

Wesley United Methodist Church

Serving the Community with Faith & Love Since 1927!

Rev. Nizzi Santos Digan, Pastor & Spiritual Director

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 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

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Ronna Davis, Organ
Wilbur Held, Composer

Welcome

Pastor Nizzi

Centering

Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia ...

UMH 186

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 100

UMH 100

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!

ALL: Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing!

One: Know that the Lord, who made us, is God.

ALL: We are the Lord's; we are the people of God, the sheep of God's pasture.

One: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise!

ALL: Give thanks and bless God's name.

One: For the Lord is good;

ALL: God's steadfast love endures forever; God's faithfulness to all generations.

1. The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.
2. My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.
3. Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill;
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.
4. My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.
5. Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me;
and in God's house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be.

***Praise Songs**

I Have Joy

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...

We Will Celebrate

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

Opening Prayer

God of love, Shepherd of our souls, we listen for Your voice, the voice that speaks the world into being, the voice that calls our secret name, the voice that leads us to abundant life. Speak to us. We are listening, ready to follow. 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

Be not afraid. Sing out for joy! Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Call to Prayer

Come & Fill Our Hearts

Come and fill our hearts with Your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with Your peace. Alleluia.

Prayers of the People

Pastor Nizzi

Happy Birthday to you, to Jesus be true.

May God's richest blessings, now rest upon you.

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 10:1-10

Jesus the Good Shepherd

(NRSVUE)

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem*Shepherd Me, O God*

Chancel Choir

*Marty Haugen, composer**Mark Hayes, arranger*

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.
 God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want. I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love.
 I walk by the quiet waters of peace.
 Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul. You lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth.
 My spirit shall sing the music of your name.
 Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for you are at my side.
 Your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.
 You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my power to hold.
 Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life.
 I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore. Amen.

Message*The Voice That Leads to Life*

Rev. Nizzi Digan

The Offering & Offertory Music*Fountain Reverie*

Ronna Davis, organ

*Percy Fletcher, composer****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**

Gracious and Loving Shepherd, we offer our gifts to You, not out of obligation, but in gratitude for the abundant life You promise. May these offerings be used to open the gate of hope for the weary, to provide safe pasture for the lost, and to proclaim Your love to all who long to hear Your voice. Bless the hands that give, the hearts that trust, and the work these gifts will accomplish in Your name. Through Jesus Christ, the Gate and the Good Shepherd, we pray. Amen.

Passing of PeaceShalom**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

1. Jesus calls us o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth,
saying, "Christian, follow me!"

2. As of old the apostles heard it
by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and toil and kindred,
leaving all for Jesus' sake.

3. Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more!"

4. In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these!"

5. Jesus calls us! By thy mercies,
Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience,
serve and love thee best of all.

***Benediction**

Postlude

O Worship the King - LYONS

Ronna Davis, organ
Marvin Gaspard, composer

Worship Leaders: Jean Grant (liturgist), Gifty Bentum-Asante,
David Dagle, Ronna Davis, Deborah O'Driscoll,
David Potts, Jennifer Quansah, Bill Robbins, Gary Robinson, Douglas Taylor,
Chancel Choir, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

The Call to Worship is from The United Methodist Hymnal

The Opening Prayer is from *Unfolding Light* by the Rev. Steve Garnaas-Holmes

The Assurance of Pardon & Children's Music is from Jacques Berthier and the Community of Taizé, France

The Prayer of Dedication is written with the assistance of an AI speech-writing tool.

OneLicense Reprint + Livestream and Podcast/Recording License A-726657

CCLI Copyright License # 20653706 CCLI Streaming License #20653696

**For pastoral emergency, contact Pastor Nizzi directly at 617 480 2955 (cell),
so she can respond in a timely manner.**

This Week at Wesley

**Outside groups. Registration is required.*

Sunday, April 26, 2026

- 9:00 am Adult Sunday School (JW)
- 10:00 am Worship
- 10:15 am Children's Sunday School
- 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship
- 11:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 11:45 am Membership Class
- 2:00 pm CPR
- 4:30 pm Greater Accra Social Club*
- 7:00 pm Sunday AA (CH)

Monday, April 27, 2026

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

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

Thursday, April 30, 2026

- 7:00 pm Trustees Meeting

Friday, May 1, 2026

Saturday, May 2, 2026

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

Sunday, May 3, 2026

- 8:00 am Community Breakfast
- 9:00 am Adult Sunday School (JW)
- 10:00 am Worship
- 10:15 am Children's Sunday School
- 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship
- 11:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm Sunday AA (CH)

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

The church office is open Wednesday through Friday, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm.