

Wesley United Methodist Church

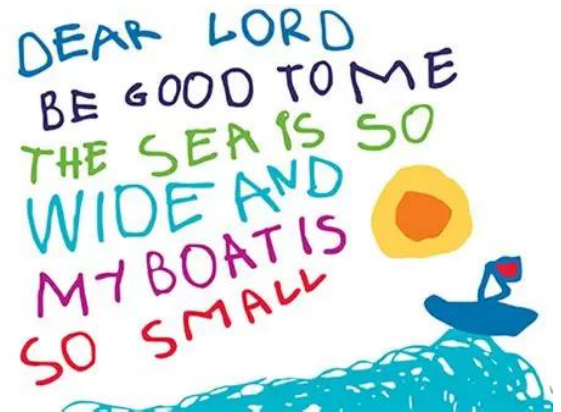
Serving the Community with Faith & Love Since 1927!

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

November 16, 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

For the Beauty of the Earth

Ronna Davis, organ

Conrad Kocher, 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: The world around us may tremble—kingdoms fall, and the works of human hands crumble.

ALL: But our trust is in the God who remains faithful forever.

One: When we face trials, persecution, or fear, Christ calls us not to despair, but to stand firm.

ALL: In patience and endurance, we will gain our souls.

One: Come, people of God—do not be afraid, for the Lord is our refuge and our strength.

ALL: We gather to worship the One who gives us courage, who speaks wisdom in every age, and who holds our lives in steadfast love.

One: Let us worship the living God, whose Word endures when all else fades away!

1. My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

**Refrain: On Christ the solid rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

2. When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil. **(Refrain)**
3. His oath, His covenant, His blood
Supports me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. **(Refrain)**
4. When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found!
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne! **(Refrain)**

***Praise Songs**

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...

Osee Praise

Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Praise the almighty God!
He is worthy of our praise! Oh...
He is worthy of our praise! Oh Praise God...
He is worthy of our praise! Halleluyah!

Osee Yee Praise Him Halleluyah!...
He is worthy of our praise! Oh...
He is worthy of our praise! Oh Praise God...

Opening Prayer

Dear Lord, we understand that patience often brings us into a deeper relationship with You. As we wait and trust, we gain insights and revelations in our walk of faith. Help us to see patient endurance as an opportunity for growth. Open our eyes to the lessons that trials can teach and help us to embrace the refining process. Strengthen our faith, that we may grow beyond challenges, emerging as a stronger faith community equipped for Your kingdom work. In this journey of patience, Lord, may we never lose sight of Your promises; may our faith be a beacon of light in this dark world.

Thank You, Lord, for hearing our prayer. We place our trust in You, knowing that as we patiently wait upon You, our soul will find rest in You. In Jesus' 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.

The Immigrant Apostles' Creed

The Immigrant Apostles' Creed was written by Rev. Jose Luis Casal, the director of Presbyterian World Mission. He is an immigrant to the USA from Cuba.

I believe in Almighty God, who guided the people in exile and in exodus, the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon, the God of foreigners and immigrants.

I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean, who was born away from His people and His home, who fled His country with His parents when His life was in danger. When He returned to His own country He suffered under the oppression of Pontius Pilate, the servant of a foreign power. Jesus was persecuted, beaten, tortured, and unjustly condemned to death. But on the third day Jesus rose from the dead, not as a scorned foreigner but to offer us citizenship in God's kingdom.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us, who speaks all languages, lives in all countries, and reunites all races.

I believe that the Church is the secure home for foreigners and for all believers. I believe that the communion of saints begins when we embrace all God's people in all their diversity. I believe in forgiveness, which makes us all equal before God, and in reconciliation, which heals our brokenness.

I believe that in the Resurrection God will unite us as one people in which all are distinct, and all are alike at the same time. I believe in life eternal, in which no one will be foreigner, but all will be citizens of the kingdom where God reigns forever and ever. Amen.

***Gospel Reading**

Luke 21:10-19 (NRSVUE)

Then Jesus said to the crowd, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So, make up your mind not to prepare your defense in advance, for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

Anthem

Chancel Choir

*"Great Creator"**Karen Marrolli, composer*

Great Creator, ever speaking, teach us you are weaving, still, Painting heaven in its newness,
sculpting earth with finest skill.

What has come before will vanish as the night fades into morn, Bringing daylight into darkness:
heaven and earth will be reborn.

