

Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

August 3, 2025

Eighth 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

Meditation

René Dubois

Greeting

*Call to Worship

One: Give thanks to God,

Many: for God's steadfast love lasts forever.

One: God accompanies us in our distress,

Many: as we cross the threshold to worship's blessings.

One: Give thanks to our God,

Many: for God's steadfast love abides with us.

*Hymn

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

UMH 126

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.

The Lord is never far away, but through all grief distressing,
an ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing.
As with a mother's tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory.

Thus, all my toilsome way along, I sing aloud thy praises,
that earth may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, both soul and body bear your part:
To God all praise and glory.

Let all who name Christ's holy name give God all praise and glory;
let all who own his power proclaim aloud the wondrous story!
Cast each false idol from its throne, for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:
To God all praise and glory.

*Praise Songs

God You're So Good

God you're so good. God you are kind.
God you are wonderful. My God, you are excellent...

Excellent is Thy name. Excellent is Thy might.
God you are wonderful. My God you are excellent...

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...

Common Prayer (*unison*)

Spirit of hope and renewal, as the dawn nudges us awake, summon us with your presence. Wrap us with the cloak of your wisdom and grace. As your light breaks the horizon this day, help us to see the love revealed in your kingdom. Let us enter this space for worship, celebrating God's works for humankind.

Children's Time

Prayer Time

Call to 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.	

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (You are invited to pray in the language of your choice.)

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 Music	The Cup of Salvation	James Varrick Armaah
What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all his people.		

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 107

UMH 830

¹O give thanks to the Lord, who is good; whose steadfast love endures forever.
²**Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom the Lord redeemed from trouble**
³**and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.**
⁴Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city in which to dwell;
⁵**hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.**
⁶Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord, who delivered them from their distress;
⁷**and led them by a straight way, until they reached a city in which to dwell.**
⁸Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.
⁹**For the Lord satisfies the thirsty, and fills the hungry with good things.**

³³ The Lord turns rivers into a desert, springs of water into thirsty ground,
³⁴**a fruitful land into a salty waste, because of the wickedness of its inhabitants.**
³⁵ the Lord turns a desert into pools of water, a parched land into springs of water.
³⁶**The Lord lets the hungry dwell there, and they establish a city in which to live;**
³⁷ they sow fields, and plant vineyards, and get a fruitful yield.
³⁸**They multiply greatly by the blessing of the Lord who does not let their cattle decrease.**

³⁹When they are diminished and brought low through oppression, trouble, and sorrow,
⁴⁰the Lord pours contempt on princes and makes them wander in trackless wastes;
⁴¹**but the Lord raises up the needy out of affliction, and makes their families like flocks.**
⁴²The upright see it and are glad; and all wickedness stops its mouth.
⁴³**Whoever is wise, give heed to these things, and consider the steadfast love of the Lord.**

New Testament Reading

Colossians 3:1-11

Message

"My Life is Hidden"

*Hymn

I Come with Joy

UMH 617

I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved and free,
in awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me,
his life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His presence, always near,
is in such friendship better known; we see and praise him here,
we see and praise him here.

Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways,
and as his people in the world, we'll live and speak his praise,
we'll live and speak his praise.

Lord's Supper

UMH 12; musical setting A, 17

Announcements

*Hymn

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

UMH 127

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

*Benediction

Postlude

Postlude on CWM RHONDDA (Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah)

John Hughes
arr. Mark Rippe

Call to Worship and Common Prayer: *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025*

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

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