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-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 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 & Candle Lighting — Eun Hee Park, organ

Prelude — *C.S. Lang, composer*

Welcome — Rev. Nizzi Digan

Centering — *Jesus in the Morning* — Joshan Devadoss, solo

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the morning, Jesus in the noontime;
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus when the sun goes down!

Praise God…

Serve God…

***Call to Worship** — Mary Brytowski & Owen Allen

One: Come, let us worship the God who entrusts us with gifts and calls us into faithful service.

ALL: We come with grateful hearts, ready to offer ourselves to God.

One: Let us not bury what God has placed within our care, nor allow fear to silence our response.

ALL: By God's grace, we will step forward in faith and serve with courage.

One: Whether entrusted with much or little, we are called to be faithful.

ALL: **We offer our time, our resources, and our abilities for the work of God's kingdom**.

One: Come, let us worship the Lord whose joy is our hope and whose service is our calling.

ALL: Receive our worship, O God, and make our lives an offering of praise!

***Opening Hymn** *Maker, In Whom We Live* UMH 88

Maker, in whom we live, in whom we are and move,
the glory, power, and praise receive for Thy creating love.
Let all the angel throng give thanks to God on high,
while earth repeats the joyful song and echoes to the sky.

Incarnate Deity, let all the ransomed race
render in thanks their lives to thee for Thy redeeming grace.
The grace to sinners showed ye heavenly choirs proclaim,
and cry, "Salvation to our God, salvation to the Lamb!"

Spirit of Holiness, let all Thy saints adore
Thy sacred energy, and bless thine heart-renewing power.
No angel tongues can tell Thy love's ecstatic height,
the glorious joy unspeakable, the beatific sight.

Eternal, Triune God, let all the hosts above,
let all on earth below record and dwell upon Thy love.
When heaven and earth are fled before Thy glorious face,
sing all the saints Thy love hath made Thine everlasting praise.

***Praise Songs** Ghanaian & Chancel Choirs
Desmond Cheetham, keyboard

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 Leona Morweh

Gracious and eternal God, Giver of every good gift, we gather in Your presence with thanksgiving and praise. You have entrusted us with opportunities to love, resources to share, and work to do in Your name. We welcome Your Holy Spirit into this time of worship. Open our hearts to Your presence, our minds to Your Word, and our lives to Your purpose.

Forgive us for the times we have buried our gifts beneath fear, hesitation, or indifference. Free us from comparing what we have with what others have received. Teach us instead to be faithful with what You have placed in our hands.

Through Your renewing grace, give us courage to serve, wisdom to act, and compassion to share. Let the songs we sing, the prayers we offer, and the Word we receive move us beyond good intentions into faithful discipleship.

May our worship bear fruit in our living, until we hear Your gracious welcome: "Well done, good and faithful servant." Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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 & Baptism Pastor Nizzi & Pastor Joseph

Baby Janelle Frimpomah Boateng; Parents: Emmanuel Boateng & Matilda Serwaa

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 Joseph Wilson

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

The Lord's Prayer Ghanaian: Jennifer Quansah, Krau: Sema Farcarthy, English: Gary Robinson

(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 67:1-7* (TIB) Clem Farnham & Owen Allen

One: O God, show us kindness and bless us, and make Your face smile on us.

ALL: For then, the earth will acknowledge Your ways, and all of the nations will know of Your power to save.

One: Let the peoples praise you, O God, let all the peoples praise you!

ALL: Let the nations shout and sing for joy, for You dispense true justice to the world - You guide the nations of the earth!

One: Let the peoples shout and sing for joy, let all the peoples praise you!

ALL: The land has given its harvest: God, our God, has blessed us. May God bless us, and may God be revered even to the ends of the earth! Amen.

