

Wesley United Methodist Church

114 Main St, Worcester, MA 01608
508-799-4191 • www.wesleyworc.org

Serving the Community with Faith & Love Since 1927!

Rev. Nizzi Santos Digan, Pastor & Spiritual Director

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Twenty-Second Annual Harvest Sunday
September 27, 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

Variations on "Jesus Loves Me"

Eun Hee Park, organ

Jon Spong & William Bradbury, *composer*

Welcome

Centering

As We Gather

As we gather may your Spirit work within us. As we gather may we glorify Your name
Knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship, we'll be blessed because we came.

***Call to Worship**

One: Jesus has called us here this day.

ALL: We are here, although for some of us it was not an easy choice

One: Often what we say and do are very different.

ALL: Help us follow God's will, not with lip service, but with true humility.

One: Come, now is the time to worship.

ALL: Now is the time of healing, restoration, and hope. AMEN.

***Processional Hymn**

Great is Thy Faithfulness

UMH 140

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as though has been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **Refrain**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with them thousand beside! **Refrain**

***Praise Songs**

Ayeyi Wura (You Own Our Praise) *[Feel free to sing in either language]*

A-ye-yi Wurae' ----A-ye-yi Wurae'
Ye yi W'aye Na ye Ma Wo so!

*You own our praise! You own our praise!
We praise you, Lord, and we lift you high!*

I Will Lift Up Your Name Higher

I will lift up your name higher...
Great Jehovah you are wonderful
I will lift up your name higher...

Opening Prayer

How quick we are to say yes to You, O Lord, and then we turn around and forget our bold words of commitment. We really want to serve, but we are weak and are easily drawn away by cares and fears. We pledge ourselves to working for Your kingdom but find ourselves pulled this way and that by other demands on our time and energy. Forgive us, O Lord, when we so quickly drop our commitments to serving You. Heal our spirits and give us the bold courage to truly be Your disciples. For we ask these things in Jesus' Name. 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

Happy birthday to you! To Jesus be true.
May God's richest blessings now rest upon you.

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.

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

Psalm 78:1-4 only with Response

UMH 799

Response: We shall listen, Lord, to your teaching, and heed the words of your mouth.

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching:

incline your ears to the words of my mouth!

I will open my mouth in a parable;

I will utter dark sayings from of old,

things that we have heard and known,

that our forebears have told us.

We will not hide them from their children,

but tell to the coming generation

the glorious deeds of the Lord, the might,

and the wonders God has wrought. Response

*Gospel Reading

The Parable of the Two Sons

Matthew 21:23–32, NRSVUE

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him. This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Anthem

All Good Gifts

Chancel Choir

Joseph M. Martin, composer

The treasures of life are gifts sent from heaven,

Blessings more precious than silver or gold.

Family and friends, the laughter of children.

There are the diamonds that fill us with hope.

All good gifts around us, come from heaven above.

So, thank you, Lord, so, thank you, Lord, for all of the treasures of life,
for all of your gifts of life.

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,

For the love which from our birth over and around us

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Lord, we give you our praise!

The treasures of life are meant for the sharing.
Blessed to be blessings out cup overflows.
And now is the time to celebrate harvest
by giving to others and helping them grow.
All the gifts around us come from heaven above.
So, thank you, Lord, so, thank your Lord, for all of the treasures of life,
for all of your gifts of life. For all of your gifts of life. Your gifts of life.

Message

What Will Your Yes Produce?

Rev. Nizzi Digan

The Offering & Offertory Music

Ghanaian Choir

Amman Mma – Children of the World

Children of the world, children of the world, praise the Lord, for He is a mighty King.
Children of the world, children of the world, praise the Lord, for He is a mighty King.
He has conquered death. When He speaks, everything remains still. He is a conqueror. We will
worship Him always.
Children of the world, children of the world, praise the Lord, for he is a mighty King.
Children of the world, go! We will sing for Him. We will shout praises unto Him.
We will magnify Him always. We will give him all the glory and honor.

***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

Humble Savior, you meet us at the start of every day and invite us to take on the mind of Christ. As we bring these gifts, set aside in us the need to win, to hoard, to be first. Shape us instead for love, for shared work, for joy in serving side by side. Use what we offer to build a community where sacrifice is natural, mercy is instinctive, and hope rises in every heart. Keep forming us, not by force but by grace, until our living begins to look like Jesus. We place our offerings—and ourselves—in your hands. 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 HARVEST FESTIVAL

Paul Hayfron, Ivy Hammond, Lawrence Hammond

Words of Welcome

Kofi and Ama: Celebrate the day of your birth

Water Blessing and Opening of the Auction

Water plays an important role in our daily human lives and in our witness of faith.

The blessing of the water today is a symbolic act to remind us of how God has used water to bless us and nourish us in life and in faith. During Harvest, the focus is not on the water but on our response characterized by our giving. Those who bid for the water are bidding for the privilege and honor to lead us in opening the Harvest offering celebrations. Because water is prevalent in all our lives, God's blessings belong to us all.

Appeal for Funds

Sanctuary Auction

Closing Remarks

Announcements

Pastor Joseph Wilson

*Recessional Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God

UMH 102

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful heats and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us still in grace, and guide us when perplexed;
and free us from all ills, in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given;
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven;
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

*Benediction

Rev. Nizzi Digan

Postlude

Eun Hee Park, organ

Postlude on St. George's Windsor

Jason D. Payne

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

2026 List of Chairperson and Supporters

Chairperson

Mr. Yaw Enyim

Supporters

Mrs. Vivian Assie

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hansen

Mrs. Florence Oppong

Mr. Kwame Osei-Boateng

Mrs. Maria Gorsuch Kennedy

Mr. Gary Robinson

Worship Leaders: Pastor Joseph Wilson (liturgist), Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle, Debbie O'Driscoll, Eun Hee Park, Jennifer Quansah, Gary Robinson, Chancel Choir, and Ghanaian Choir

Ushers: David Dagle, Bill Robbins, Douglas Taylor, Sharon Walters, Akosua Ababio, Vivian Assie, and Padmore Amoako

Tech Team: Peter Hansen, Brent Drajesk, Lawrence Hammond, Kwame Boateng, and Kwadwo Amoako

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