

Wesley United Methodist Church

Serving the Community with Faith & Love Since 1927!

Rev. Nizzi Santos Digan, Pastor & Spiritual Director

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

Second Sunday After Epiphany

January 18, 2026

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

Deep River

Ronna Davis, organ
Charles Callahan, composer

Welcome

Pastor Nizzi

Centering

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

UMH 206

I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.
In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the Light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 40 (NRSVUE – adapted)

One: I waited patiently for the Lord; the Lord inclined to me and heard my cry.

All: The Lord drew me up from the desolate pit, set my feet upon a rock, and made my steps secure.

One: The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

All: Many will see and put their trust in the Lord.

One: Happy are those who make the Lord their trust and do not turn aside to false gods.

All: You have multiplied, O Lord our God, Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You.

One: I delight to do Your will, O my God; Your law is within my heart.

All: We have told the glad news of deliverance; we have not hidden Your steadfast love and faithfulness.

All: Do not withhold Your mercy from us, O Lord; let Your steadfast love keep us safe forever. Amen.

***Opening Hymn/Processional**

Maker, in Whom We Live

UMH 88

1. Maker, in whom we live, in whom we are and move,
the glory, power, and praise receive for thy creating love.
Let all the angel throng give thanks to God on high,
while earth repeats the joyful song and echoes to the sky.
2. Incarnate Deity, let all the ransomed race
render in thanks their lives to thee for thy redeeming grace.
The grace to sinners showed ye heavenly choirs proclaim,
and cry, "Salvation to our God, salvation to the Lamb!"
3. Spirit of Holiness, let all thy saints adore
thy sacred energy, and bless thine heart-renewing power.
Not angel tongues can tell thy love's ecstatic height,
the glorious joy unspeakable, the beatific sight.
4. Eternal, Triune God, let all the hosts above,
let all on earth below record and dwell upon thy love.
When heaven and earth are fled before thy glorious face,
sing all the saints thy love hath made thine everlasting praise.

***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...

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

Fill me, Spirit.
Fill me with the grace that is good news
for all who are poor.
Fill me with compassion for those who are captive
in body or in soul.
Grant me eyes of love,
with which to open eyes that are blind.
Set me free with freedom that will set others free.
Give me courage to pray, to bear witness,
to speak, to act for justice.
Holy Spirit, let my life in every moment
proclaim your grace.
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

John 1:35-42 (NRSVUE)

The next day John the Baptist again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John the Baptist speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is

translated Anointed). Andrew brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter). This is the Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Anthem

Chancel Choir

The Summons

Tom Fettke, composer

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Message

Come and See

Rev. Nizzi Digan

The Offering & Offertory Music

Ghanaian Choir

Aseda-Thanks

J.G. Koomson, composer

Thanks be to you, Thanks be to you, Thanks be to God on high, (2x)
You are worthy of praise and adoration
Lord of the All you are great
All your handiworks bear witness that you are
God who is worthy to be worshipped.

***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**

Ever-Present and Calling God, knowing us from the beginning, naming us as Your own, You have entrusted us with the holy work of bearing Your light to the world. Though we often feel unworthy or uncertain, You remind us that Your grace goes before us, and Your strength works through us. Receive these gifts, offered with gratitude and hope. Use them—and us—to proclaim Your justice, to shine Your love to the ends of the earth, and to glorify Your name. In the name of Christ, Your Servant, our Savior, and BFF, we pray. Amen.

***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

Gifty Bentum-Asante

***Closing Hymn/Recessional**

Lift Every Voice and Sing

UMH 519

1. Lift every voice and sing; till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty;
let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.
2. Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path thru the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
3. God our weary years, God of our silent tears,
though who has brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee:
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

Congregation

May the grace and peace of Christ be with you, my friends.
Go and share the love of God, love that never ends.

Postlude

We Shall Overcome

Ronna Davis, organ
D. Byron Arneson, composer

Worship Leaders: Hubert Orofino (liturgist), Gifty Bentum-Asante, Tessa Burke (acolyte),
Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle, Ronna Davis, Deborah O'Driscoll, Antonio Paredes,
David Potts, Jennifer Quansah, Scott Shackett (acolyte),
Chancel Choir, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team
The Call to Worship is from Pinterest.

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The Prayer of Dedication is from umcdiscipleship.org.

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This Week at Wesley

**Outside groups. Registration is required.*

Sunday, January 18, 2026

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

Monday, January 19, 2026

Martin L. King, Jr. Day – Office Closed
9:00 am Go Hard or Stay Home Basketball*
6:30 pm SPRC

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

12:00 pm Prayer Circle (MEL)
7:00 pm AA-BBSS (CH)
7:00 pm Wesley Ringers (BH)

Thursday, January 22, 2026

5:30 pm Fruits of Labor BB*

Friday, January 23, 2026

5:30 pm Fruits of Labor BB*

Saturday, January 24, 2026

8:00 am Saraswate Puja (WCBA, Mitra)*
9:30 am Ghanaian Choir Rehearsal (MEL)

Sunday, January 25, 2026

10:00 am Worship
10:15 am Children's Sunday School
11:00 am Fellowship Time
11:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
2:00 pm Master Class, Worcester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists(organ)*
7:00 pm Sunday AA (CH)

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

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