

Wesley United Methodist Church

Serving the Community with Faith & Love Since 1927!

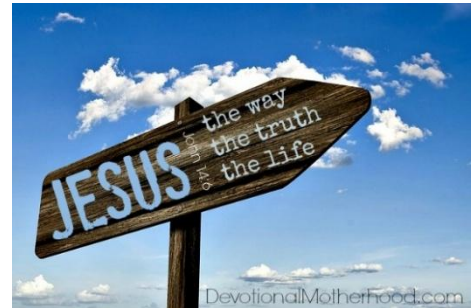
Rev. Nizzi Santos Digan, Pastor & Spiritual Director

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 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

Partita on FOUNDATION – II Reverie (1916-2012)

Ronna Davis, organ
Alice Jordan, composer

Welcome

Pastor Nizzi

Centering

Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia ...

UMH 186

***Call to Worship**

One: Loving God, we praise you!

ALL: Risen Christ, we greet you!

One: Christ, our way, lead us in the path of love.

ALL: Christ, our truth, open our eyes to what is.

One: Christ, our life, come and renew us. Make us a part of you, so that we may share in your life.

ALL: Alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, and transform us by your grace. Alleluia!

***Opening Hymn/Processional**

Christ Is the World's Light

UMH 188

1. Christ is the world's light, Christ and none other;
born in our darkness, He became our brother.

If we have seen Him, we have seen the Father:
Glory to God on high!

2. Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none other;
no one can serve Him and despise another.
Who else unites us, one with God the Father?
Glory to God on high!

3. Christ is the world's life, Christ and none other;
sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother.
He who redeems us, reigns with God the Father:
Glory to God on high!
4. Give God the glory, God and none other;
give God the glory, Spirit, Son and Father;
give God the glory, God with us, my brother:
Glory to God on high!

***Praise Songs**

Me yi N'ayɛ (I Will Praise Him) [Feel free to sing in either language]

Me yi n'ayɛ, Me yi Nyamea' yɛ...
Me yi Nyamea' yɛ, Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Halleluyah ...
I will praise God, I will praise my God...
I will praise my God, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah...

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

Loving God, Jesus said we come to You through Him. By Your grace we enter into His love, receiving His mercy, open to His healing, being built into His house, made into His royal priesthood. We are in Christ, who is in You. Bless us, and make us Your people, in the name and the Spirit of Christ. 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

Come & Fill Our Hearts

TFWS 2157

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

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 14:1-14 (NRSVUE)

Jesus the Way to the Father

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

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

Thanks be to God. Amen

Anthem

How Firm a Foundation

Chancel Choir

Robert Lau, composer

How Firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I’ll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

“When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

“The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake.”

Message

Trusting the Story That Leads Us Home

Rev. Nizzi Digan

The Offering & Offertory Music

Ghanaian Choir

For Your Blessing in my Life

James Varrick Armaah, composer

For your blessings in my life, your glory will never fade away
Your glory will never fade away, Saviour.
For your blessings in my life, how can I repay you?
Your glory will never fade away, Lord of grace.

What song shall I sing? What dance shall I dance?
What words can I express, Lord of grace?
For your blessings in my life, how can I repay you?
I will praise you without end, Lord of grace.

*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

Way-Making God, your offer to us is not just to believe in heaven, but to live the kingdom life here and now. Through Jesus, you show us the way, the truth, and the life—calling us to deeper trust, wider welcome, and greater works of grace. As we bring our gifts, we step into that life, choosing generosity over fear and hope over judgment. Use these offerings, and use us, to make your dwelling places visible in our community, in our compassion, in our courage. We give, because we've heard your voice. In Christ's name. 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.

The Sacrament of the Holy Communion

UMH 17, Musical Setting A

The United Methodist Church practices Open Communion. All who desire to live in the love and peace of Jesus Christ are welcome to the bread and cup of communion. At the direction of the ushers, come forward using the center aisle to stand or kneel at the communion rail for distribution of the elements. After consuming the elements and private prayer at the rail, you may return to your seat via the side aisles. Please alert the ushers to anyone wishing to be served while remaining seated in the sanctuary. Non-alcoholic grape juice and gluten-free bread are used.

Communion Music & Meditation

Five Mystical Songs, No. 4, "The Call"

David Potts, soloist; Ronna Davis, organ
Ralph Vaughan Williams, composer
George Herbert, Lyricist

Announcements

Gifty Bentum-Asante

1. God sent His son, they called Him Jesus
He came to love, heal, and forgive.
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

**Refrain: Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.
Because He lives, All fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.**

2. How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
And feel the pride and joy he gives.
But greater still the calm assurance,
This child can face uncertain days because He lives. **Refrain**
3. And then one day I'll cross the river,
I'll fight life's final war with pain.
And then as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He reigns. **Refrain**

***Benediction**

Postlude

Partita on FOUNDATION – I. Jubilee

Ronna Davis, organ
Alice Jordan, composer

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

Communion Servers: Justina Amoako, Krysta Asante, Eleanor Assie, and Harllen Orofino

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This Week at Wesley

**Outside groups. Registration is required.*

Sunday, May 3, 2026

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

Monday, May 4, 2026

- 7:00 pm Church Council (Zoom)

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Wednesday, May 6, 2026

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

Thursday, May 7, 2026

Friday, May 8, 2026

Saturday, May 9, 2026

- 9:30 am Ghanaian Choir Rehearsal (MEL)
- 7:00 am Contra-Dance (BH) *

Sunday, May 10, 2026 – Mother's Day

- 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.