

Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

January 1, 2023

First Sunday after Christmas

At Wesley 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.

For the safety of every worshipper, please observe the following guidelines regardless of your vaccine status.

- **Wear a mask covering your mouth and nose all the time during worship.**
 - **Please let an usher know if you have questions, need assistance, or have a concern about health or safety.**
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Prelude

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come, BWV 606
In Quiet Joy Sing and be Glad!, BWV 608
This is the Day that is So Joyous, BWV 605

William Ness, organ
J.S. Bach 1685-1750

Angels We Have Heard on High

Mark Muncey, trumpet
Sue Mitchell Wallace b. 1944

Greeting & Announcement

*Call to Worship

Debbie O'Driscoll, Liturgist

One: God, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Many: Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

One: Teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

Many: Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

All: Let the favor of God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands.

*Hymn

"This Is a Day of New Beginnings" (verses 1-4)

UMH 383

This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.

For by the life and death of Jesus, God's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again.

Then let us, with the Spirit's daring, step from the past and leave behind
our disappointment, guilt, and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find.

Christ is alive and goes before us to show and share what love can do.

This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new.

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

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...

Unto The Lord Be The Glory

Unto the Lord be the glory. Great things He has done...

Great things He has done. Greater things He will do.
Unto the Lord be the glory. Great things He has done...

New Year's Prayer (*unison*)

Creative God, you make all things new in heaven and on earth. We come to you in a new year with new desires and old fears, new decisions and old controversies, new dreams and old weaknesses. Because you are a God of hope, we know that you create all the possibilities of the future. Because you are a God of love, we know that you accept all the mistakes of the past. Because you are the God of our faith, we enter your gates with thanksgiving and praise, we come into your presence with gladness and a joyful noise, and we serve and bless you. Amen.

Children's Conversation

The Offering

Offertory

Rocking

Debbie O' Driscoll, Handbell soloist
Douglas Wagner b. 1952

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People, & the Lord's Prayer

"Like a Child"

TFWS 2092, v.3

Like a child born to pray and to show us the way,
like a child here to stay, Jesus comes.
Like a child we receive all that love can conceive,
like a child we believe, Jesus comes.

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 2:1-12

Message

Rev. Byungmoo Lee

*Hymn

“The Church of Christ, in Every Age”

UMH 589

The Church of Christ, in every age beset by change but Spirit led,
must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.

Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat, and never live until they die.

Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ’s sacrifice, and clothed in Christ’s humanity.

For he alone, whose blood was shed, can cure the fever in our blood,
and teach us how to share our bread and feed the starving multitude.

We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord,
to care for all, without reserve, and spread his liberating word.

*Shalom

Mensah Essilfie

God’s peace be unto you,
We wish you Shalom!
The peace of God which transcends all
understanding be with you forevermore.

*Benediction

Postlude

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

William Ness, organ
Johann Pachelbel 1653-1706

Call to Worship – Psalm 90 ALT. *The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version*, Oxford Univ. Press.

New Year’s Prayer – *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, 294.

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