***Gospel Reading** *Matthew 25:14-30* (NRSVUE) Rev. Barry Judd & Robert Jones

"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more

talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

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

Music Quinsigamond UMC Praise Team
Annie Forndia, Leader

Message *You Have Something Worth Sharing* Pastor Sharon Henderson

The Offering & Offertory Music

(Place your offering in the designated basket by church name)

Music Ghanaian Choir

Aseda – Thanks *J. G. Koomson, composer*

Aseda (sƐ no), Aseda (sƐ no), Aseda nka Nyame wɔ sor
Ayeyi nye ntonton sƐ wo Abɔ sor Nyame a EyƐ KƐse (kƐ se)
wonsa no ndwuma dzi adanse (ampa) dƐ EyƐ Nyame a yƐ som woa ɔfa ta.

Thanks be to Him, Thanks be to Him, Thanks be to God on high, (2x)
You are worthy of praise and adoration
Lord of the All you are great
Truly, all your handiworks bear witness that you are
God who is worthy to be worshipped.

***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

Generous Christ, every good gift comes from your hand, and you entrust us with resources, abilities, and opportunities to serve your kingdom. Keep us from measuring our worth by what we produce or possess. Instead, teach us to invest our lives in love, mercy, and the building of community. Receive these offerings and use them to lift burdens, create hope, and strengthen your people. May we find joy not in accumulation, but in faithful relationship with you and our neighbors. May all that we offer today become a witness to your abundant grace. 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** *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* TFWS 2153

I'm gonna **live** so God can use me, anywhere, Lord, anytime! 2X

I'm gonna **work** so God can use me, anywhere, Lord, anytime! 2X

I'm gonna **pray** so God can use me, anywhere, Lord, anytime! 2X

I'm gonna **sing** so God can use me, anywhere, Lord, anytime! 2X

***Closing Prayer** Rev. Barry Judd

Gracious God, thank You for receiving us with love and calling us into Your service. When we compare ourselves with others, help us recognize the gifts already present in our lives. When we are afraid, meet us with mercy and give us courage for the next step. When we are weary, grant us rest and companions who will help us carry the load. Make our congregation a place where people are encouraged, gifts are nurtured, and love becomes visible in ordinary acts of care. Lead us into the joy of serving You together. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Benediction** Rev. Megan Stowe

Postlude Eun Hee Park, organ

Fanfare on "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" *Paul Fey, composer*

WAUM Participating Churches & Pastors

Covenant St Andrew's UMC: Pastor Sharon Henderson

Epworth UMC: Pastor Joseph Wilson, Rev Barry Judd, Rev. Nizzi Digan & Linda Jones

Quinsigamond UMC: Rev. Barry Judd

Wesley UMC: Rev. Nizzi Digan

District Superintendent: Rev. Megan Stowe

The Centering is from hymnary.org

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

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This Week at Wesley

**Outside groups. Registration is required.*

Sunday, November 15, 2026

9:00 am Adult Sunday School (JW)
10:00 am Worship
10:30 am Children's Sunday School
11:30 am Luncheon after Worship
12:00 pm CHURCH CONFERENCE following Luncheon
4:30 pm Greater Accra Social Club
7:00 pm Sunday AA (CH)

Monday, November 16, 2026

6:00 pm Eye Glass Clinic
6:30 pm SPRC

Tuesday, November 17, 2026

10:30 am Sunshine Girls – Lutheran Home

Wednesday, November 18, 2026

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

Thursday, November 19, 2026

5:30 pm Fruits of Labor Basketball *

Friday, November 20, 2026

5:30 pm Fruits of Labor Basketball *

Saturday, November 21, 2026

9:30 am Ghanaian Choir Rehearsal (MEL)
10:00 am Carty Cupboard Food Pantry
10:00 am Korean School (3Fl)
7:00 pm Ghanaian Funeral

Sunday, November 22, 2026 – Thanksgiving Sunday

UWF Bake, Craft & Plant Sale
9:00 am Adult Sunday School (JW)
10:00 am Worship
10:30 am Children's Sunday School
11:15 am Coffee Fellowship
11:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Sunday AA (CH)