



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026

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

In celebration of the beginning of Black History Month, this week's cover art is a mural painting "Baptism" by self-taught Black folk artist, Clementine Hunter. This piece was painted as a mural at Melrose Plantation, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, 1955.

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.

INTROIT 411 - *God Is Here Today*

**God is here today;
as certain as the air I breathe,
as certain as the morning sun that rises,
as certain when I sing you'll hear my song.**

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE - *Grand Jeu*, Jean Adam Guillain (1680-1739)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord, we come into your sanctuary with eagerness.

May we hear your call and speak your truth.

Lord, we come to abide with you in love.

Gather us in honest and faithful community.

Lord, prepare us to be people of hope and grace.

Kindle in us courage to live as brave and faithful disciples.

Let us worship our God together in this holy place.

Alleluia. Amen!

+ HYMN 1 - *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord, God Almighty!*

+ CONFESSION & PARDON

Merciful God, we come before you in confession. You have showered us with blessings, but we hoard those gifts, refusing to share with our neighbors in need. You have given us freedom to live justly, but we too oppress and judge others. You have called us to live in peaceful community, but discord and fear abound among ourselves. Forgive us. Soften our hearts and open our minds to hear your call. Inspire us to act justly, love fiercely, and walk in your way each and every day. Hear us now in our silent prayer.

• RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS: Hymn 581, (*Gloria Patri*)

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR OPENNESS

God of wonder, awaken us! As we hear your Word read and proclaimed, open us to be surprised! Enliven us with the power of the Word and presence of your Spirit. Transform us for our walk with you. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - Matthew 5:1-12 pg 165 (NRSVUE)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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

OFFERING

- OFFERTORY *With a Voice of Singing*, Martin Shaw, Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING - Micah 6:1-8 OT pg 92

SERMON - Rev. Kathy Riley

STATEMENT OF FAITH - From *The Confession of 1967 (Inclusive Language)*

In Jesus Christ, God was reconciling the world to God's self. Jesus Christ is God with us. He is the eternal Son of the Father, who became human and lived among us to fulfill the work of reconciliation. He is present in the church by the power of the Holy Spirit to continue and complete his mission. This work of God – the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – is the foundation of all confessional statements about God, humanity, and the world. Therefore, the church calls all people to be reconciled to God and to one another. To God be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations! Amen.

+ **HYMN 127** - *Blest Are They*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S *(Debts & Debtors)*

INVITATION

- PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise...

- WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The congregation is invited to come forward to tear off a piece of bread and dip it in the cup. There is gluten-free bread on the table. If you would prefer to receive Communion in your pew, an elder or deacon will serve you. After consuming the bread and the cup and returning to your seat, turn your mind to what God is inviting you to consider in this moment of stillness.

- PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, you are the giver of blessings. Give us eyes to see you at work among us. Move our hands and feet to be a blessing in our community. As we leave this table and this holy place, open our hearts and mouths to hear your word and speak your truth so all can know of your justice and love. Amen.

+ **HYMN 536** - *Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen*

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE - Hymn 733, We All Are One in Mission

**We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single, great commission compels us from above to plan and work together that all may
know Christ's love.**

POSTLUDE - *How Firm A Foundation*, Claude Murphee (1906-1958)

Join us in the Punch Parlor after worship at the rear of sanctuary for conversation and community.

JOYS & CONCERNS

Joan Colborn, Stan Brunn, Greg Harper, Cindy and Allen Gayheart, Kenny Leatherman, Carolyn Hale, Martin Hendrix's mother, Kenny Way, Kaye Morgan's son-in-law, Helen Richardson's family.

PARTICIPANTS

WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Kathy Riley, Debby Acker, Rob Wethington, Ted Gentry, and the Chancel Choir

ACOLYTE: Laurel Bullock

USHERS: Katie Whaley, Tony Sidor, Dan Farrer, Kerksmar

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

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for February 1, 2026

First reading: Micah 6.1-8

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 1.18-31

Psalm: 15

Gospel: Matthew 5.1-12

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.

