

# Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

July 6, 2025

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

---

*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

"Finlandia"

Jean Sibelius

*My country's skies are bluer than the ocean and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine,  
But other lands have sunlight, too, and clover and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.  
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.*

Greeting

\*Call to Worship

One: All are welcome here. Whether you are heavy-hearted, wondering if there is power to make you well, or feel weighed down by many demands,

**Many: The kingdom of God has come near.**

One: Whether you feel at home in the place or you long to be accepted,

**Many: The kingdom of God has come near.**

One: The One who writes our names in the book of life and dares us to be new creations in Christ calls us.

**Many: The kingdom of God has come near.**

**All: Come, let us worship God.**

\*Hymn

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

UMH 548

In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north;  
but one great fellowship of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere  
their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord  
close binding humankind.

In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek,  
and neither slave nor free;  
both male and female heirs are made,  
and all are kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west,  
in him meet south and north;  
all Christly souls are one in him  
throughout the whole wide earth.

**\*Praise Songs**

**Me yi N'aye (I Will Praise Him)** [Feel free to sing in either language]

Me yi n'aye, Me yi Nyamea' ye...  
Me yi Nyamea' ye, Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Halleluyah ...

I will praise God, I will praise my God...  
I will praise my God, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah...

**I Will Lift Up Your Name Higher**

I will lift up your name higher...  
Great Jehovah you are wonderful  
I will lift up your name higher...

**Common Prayer (*unison*)**

**We ask you, O Lord, for the gifts of your Spirit. Enable us to penetrate the depth of the whole truth, and grant that we may share with others the blessings you have given us. Teach us to overcome divisions. Send us your Spirit to lead to full unity your sons and daughters in full charity, in obedience to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Children's Time**

**Prayers of the People, & the Lord's Prayer**

"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

TFWS 2120, refrain

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow through the wilderness calling and free;  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,  
Wind, Wind on the sea.

**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

"It is by Your Grace that I Am Alive"

Sam Asare Bediako

It is by your grace that I am alive.  
God, you have done a lot for me.  
My Lord, I owe you thanks.  
I will sing and give you adoration.  
Whatever I have belongs to you.  
It is by your Grace that I am still alive.  
My Lord, I owe you thanks.  
I will sing and give you adoration.

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.

Psalter

Psalms 30

UMH 762

**Response:**

For the night weeping may tarry;  
with the morning light comes joy.

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have lifted me up,  
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

**O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,  
and you healed me.**

O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol,  
**restored me to life from among those gone down to the pit. [Response]**

Sing praises to the Lord, O his faithful ones,  
and give thanks to his holy name.

**Surely the Lord's anger is but for a moment;  
the Lord's favor is for a lifetime.**

Weeping may tarry for the night,  
but joy comes with the morning.

**As for me, I said in my prosperity,  
"I shall never be moved."**

By your favor, O Lord,  
you had established me as a strong mountain;

**You hid your face,  
I was dismayed. [Response]**

To you, O Lord, I cried,  
and to the Lord I made supplication:

**"What profit is there in my death,  
if I go down to the pit?"**

Will the dust praise you?  
Will it tell of your faithfulness?

**Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me!  
O Lord, be my helper!"**

You have turned my mourning into dancing;  
you have lossed my sackcloth  
and girded me with gladness,  
That my soul may praise you and not be silent.

**O Lord, my God, I will give thanks to you forever. [Response]**

New Testament Reading

Romans 1:1-12

Message

“Not Strangers”

Rev. Stuart Tucker

\*Hymn

“One Bread, One Body”

UMH 620

*Refrain:*

One bread, one body One Lord of all  
One cup of blessing which we bless  
And we, though many Throughout the earth  
We are one body in this one Lord

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,  
woman or man, no more. [Refrain]

Many the gifts, many the works,  
one in the Lord of all. [Refrain]

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,  
gathered to one, for all. [Refrain]

Holy Communion

UMH 12-14

*The United Methodist Church practices Open Communion. All who desire to live  
in the love and peace of Jesus Christ are welcome to the bread and cup of communion.*

*At the direction of the ushers, come forward using the center aisle to stand or  
kneel at the communion rail for distribution of the elements. After consuming the elements and private prayer  
at the rail, you may return to your seat via the side aisles. Please alert the ushers to anyone wishing to be  
served while remaining seated in the sanctuary.  
Non-alcoholic grape juice is used, and gluten-free wafers are available.*

Communion Music

“Jesus, Lead Thou On”

Paul Manz

Announcements

\*Hymn

“The Church’s One Foundation”

UMH 545

The church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
she is his new creation by water and the Word.  
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o’er all the earth;  
her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder we see her sore oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation of peace evermore;  
till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we  
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

\*Benediction

Postlude

"Psalm 19"

Benedetto Marcello

Worship Leaders: Gifty Bentum-Asante, Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle,  
Ronna Davis, Chris Kerns, Debbie O'Driscoll, Jennifer Quansah,  
Rev. Stuart Tucker, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

Call to Worship: *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025*

Common Prayer: Karol Wojtyla (Pope John Paul II) Poland 20th C. *The United Methodist Hymnal*, 556  
OneLicense Reprint + Livestream and Podcast/Recording License A-726657  
CCLI Copyright License # 20653706 CCLI Streaming License #20653696