from the book of Genesis. Each week a different pastor will lead a casual conversation about Sunday's text as we explore this ancient story and how it still speaks to our lives today.

Led by Sophie Maness.

Murdoch MacLeod | Library

Journeys | Fellowship Sunday

Youth Donuts and Devos

Children Enjoy time with family

Nursery Room 146: Nursery; Room 152: Toddlers & 2s; Room 151: 3s - 5s

The Nursery is available from 8:15 AM to 12:00 PM.



Westminster Café

• Tuesday - Friday | 8:00 AM - Noon

Be our guest! Park in the north entrance parking lot by the blue outdoor umbrella. Enjoy specialized coffees, various teas, and cold drinks along with homemade yummys.



RISE Against Hunger

• July 12 | 3:00 PM | Café

• Help us pack 20,000 meals - All ages invited!

Register by scanning the QR code.



Pottery Class - Bee Watering Station

• July 24, & 31 | 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM • Meet at the North Entrance

• \$30.00 - includes all supplies | Bring your own lunch



Youth Activity | NSC Game & Fireworks!*

• Friday, July 17 | 6:15 - 11:00 PM

• Meet at WPC North Entrance. Cost is \$20. RSVP to Hannah Norris, hnorris@nashvillewpc.org. Bring cash or pay online by scanning the QR code to the right.

*Bring \$\$ for dinner or snacks. Please note Geodis is cash-free.



MINISTRY TEAM



Donovan Drake
Pastor
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Will Wellman
Director of Theology and
Community Initiatives
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Sophie Maness
Exec Director of Children's
& Community Life Ministries
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Stephanie Boaz
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Congregational Care
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Ashley Higgins
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John Semingson
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Adam DeVries
Parish Associate for Youth
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Stephen Z. Cook
Organist



Sarah Bird Kneff
Associate Pastor for
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3900 West End Avenue
Nashville, TN 37205-1899
615.292.5526
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Sunday, July 12

3:00 p.m.

Koinonia Youth Café

5:00 p.m.

Blue Monkey Shaved Ice

North Parking Lot

Register Today!