- A Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church App is available from the Apple and Google App Stores. 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.



Download the Maxwell Street App
Scan this code with your smartphone or device

Children's Programming on Sundays

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. Children will head downstairs following 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. Children will head downstairs following 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, February 1

9:15am - Confirmation
9:30am - Adult Sunday School
10:30am - Worship
10:45am - Children's Sunday School
11:45am - Youth Group
11:45am - Children's Choir

Tuesday, February 3

12:30pm - Centering Prayer

Wednesday, February 4

10:30am - Kerygma Class
5:30pm - Budget & Stewardship Meeting
6:30pm - Chancel Choir
7:00pm - UKIRK Campus Group

Thursday, February 5

5:30pm - Thursday Night Meal

Sunday, February 8

9:30am - Adult Sunday School
10:30am - Worship
10:45am - Children's Sunday School
11:45am - Youth Group
11:45am - Children's Choir

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Salvation Across the Ages

Sundays, 9:30am in Library

Rev. Douglas Ensminger leads this AI-aided class exploring classic and contemporary perspectives on salvation. Participants will engage theologians across history and reflect on what salvation means in their own lives. Schedule: 2/1 Johnson & Gutiérrez, 2/8 You.

KERYGMA CLASS

Wednesdays, 10:30am in Library

This class explores From Judgment to Hope by Walter Brueggemann. Together we'll study the prophets as imaginative voices who envisioned alternative futures grounded in justice and hope. Contact Matt for more info.

N.A.D.Y.A.

Sunday, February 15, 6-7:30pm

N.A.D.Y.A. is returning in February and will meet from 6-7:30pm at Jason & Andrea's home to discuss, "Humanish: What Talking to Your Cat of Naming Your Car Reveals about the Uniquely Human Need to Humanize". Contact Jason at jasonmckinleywilliams@gmail.com if you have questions.

STITCHMATES

2nd and 4th Saturdays at noon

We meet twice a month in the Church Library. Bring the projects you are working on and enjoy this time of fellowship! Questions? Contact Elise (elisekalika56@gmail.com).

WOMEN'S RETREAT

August 14-16, 2026

Travel to Montreat, NC for Women's Connection 2026 for a weekend of connection and conversation. Registration ranges between \$385-\$535, scholarships are available. Don't let cost prevent you from joining us! Contact Michelle (michelle.jones@maxpres.org) for more information.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

GENEXT

Sunday, February 15 after worship

GeNext is a program designed to give 4th & 5th graders a place to connect with one another. Contact Michelle Jones for more info. (michelle.jones@maxpres.org)

YOUTH

THAT'S AMORE! - YOUTH SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

Sunday, February 22

The Maxwell Street Youth Group wants to show their love for Maxwell by hosting an Italian dinner. Proceeds support the Youth Summer Mission Trips. There will also be a silent auction. Please see a member of the youth group for tickets or use this QR Code.



YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2026

APPALACHIAN SERVICE PROJECT

July 5-11

Cost: \$350 (Scholarships Available)

Each summer, ASP serves 20-30 communities across Central Appalachia. This year we'll be in eastern Kentucky, providing home repairs while offering our youth a meaningful cultural and transformational experience. **A \$100 deposit is due February 1**, with the remaining balance due June 1. Scholarships are available, contact Rob for details. Sign up with the QR Code.



MISSION

CALL FOR DONATIONS

The Mission Committee is asking for donations of new or lightly used shoes for adults including practical boots, tennis shoes, work boots, hiking boots, etc. for our neighbors at Thursday Night Meals and the Clothing Drive. Additionally, donations of heavy socks, hats, and gloves, are welcome!

The social work department is also asking for toilet paper. See their Amazon Wishlist for more: <https://bit.ly/4sZRYZV>

Mission Committee will be meeting Tuesday, February 10th, at 7pm.