

# Wesley United Methodist Church

*Serving the Community with Faith & Love Since 1927!*

Rev. Nizzi Santos Digan, Pastor & Spiritual Director

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Graduation Sunday**

**July 19, 2026**

**10:00 AM**

---

***Mission Statement:***

*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**

*Psalm*

Ronna Davis, organ  
Gordon Young, *composer*

**Welcome**

Gary Robinson

**Centering**

*Spirit of the Living God*

UMH 393

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us. 2X  
Melt us, mold us, fill us, use us. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us.

**\*Call to Worship**

One: We come, for God gathers us here, with that community called faith:

**ALL: where the hungry are served first, where the thirsty drink life's water.**

One: We come, for God welcomes us here into that home called grace:

**ALL: where the naked are clothed in robes of hope; where the stranger is embraced as the long-lost prodigal.**

One: We come, for God reunites us here, sisters and brothers in that family called love:

**ALL: where the imprisoned model justice, where the sick are cradled in God's peace. Let us worship God who calls us to serve the least, to love the neighbor, and to live as Christ's own.**

Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need,  
who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed:  
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,  
consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart.

Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;  
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As, O Lord, your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
use the love your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.

As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light  
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,  
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,  
stirring us to tireless striving your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go  
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;  
hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid and peace we give,  
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know, and live.

**\*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**

**Open my eyes that they may see the deepest needs of people; move my hands that they may feed the hungry. Touch my heart that it may bring warmth to the despairing. Teach me the generosity that welcomes strangers. Let me share my possessions to clothe the naked. Give me the care that strengthens the sick. Make me share in the quest to set the prisoner free. In sharing our anxieties and our love, our poverty and our prosperity, we partake of Your divine presence. 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.

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

Debbie O'Driscoll

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.**

Responsive Reading

*Psalms 100*

UMH 821

**Response: Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.**

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

**Serve the Lord with gladness!**

**Come into God's presence with singing!**

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

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

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

**Give thanks and bless God's name!**

For the Lord is good;

**God's steadfast love endures for ever;**

**God's faithfulness to all generations. Response**

\*Gospel Reading

*Matthew 25:31-40 (NRSVUE)*

Stephanie Smyth

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Mission Trip Reflection

Naa Dromo Aryee, Boston College

The Offering & Offertory Music

Ghanaian Choir

*Suo Mo Muo (Hold On to Me)*

*Emmanuel K.B. Attah, composer*

Hold on to me, Father, hold on to me always  
Hold on to me, my Lord, hold on to me always  
When I am with you, I am victorious. I owe my success to you.  
So, give me patience, blessings and love. Hold on to me.  
My Lord, hold on to me always.

**\*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**

Debbie O'Driscoll

God of mercy and compassion, what is the offering that pleases You most? Certainly, not the token gift that makes us feel we have done all that is required, but a gift that reminds us that need is all around us, and compassion and love are needed desperately and can be given extravagantly. May the gifts we give through Wesley UMC help the hungry, thirsty, the imprisoned; but may our whole being be centered on seeing the opportunities to personally make your love real to a hurting world. We follow in Christ's holy, loving way. 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.

**Celebrating Our Graduates** *(See page 6)*

Rev. Nizzi Digan

**Announcements**

Gifty Bentum-Asante

**\*Closing Hymn/Recessional**

*Here I Am, Lord*

UMH 593

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

**Refrain:** Here I am, Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? **Refrain**

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? **Refrain**

**\*Benediction**

Rev. Nizzi Digan

**Postlude**

Ronna Davis, organ

*March No. 1 in D Major - "Pomp and Circumstance"*

*Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934)*

Worship Leaders: Stephanie Smyth (liturgist), Naa Dromo Aryee, Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle, Ronna Davis, Debbie O'Driscoll, Jennifer Quansah, Gary Robinson, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

The Call to Worship is from Thom Shuman:

<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2008/11/reign-of-christ.html>

The Opening Prayer is from Canaan Banana, Zimbabwe. Posted on Prayers and Creeds

<http://prayersandcreeds.wordpress.com/2010/08/27/prayer-of-hospitality-compassion/>

The Prayer of Dedication is from Source: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning>

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

CCLI Copyright License # 20653706 CCLI Streaming License #20653696

## **2026 GRADUATES**

### **High School**

Matin Amoakohene graduated from Burncoat High School and will pursue his studies in Mathematics at Assumption University.

Matina Amoakohene graduated from Worcester Technical High School and will continue her academic journey at the University of New Haven, where she will study Public Health.

Anjelle Boachie graduated from Worcester Technical High School, going to UMASS Dartmouth to study Nursing.

Bailey Burke graduated from Quabbin Regional High school. She will be attending Mount Wachusett Community College to pursue a degree in Graphic Design.

Wesley Hammond graduated from Doherty High School and will pursue a Business degree at UMass Dartmouth.

Sarah Elizabeth Mendoza graduated from Sutton Memorial High School. She will attend St. Auselm College in NH to study Biology and play for the Women's soccer team. She is daughter of Christopher and Susan Mendoza and grandparents George and Gloria Mendoza.

### **College**

Justina Amoako graduated from WPI with a Masters in Engineering.

Gracie Burke graduated from Mount Wachusett Community College with an Associates Degree and will attend Framingham State to study Psychology.

Antoinette Enyim graduated from Fitchburg State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychological Science.

Lawrence Hammond graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering.