

Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

August 17, 2025

Tenth 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

Jesue Loves Me
(Based on Clair de Lune by Claude Debussy)

William Bradbury, arr. Fred Bock

Greeting

*Call to Worship

One: Give ear, O God, to your people.

Many: Stir up your strength and deliver us!

One: Once you rescued your children from bondage.

Many: Now set your people free.

One: Look down from heaven, God of hosts.

Many: Turn to us anew and see us in our need.

One: Restore us, God of Creation.

Many: Let your face shine upon us.

One: May our suffering cease.

Many: May all your children be saved.

*Hymn

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

UMH 133

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.

*[Refrain] Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms. *[Refrain]*

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms. *[Refrain]*

*Praise Songs

Praise, O Praise, My God and King

Praise, O praise, my God and King.
Hymns of adoration, sing;
For his mercies, shall endure; Ever faithful, ever sure ...

Alleluia, Alleluia!
King of Kings and Lord of Lords!
For his mercies, shall endure; Ever faithful ever sure...

Ayeyi Wura (You Own Our Praise) *[Feel free to sing in either language]*

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*)

Come, Holy Spirit. Hear our prayers and songs of praise. We join voices from ancient times, that placed their trust in you in days of joy or pain. Inspire us in this hour, that we may never surrender to despair. Renew in us enduring faith, ever as we join eternally in song. Amen.

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	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 80

UMH 801, Response 1

Response: *I am the vine; you are the branches, rooted in faith and love.*

¹ Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth!

² In the presence of Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasse,
stir up your might, and come to save us!

³ **Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

⁴ O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

⁵ **You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure.**

⁶ You make us the scorn of our neighbors; and our enemies laugh among themselves.

⁷ **Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

Response: *I am the vine; you are the branches, rooted in faith and love.*

⁸ You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

⁹ **You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.**

¹⁰ The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches;

¹¹ **it sent out its branches to the sea, and its shoots to the river.**

¹² Why then have you broken down its walls,
so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

¹³ **The boar from the forest ravages it,
and all that move in the field feed on it.**

Response: *I am the vine; you are the branches, rooted in faith and love.*

¹⁴ Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see;
have regard for this vine, ¹⁵ the stock which your right hand planted.

¹⁶ They have burned it with fire, they have cut it down;
may they perish at the rebuke of your countenance!

¹⁷ **But let your hand be upon the those of your right hand,
the ones whom you have made strong for yourself!**

¹⁸ Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name!

¹⁹ **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts! let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

Response: *I am the vine; you are the branches, rooted in faith and love.*

Message

“Division”

*Hymn

Take Up Thy Cross

UMH 415

Take up thy cross," the Savior said,
"if thou wouldst my disciple be;
deny thyself, the world forsake,
and humbly follow after me."

Take up thy cross; let not its weight
fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear thy spirit up,
and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.

Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,
nor let thy foolish pride rebel;
thy Lord for thee the cross endured,
to save thy soul from death and hell.

Take up thy cross, and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

Announcements

*Hymn

God of Love and God of Power

UMH 578

God of love and God of power, grant us in this burning hour
grace to ask these gifts of thee, daring hearts and spirits free.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

We are not the first to be banished by our fears from thee;
give us courage, let us hear heaven's trumpets ringing clear.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

All our lives belong to thee, thou our final loyalty;
slaves are we whene'er we share that devotion anywhere.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

God of love and God of power, make us worthy of this hour;
offering lives if it's thy will, keeping free our spirits still.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

*Benediction

Postlude

The Power and the Glory

Roy E. Nolte

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

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

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***Please Stand in Body or in Spirit**