

Wesley United Methodist Church

Serving the Community with Faith & Love Since 1927!

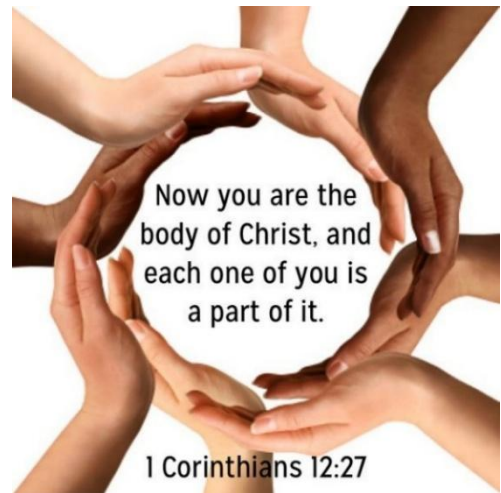
10:00 AM Sunday Worship

September 21, 2025

Fifteenth 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.



***Please Stand in Body or in Spirit When You See the ***

Prelude

Improvisation on a *Shaker Melody - Simple Gifts*

James E Clemens

Welcome

Pastor Nizzi

Centering

As We Gather

Michael Fay & Thomas Coomes

**As we gather may your Spirit work within us
As we gather may we glorify Your name
Knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship
We'll be blessed because we came.
We'll be blessed because we came.**

***Call to Worship**

One: There are many gifts, talents, and abilities given by God.

ALL: But there is only one Spirit.

One: There are a variety of things we can do to serve the Lord.

ALL: But it is the same Lord we all serve.

One: There are many activities we can do to serve God: teach, sing, clean, preach, play, work...

ALL: But all these are activated by God.

One: There are many manifestations of God's Spirit in the world.

ALL: It is impossible to list them all.

To say that one is better than another is foolish.

ALL: God gives to each as God chooses. Thanks be to God!

***Opening Hymn/Processional**

Many Gifts, One Spirit

UMH 114

1. God of change and glory, God of time and space,
When we fear the future, give to us Your grace.
In the midst of changing ways, give us still the grace to praise.

Refrain: Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.
In our difference is blessing, from diversity we praise
One Giver, one Lord, One Spirit, one Word
Known in many ways, Hallowing our days.
For the Giver, for the gifts, Praise, praise, praise!

2. God of many colors, God of many signs,
You have made us different, Blessing many kinds.
As the old ways disappear, Let Your love cast out our fear. *Refrain*
3. Freshness of the morning, newness of each night,
You are still creating endless love and light.
This we see, as shadows part, many gifts from one great heart. *Refrain*

***Praise Songs**

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!

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...

Opening Prayer (unison)

God of all good gifts, we thank you and praise you. Your Spirit has touched our lives, bringing wisdom, ability, strength, courage, and passion. Enable us to use our gifts in service to you and to others. In all that we do, and in all that we are, may your name be glorified, that your kingdom will be with us and reside here on this earth. We pray this in the name of your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Moment of Silence for Personal Confession)

Assurance of Pardon

God Is Forgiveness

Taizé Music

God is forgiveness.
Dare to forgive and God will be with you.
God is forgiveness.
Love and do not fear.

Time for the Child in Each of Us

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

Pastor Nizzi

The Lord's Prayer

(You are invited to pray in the language of your choice to celebrate our diversity.)

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 Lord's Prayer

*New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 12:4-14

The Message Translation

God's various gifts are handed out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various ministries are carried out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various expressions of power are in action everywhere; but God himself is behind it all. Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people! The variety is wonderful: wise counsel, clear understanding, simple trust healing the sick, miraculous acts, proclamation, distinguishing between spirits, tongues, interpretation of tongues.

All these gifts have a common origin but are handed out one by one by the one Spirit of God. He decides who gets what, and when.

You can easily see how this kind of thing works by looking no further than your own body. Your body has many parts—limbs, organs, cells—but no matter how many parts you can name, you're still one body. It's exactly the same with Christ. By means of his one Spirit, we all said good-bye to our partial and piecemeal lives. We each used to independently call our own shots, but then we entered into a large and integrated life in which *he* has the final say in everything. (This is what we proclaimed in word and action when we were baptized.) Each of us is now a part of his resurrection body, refreshed and sustained at one fountain—his Spirit—where we all come to drink. The old labels we once used to identify ourselves—labels like Jew or Greek, slave or free—are no longer useful. We need something larger, more comprehensive.

Anthem

Take My Life

Chancel Choir
Craig Courtney

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated Lord, to Thee;
Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee;
Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only, for my King.
Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my will and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal Throne.

The Offering

Offertory Music

Mo MMA Yenmbo se (Let us rejoice)

Ghanian Choir
Nana Kofi Ampong Darkwa

Let us rejoice, God lives always.
Let us rejoice, He will always fight for us.
Let us rejoice, we will always be victorious. Alleluia! Uplift and rejoice.

Let us rejoice, Christ our King walks with us always.
Let us rejoice, He will grant us all our needs.
Let us rejoice, we will be victorious. Alleluia! Uplift and rejoice.

***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**

Pastor Nizzi

***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.

Announcements

***Closing Hymn/Recessional**

I Surrender All

UMH 354

1. All to Jesus I surrender; all to him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust him, in his presence daily live.

Refrain: I surrender all, I surrender all,
all to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.
3. All to Jesus I surrender; make me, Savior, wholly thine;
let me feel the Holy Spirit, truly know that thou are mine. *Refrain*
4. All to Jesus I surrender; Lord, I give my self to thee;
fill me wit thy love and power; let thy blessing fall on me. *Refrain*
5. All to Jesus I surrender; now I feel the sacred flame.
O the joy of full salvation! Glory, glory to his name! *Refrain*

***Benediction**

Pastor Nizzi

Postlude

March of the Choristers

J.E. Newell

This Week at Wesley

**Outside groups. Registration is required.*

Sunday, September 21st

- 10:00 am Worship
- 10:15 am Children's Sunday School
- 11:00 am Fellowship Time
- 11:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 11:30 am Ministry Fair
- 7:00 pm Sunday AA (Chapel)

Monday, September 22nd

- 5:30 pm Worship Committee
- 6:00 pm Eye Clinic

Tuesday, September 23rd

- 2:30 pm Sunshine Girls singing to Janet DeNapoli
- 5:30 pm Go Hard or Stay Home BB*

Wednesday, September 24th

- 7:00 pm AA – BBSS (Chapel)

Thursday, September 25th

- 5:30 pm Fruits of Labor BB*

Friday, September 26th

- 5:30 pm Fruits of Labor BB*

Saturday, September 27th

- 9:30 am Ghanaian Choir Rehearsal (MEL)
- 4:00 pm Community Dinner (ends at 6pm)

Sunday, September 28th - HARVEST SUNDAY

- 10:00 am Worship – Harvest Celebration
- 10:15 am Children's Sunday School
- 11:00 am Fellowship Time
- 11:30 am Harvest Silent Auction following Worship
- 11:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm Sunday AA (Chapel)

For more events this month, there are copies of the September calendar in the Narthex.

Worship Leaders: Gary Robinson (liturgist), Gifty Bentum-Asante, Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle,
Rev. Nizzi Digan, Ronna Davis, Chris Kerns, Debbie O'Driscoll, David Potts,
Jennifer Quansah, Chancel Choir, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

The image on the front of the bulletin is from [bing.com](https://www.bing.com)

The Call to Worship and the Opening Prayer is from: Worship Elements: January 16, 2022.

The scripture readings are from The Message Translation of the Holy Bible.

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