

Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

March 26, 2023

Fifth Sunday in Lent

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.

Please let an usher know if you have questions, need assistance, or have a concern about health or safety.

Prelude Bom Nantsew (Walk with me) M. K. Amissah

Greeting

Centering Song "Come and Find the Quiet Center"

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead.
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

*Call to Worship

One: Out of the depths we cry to you, O God;

Many: God, hear us!

One: We wait for God, our souls wait, and in God's word we hope;

Many: We wait for God more than those who watch for the morning.

One: There is forgiveness with God;

Many: God is always willing to save.

All: We hope in God! For with God there is steadfast love, and with God is great power to redeem.

*Hymn

"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" (x 2)

TFWS 2088

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life; I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
from the earth to the cross my debt to pay;
from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift your name on high.

*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...

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

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...

Common Prayer (*unison*)

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us with the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Children’s Conversation

Announcement

Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer

“Spirit of the Living God”

UMH 393

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

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 Offering

Offertory Anthem

Aseda Ndwom (Song of Thanks)

James Varrick Armaah

I will always mention your name to the world,
I will always mention your name to the world,
What you have done for me, what you have done for me,
I will speak of your name to the whole world.

You have changed my life, you have not left me astray
I will sing and praise your name
Thanks belong to You always.

Thanks, thanks, thanks, song of thanks,
It is from my heart,
Praises, praises, praises, song of praises
It is from my heart,
We have brought them, we have brought them, song of thanks,
Thanks always belongs to You.

*Doxology

UMH 95

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. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

What shall I render unto the Lord
 For all the good things he has done for me.
 How shall I repay the Lord for all the good things He has done for me?
 I will raise His cup of salvation and mention the name of the Lord amongst all men.
 I will bless His name, I will testify of Him for all the good things He has done for me.

Epistle Reading

Romans 8:6-11

*Gospel Reading

John 11:1-6. 17, 20-27, 32-35, 38-45

Message

*Hymn

"Because He Lives"

UMH 364

God sent his Son, they called him Jesus,
 he came to love, heal, and forgives;
 he lived and died to buy my pardon,
 an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

[Refrain] Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;
 because he lives, all fear is gone;
 because I know he holds the future,
 and life is worth the living just because he lives.

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
 and feel the pride and joy Jesus gives;
 but greater still the calm assurance,
 this child can face uncertain days because he lives. [Refrain]

And then one day I'll cross the river;
 I'll fight life's final war with pain;
 and then as death gives way to victory,
 I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he reigns. [Refrain]

*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

Prelude in E minor, BWV 555

J. S. Bach 1685-1750

Worship Leaders: Judith Barton, Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle, Chris Kerns, Byungmoo Lee,
 Debbie O'Driscoll, Jennifer Quansah, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team