

Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

January 26, 2025

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

At Wesley we foster a sanctuary culture by creating a safe environment where all feel welcomed, loved, accepted, valued, and affirmed for who they are, through intentional practices such as empathy, compassion, generosity, hospitality, and inclusion.

Please let an usher know if you have questions, need assistance, or have a concern about health or safety.

Prelude "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" J. S. Bach

Greeting

*Call to Worship

One: The law of God is perfect, reviving the soul;

Many: The decrees of God are sure, making wise the simple;

One: The precepts of God are right, rejoicing the heart;

Many: The commandment of God is clear, enlightening the eyes;

One: The reverence of God is pure, enduring forever;

Many: The ordinances of God are true and righteous altogether.

All: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O God, my rock and my redeemer.

*Hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" UMH 140

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and spring-time and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

***Please stand in body or in spirit.**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

*Praise Songs

I Have Joy in My Heart

I have joy in my heart, deep, deep down in my heart...
Jesus gave to me, and no one can destroy it.
I have joy in my heart; deep, deep down in my heart...

Ayeyi Wura (You Own Our Praise)

A-ye-yi Wurae' ----A-ye-yi Wurae'
Ye yi W'aye Na ye Ma Wo so!
You own our praise! You own our praise!
We praise you, Lord, and we lift you high!

Common Prayer (*unison*)

**Living God,
in Christ you make all things new.
Transform the poverty of our nature
by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Children's Time

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

"Come and Find the Quiet Center"

TFWS 2128, v. 1

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Offering

Offertory Anthem

Aseda - Thanks

J. G. Koomson

Thanks be to you, Thanks be to you, Thanks be to God on high, (2x)
You are worthy of praise and adoration
Lord of the All you are great
All your handiworks bear witness that you are
God who is worthy to be worshipped.

*Doxology

UMH 94

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! Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Passing of Peace

“Shalom”

Mensah Essilfie

God’s peace be unto you,
We wish you Shalom!
The peace of God which transcends all
understanding be with you forevermore.

Hebrew Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

*Gospel Reading

Luke 4:14-21

Anthem

There is Balm in Gilead

William L. Dawson 1899-1990

There is a Balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
There is a Balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul.
Some times I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.
If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus, and say "He died for all."

Message

Announcement

*Hymn

“Jesus, Joy of Our Desiring”

UMH 644

Jesus, joy of our desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright;
drawn by thee, our souls aspiring soar to uncreated light.
Word of God, our flesh that fashioned, with the fire of life impassioned,
striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying round thy throne.

Through the way where hope is guiding, hark, what peaceful music rings;
where the flock, in thee confiding, drink of joy from deathless springs.
Theirs is beauty’s fairest pleasure; theirs is wisdom’s holiest treasure.
Thou dost ever lead thine own in the love of joys unknown.

*Benediction

Postlude

“Exalt His Name”

Charles Cooke

Worship Leaders: Naa Dromo Aryee, Gifty Bentum-Asante, Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle,
Ronna Davis, Chris Kerns, Byungmoo Lee, Debbie O’Driscoll, David Potts, Jennifer Quansah,
Chancel Choir, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

Call to Worship – Psalm 19 ALT. *The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version*, Oxford Univ. Press.
Common Prayer – *Book of Common Worship*, Westminster/John Knox Press, 1993, p. 208.
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