# 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

## Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
## All Saints Day & Holy Communion
## November 1, 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** — Eun Hee Park, organ
*Open My Eyes* — *Robert J. Hughes, composer*

**Welcome** — Rev. Nizzi Digan

**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: Loving God, the saints through all the ages praise You.
**ALL: Your glory shines. Alleluia!**
One: The saints in our lives have borne witness to Your grace.
**ALL: Your mercy raises us to new life. Alleluia!**
One: Fill us with Your spirit, that we may be Your saints, shining with Your light in the darkness.
**ALL: Your love shines in us; and we praise You and serve You. Alleluia! Amen.**

***Processional Hymn** — *For All the Saints* — UMH 711

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
and win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, Alleluia!

***Praise Songs**

**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!...

**Joy Like a River**

Joy like a river in my soul...

**Opening Prayer**

**Loving God, we are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses, saints through the ages who have shone Your light on our way. We are surrounded by saints who have gone before us in death, who have borne Your grace in our lives. We are surrounded by the living saints among us, who bless us, sustain us, teach us and pray for us. Speak Your Word to us and sanctify us, that we may be made holy by Your Spirit of love in us, through the grace of Jesus Christ, our Beloved, our Savior, and our hope. 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.

**Music** Thank you, Jesus. Amen. Alleluia! Amen.
Twi: Me-da-ase, Yesu. Alleluia! Amen.

**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

**Remembering the Saints** (those who died since November 2025): Candle Lighting

Shirley Amlaw, Alice Boateng, Joan Hirst, Richard Nevers,
George Plant, Davis Samanen, Margaret Wissell

**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.**

**The Apostle's Creed, Ecumenical Version** UMH 882

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose gain;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Gospel Reading** *The Beatitudes* *Matthew 5:1-12* (NRSVUE)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
"Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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

**Hymn** *Wonderful Words of Life* UMH 600

***Refrain:*** Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful works of life.

Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life;
let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life;
words of life and beauty teach me faith and duty. ***Refrain***

**Message** Rev. Nizzi Digan

**The Offering & Offertory Music** Ghanaian Choir

*You Alone* *Hans Anderson, composer*

Lord, Creator of earth who lives forever,
All your children rejoice and say that Lord you alone are Lord.
Always, whether I rise or whether I walk,
I owe it to you Lord. You make it possible for us to eat, you alone,
Almighty, you alone are our King Jesus. You alone.

You alone are the healer, you make it happen so we will continually
say that you alone are our King Jesus.
We owe you thanks and we give you thanks.
Our Lord, you alone are our King.

***Doxology** Tune: OLD 100TH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication** Debbie O'Driscoll

**Gracious God, we present these offerings with thankful hearts, mindful of the great cloud of witnesses who have shown us the way of faith. Just as You worked through them, work through us to bring hope to those in despair, faith to the faithless, and love to those who feel forgotten. Bless these gifts to lift burdens and transform lives, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 available.*

**Communion Music & Meditation** Eun Hee Park, organ

*Eat This Bread* UMH 628

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

**Announcements** Gifty Bentum-Asante

***Recessional Hymnal** *Let There Be Peace on Earth* UMH 431

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

***Benediction** Rev. Nizzi Digan

**Benediction Response** Chancel Choir

*Irish Blessing* *Bob Chilcott, composer*

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be ever at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and the rain fall soft upon your fields,

And until we meet again,
may God hold you,
may God hold you,
ever in the palm of his hand,
Ever in the palm of his hand.
The palm of his hand.

**Postlude** Eun Hee Park, organ

*The Call to Victory* *David Paxton, composer*

**Worship Leaders:** Maria Gorsuch-Kennedy (liturgist), Gifty Bentum-Asante, Desmond Cheetham, Debbie O'Driscoll (Lay Spiritual Director), Eun Hee Park, Jennifer Quansah, Gary Robinson, Pastor Joseph Wilson

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

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

**Chancel Choir:** Janice England, Danielle Ferdinand, Bonnie Garriepy, Allison Hansen, Peter Hansen, Sandy McManus, Debbie O' Driscoll, Gary Robinson, Dick Segersten, Enoh Ukpong, Jackie Wetton, Pastor Nizzi

**Ghanaian Choir:** Mercy Agyemang, Pauline Ansah, Violet Ansah, Gifty Bentum Asante, Nora Demanya, Yaw Enyim, Elizabeth Osei Boateng, Emmanuel Paitoo, Jennifer Quansah, Evans Quayson, Florence Twumasi

**Communion Stewards:** Linda D'Acri, Quin Caddell, Sharon Walters

**Communion Servers:** Kwadwo Amoako, Padmore Amoako, Judith Barton, and Bill Zoldak

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## This Week at Wesley

**Outside groups. Registration is required.*

**Sunday, November 1, 2026 – All Saints Sunday**

**8:00 am Community Breakfast**
9:00 am Adult Sunday School (JW)
**10:00 am Worship**
10:30 am Children's Sunday School
11:00 am Coffee Fellowship
**11:15 am Communion Breakfast**
11:45 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Sunday AA (CH)

**Monday, November 2, 2026**

6:00 pm Eye Glass Clinic
7:00 pm Church Council - Zoom

**Tuesday, November 3, 2026**

8:30 am DS Meeting (JW)
10:30 am Sunshine Girls – Marilyn Baptist

**Wednesday, November 4, 2026**

12:00 pm Prayer Circle (MEL) – *All are Invited!*
7:00 pm AA-BBSS (CH)

**Thursday, November 5, 2026**

5:30 pm Fruits of Labor Basketball *

**Friday, November 6, 2026**

5:30 pm Fruits of Labor Basketball *

**Saturday, November 7, 2026**

9:30 am Ghanaian Choir Rehearsal (MEL)
**10:00 am Carty Cupboard Food Pantry (until 11:30 am)**
10:00 am Korean School (3Fl)
7:00 pm Ghanaian Funeral (Esther A.)

**Sunday, November 8, 2026**

9:00 am Adult Sunday School (JW)
**10:00 am Worship**
10:30 am Children's Sunday School
11:00 am Coffee Fellowship
11:45 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Sunday AA (CH)

### Mark Your Calendars!

**Sunday, November 8, 2026** – International Luncheon

**Sunday, November 15, 2026** – Lunch & Church Conference

**Sunday, November 22, 2026** – UWF Bake/Craft/Plant Sale