

Wesley United Methodist Church

Serving the Community with Faith & Love Since 1927!

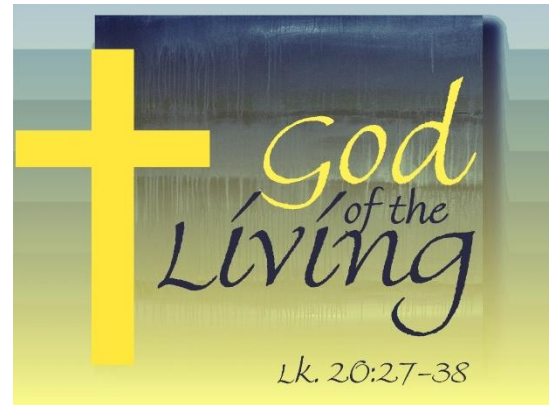
10:00 AM Sunday Worship

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

November 9, 2025

At Wesley United Methodist Church, 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

Meditation on CRIMOND

Ronna Davis, organ

Jessie Seymour Irvine, composer

Welcome

Pastor Nizzi

Centering

As We Gather 2X

A Cappella

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: We are gathered to give witness to the enduring realities of life.

ALL: We have come to affirm that life is a gift, that the gift is good, and that life comes from God.

One: We are gathered to renew our hope in Jesus Christ, as we travel life's long journey.

ALL: We find God in the paths of our present and our past, but we also trust in God's love in our future.

One: The same God guides us all the way, every day of our lives, and beyond life.

All: Let us praise God with our whole hearts and entrust our lives to God's hands. Amen.

1. Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where Thy body lay.

Refrain:

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.

2. Lo! Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb.
Lovingly He greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for our Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. **[Refrain]**
3. No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life!!
Life is nought without Thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, through Thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above. **[Refrain]**

***Praise Songs**

We Will Celebrate Our God

We will celebrate our God!...
Let his banner be raised, let his glory be seen.
We will celebrate our God!...

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...

Opening Prayer

Faithful God, in times of doubt, remind us that Your ways are higher than our ways, and Your thoughts are higher than our thoughts. Teach us to rely on faith, which is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Let the truth of resurrection sanity become the cornerstone of our belief, dispelling any shadows of doubt that may cross our minds. Help us to recognize that the resurrection is not merely a theological concept, but the very foundation of our hope in You.

Holy Spirit, guide us as we prioritize Your presence in our daily lives. Help us to seek Your wisdom and to fill our hearts with Your enduring peace. When conversations arise that challenge our faith, grant us the courage to stand firm, to speak with love, and to share the hope we have in Christ, the risen Lord.

We pray that, like the Sadducees, those who approach us with questions about the resurrection may see in us the assurance of life beyond death. May our lives be testimonies of the power of Your resurrection, reflecting joy, peace, and purpose that can only originate from being in communion with You.

As we navigate the uncertainties of life, may we remain anchored in the promise of resurrection, confident that death has lost its sting and the grave has no power over us. May we find solace in knowing that our future is secure in You. We long for the day when we shall be reunited with You and our loved ones in the eternal Kingdom, rejoicing in the victory of life over death.

In Jesus' holy name, we pray. Amen.

(Moment of Silence for Personal Confession)

Assurance of Pardon

God Is Forgiveness

Debbie O'Driscoll

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

Pastor Nizzi

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.

***Gospel Reading**

Luke 20:27-38 (NRSVUE)

The Question about the Resurrection

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him a question: "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally, the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her."

Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive."

Anthem

Chancel Choir

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Mark A. Miller, composer

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free, From our sins and fears release us,
let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel's strength and consolation, joy of every longing heart.

Born to save, born to heal, come, O Savior, come.

While we wait, while we pray, come, Savior, come.

Hope of all heaven and earth, come, Jesus, come.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, Born to reign in us forever, now thy
gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone, By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to
thy glorious throne.

Message

Know the End. Change is Now.

Rev. Nizzi Digan

The Offering & Offertory Music

Ghanaian Choir

Aseda Ndwom – Song of Thanks

James Varrick Armaah, composer

I will always mention your name to the world,
I will always mention your name to the world,
What you have done for me, what you have done for me,
I will speak of your name to the whole world.

You have changed my life, you have not left me astray
I will sing and praise your name
Thanks belong to You always.

Thanks, thanks, thanks, song of thanks,
It is from my heart,
Praises, praises, praises, song of praises

It is from my heart,
I have brought them, I have brought them, song of thanks,
Thanks always belongs to You.

***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, composer

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

Announcements

1. Sing the wondrous love of Jesus,
Sing His mercy and His grace;
In the mansions bright and blessed
He'll prepare for us a place.

Refrain:

When we all get to heaven,
what a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
we'll sing and shout the victory!

2. While we walk the pilgrim pathway
Clouds will overspread the sky;
But when traveling days are over
Not a shadow, not a sigh. **[Refrain]**
3. Let us then be true and faithful,
Trusting, serving every day;
Just one glimpse of Him in glory
Will the toils of life repay. **[Refrain]**
4. Onward to the prize before us!
Soon His beauty we'll behold;
Soon the pearly gates will open—
We shall tread the streets of gold. **[Refrain]**

Benediction/Blessing

Pastor Nizzi

***Benediction Response** (Tune: Spirit of the Living God)

Congregation

May the grace and peace of Christ be with you my friends.

5
Go and share the love of God, love that ne ver ends.

Postlude

Trumpet Voluntary

Ronna Davis, organ

Gordon Young, composer

Worship Leaders: Ellen Orofino (liturgist), Gifty Bentum-Asante, Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle, Ronna Davis, Debbie O'Driscoll, David Potts, Jennifer Quansah, Chancel Choir, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

The image on the cover is from Source: [blogspot.com](https://www.blogspot.com).

The Call to Worship is from Ruth C Duck, *Bread for the Journey: Resources for Worship*.

The Opening Prayer is from <https://bible.art/prayer/luke-20:27>.

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This Week at Wesley

The church office is open Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm.

Matt Crane will be in the office on Thursday, 10 am – 1 pm.

**Outside groups. Registration is required.*

Sunday, November 9, 2025

8:45 am Chancel Choir
10:00 am Worship
10:15 am Children's Sunday School
11:15 am Fellowship Time
11:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Sunday AA (Chapel)

Monday, November 10, 2025

Tuesday, November 11, 2025 – Veteran's Day

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

7:00 pm AA – BBSS (Chapel)

Thursday, November 13, 2025

5:30 pm Fruits of Labor BB*

Friday, November 14, 2025

5:30 pm Fruits of Labor BB*

Saturday, November 15, 2025

9:30 am Ghanaian Choir Rehearsal (MEL)
10:00 am Carty Cupboard Food Pantry (closes at 11:30 am)

Sunday, November 16, 2025

8:45 am Chancel Choir
10:00 am Worship
10:15 am Children's Sunday School
11:15 am Fellowship Time
11:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
11:30 am Mission Committee (JW)
7:00 pm Sunday AA (Chapel)