

Wesley United Methodist Church

Serving the Community with Faith & Love Since 1927!

Rev. Nizzi Santos Digan, Pastor & Spiritual Director

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 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

Jubilation

Eun Hee Park, organ

Jason D. Payne, composer

Welcome

Rev. Nizzi Digan

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: Family of God, we live in a world full of conflict and division.

ALL: God calls us to be a people of reconciliation.

One: We live in a world full of misinformation and confusion.

ALL: God calls us to be a people of truth and clarity.

One: We live in a world that wants to settle disputes with harmful words and actions.

ALL: God calls us to be a people who make peace through compassion and honesty.

One: We live in a world that does not understand the ways of Jesus.

ALL: Yet Jesus teaches us to be a people of reconciliation and peace for the good of the whole world. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

UMH 384

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never, never-more they temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

***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...

We Will Celebrate Our God

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

Opening Prayer

Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we can admit to you the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful. We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do. We love with condition. We judge and condemn. We cast the first stone and keep the logs in our own eyes.

We do not turn to You as the source of our healing. Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sin and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. 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

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 18:15-20 (NRSVUE)

"If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

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

Message

Leading Through Conflict

Rev. Nizzi Digan

The Offering & Offertory Music

It was His Love

Eun Hee Park, organ

Buryl Red, 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

Debbie O'Driscoll

Faithful God, your Word speaks truth into our lives and calls us into joyful community. As we offer our gifts, may Your love shine through our giving. Increase our commitment to share the Gospel with gladness and praise. In Jesus' name, 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.

The Sacrament of the Holy Communion

UMH 17, Musical Setting A

*The United Methodist Church practices Open Communion.
All who seek the love and peace of Jesus Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table.
At the direction of the ushers, please come forward by the center aisle to receive
Communion at the rail, then return to your seat by the side aisles after prayer.
If you wish to be served in your seat, please notify an usher.
Gluten-free wafers and non-alcoholic grape juice are served.*

Communion Music & Silent Meditation

Abide With Me

Eun Hee Park, organ
Albin C. Whitworth, composer

Announcements

Jean Grant

*Closing Hymn

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

UMH 557

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share each other's woes, our mutual burdens bear;
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

*Benediction

Rev. Nizzi Digan

Postlude

Fanfare and March for Trumpet

Eun Hee Park, organ
Kenneth B. Brewer, composer

Worship Leaders: Bertha Amoako (liturgist), David Dagle, Debbie O'Driscoll,
Eun Hee Park, Bill Robbins, Gary Robinson, Worship Tech Team

Communion Stewards: Linda D'Acri, Sharon Walters, and Quinn Caddell
Communion Servers: Ellen & Hubert Orofino and Douglas & Obama Taylor

The Call to Worship is from Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2026.

The Opening Prayer is from <https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession>.

The Prayer of Dedication is from <https://davidsbell.org/offertory-prayers/>

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