Great Creator, ever listening to our prayers and to our plight, Write in us your new creation,
when our weeping turns to sight.

Let us see the daylight dawning, when the wolf lies with the lamb, When all people join their
voices, singing of the Great I AM.

Jerusalem, our happy home, when shall we come to thee?

When shall our sorrows have an end?

When shall your joys we see?

Great Creator, ever moving over wind and over wave, Let our restless hearts find comfort in the
call to love and save.

Great Creator, as we wait here for the glorious rebirth, Use our hearts and hands in service;
sculpt your kingdom here on earth.

Message*Hope in the Storm*

Rev. Nizzi Digan

The Offering & Offertory Music

Ghanaian Choir

*It is by Grace**James Varrick Armaah, composer*

It is by Grace, God's Grace that has made me worthy.

Just Grace that has made me worthy.

It is that Grace that has brought me this far.

It is by Grace, God's Grace,

It is not by my might nor wisdom, but it is Grace

It is by Grace, God's Grace that has brought me this far.

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

***Closing Hymn/Recessional**

ANGEL'S STORY 7.6.7.6 D ("O Jesus, I Have Promised")

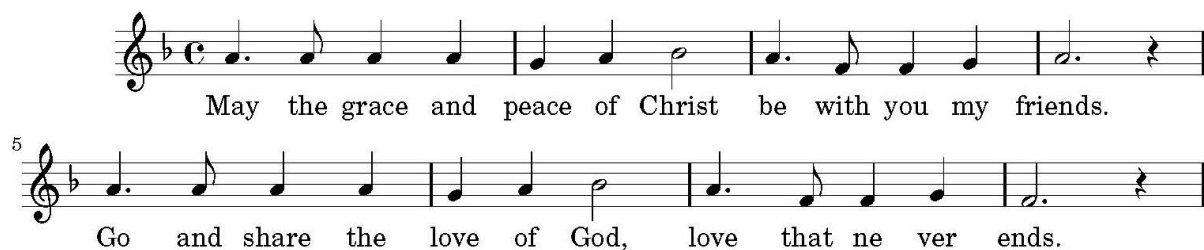
1. There is a mighty question we ask when nations rage:
Just when will be Christ's coming, the ending of the age?
Take care, said Jesus clearly, for many will appear;
They'll claim to be Messiah, yet people should not fear.
2. For in the days of Noah, the people went along
In eating and in drinking, in merriment and song —
Then suddenly the world changed with great, surprising power;
So too will be Christ's coming, and no one knows the hour.
3. So keep awake and watchful; salvation is at hand!
Our hope is in Christ Jesus, and by God's grace we stand.
The night is almost over, we wait for God's new day,
And through the Holy Spirit, we follow Jesus' way.
4. Be ready in your living, for when you feed the poor,
Or give to thirsty children the water they long for,
And when you welcome strangers and help the ones in need,
Christ says: "Receive my kingdom, for you are serving me."

***Benediction/Blessing**

Pastor Nizzi

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

Congregation



Postlude

This Is My Father's World

Ronna Davis, organ
F.L. Sheppard, composer

Worship Leaders: Peter Hansen (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: [https://fpumc.weebly.com/e-bulletin/
bulletin-announcements8918893](https://fpumc.weebly.com/e-bulletin/bulletin-announcements8918893).

The Call to Worship is based on Luke 21:5–19

The Opening Prayer is from Bible.art/prayer

The Closing Hymn is from Words from: carolynshymns.com : There Is a Mighty Question.

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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 16, 2025

- 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)

Monday, November 17, 2025

- 5:30 pm Eye Glass Clinic – No Doctor
- 6:30 pm SPRC

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 – Veteran's Day

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

- 7:00 pm AA – BBSS (Chapel)

Thursday, November 20, 2025

- 5:30 pm Fruits of Labor BB*

Friday, November 21, 2025

- 5:30 pm Fruits of Labor BB*

Saturday, November 22, 2025

- 9:30 am Ghanaian Choir Rehearsal (MEL)

Sunday, November 23, 2025 – Thanksgiving Sunday

- UWF Bake, Craft & Plant Fundraiser
- 10:00 am Worship w/Pledge Sunday
- 10:15 am Children's Sunday School
- 11:30 am Luncheon
- 11:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 12:30 pm WAUM Church Conference with DS Megan
- 7:00 pm Sunday AA (Chapel)