

Wesley United Methodist Church

Serving the Community with Faith & Love Since 1927!

Rev. Nizzi Santos Digan, Pastor & Spiritual Director

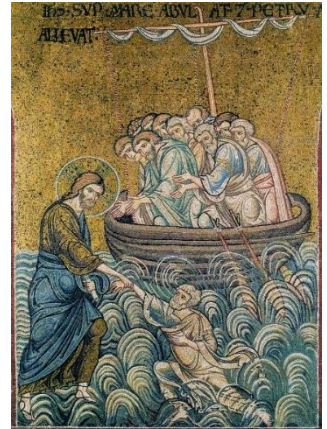
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 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.



Jesus Saves Peter from the Sea

***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

Pastorale

Ronna Davis, organ

J.E. Newell, composer (1843-1936)

Welcome

Pastor Nizzi

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: In all our troubles, God

ALL: You are there to save.

One: Despite all our fears

ALL: You give us courage.

One: When we are sinking

ALL: You hold us up. We thank You. We praise You. We worship You. Amen!

***Opening Hymn**

It Is Well with My Soul

UMH 377

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain: It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
and hath shed his own blood for my soul. **Refrain**

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! **Refrain**

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
even so, it is well with my soul. **Refrain**

***Praise Songs**

God You're So Good

God you're so good. God you are kind.
God you are wonderful. My God, you are excellent...
Excellent is Thy name. Excellent is Thy might.
God you are wonderful. My God you are excellent...

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

Me yi n'aye, Me yi Nyamea' ye...
Me yi Nyamea' ye, Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Halleluyah ...
I will praise God, I will praise my God...
I will praise my God, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah...

Opening Prayer

An Invitation to the Holy Spirit

UMH 335

**O God, the Holy Spirit,
come to us, and among us;
come as the wind, and cleanse us;
come as the fire, and burn;
come as the dew, and refresh;
convict, convert, and consecrate
many hearts and lives
to our great good
and to thy greater glory;
and this we ask for Jesus Christ's sake. 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

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

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**

Matthew 14:22-33 (NRSVUE)

Pastor Nizzi

And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

Message

Take Heart! It Is I

Rev. Nizzi Digan

Hymn

Through It All

UMH 507

Through it all, through it all we've learned to trust in Jesus. We've learned to trust in God. Through it all, through it all, we've learned to depend upon God's Word.

The Offering & Offertory Music

Ghanaian Choir

Oye (He Is Good)

James Varrick Armaah, composer

I have heard some good news, he is good, he is good,
 I have heard some good news that Jesus is love...
 He is good, Father God is good, he is good indeed, he is good, he is good...
 Let us all join together and sing a song that He is good, He is good.
 My heart is full of praise, and I will sing a song that he is good.

God is good, Father God is good, he is good, he is good indeed.
 I will say it again and again, that he is good, he is good, he is good indeed.
 Look at me, he has blessed me, he is a good father.
 Come to him and he will save you as well.
 I will say it again and again,
 He is good, Father God is good. He is good indeed, he is good, he is good.

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

Merciful God, when storms of doubt and fear arise, You remain our shelter and strength. Steady us with Your peace. Restore our confidence in Your faithfulness. Receive these offerings as signs of our trust in Your unfailing love. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, 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**

Jesus Calls Us

UMH 398

Jesus call us o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth, saying "Christian, follow me!"
As of old the apostles heard it by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and toil and kindred, leaving all for Jesus' sake.
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!"
In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in care and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these!"
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**

Rev. Nizzi Digan

Postlude

Ronna Davis, organ

March Recessional

Lily Strickland, composer (1884-1958)

Worship Leaders: Mark Muncey (liturgist), Gifty Bentum-Asante, Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle, Ronna Davis, Debbie O'Driscoll, Jennifer Quansah, Gary Robinson, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

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