

Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

September 15, 2024

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Aria

David Ashley White (1940)

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Emma Lou Diemer (1927-2024)

Greeting

*Call to Worship

One: The law of God is perfect, reviving the soul;

Many: The decrees of God are sure, making wise the simple;

One: The precepts of God are right, rejoicing the heart;

Many: The commandment of God is clear, enlightening the eyes;

One: The reverence of God is pure, enduring forever;

Many: The ordinances of God are true and righteous altogether.

All: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O God, my rock and my redeemer.

*Hymn

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

UMH 103

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

***Please stand in body or in spirit.**

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

*Praise Songs

Me yi N'aye (I Will Praise Him)

Me yi n'aye, Me yi Nyamea' ye...
Me yi Nyamea' ye, Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Halleluyah ...

I will praise God, I will praise my God...
I will praise my God, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah...

I Have Joy In My Heart

I have joy in my heart, deep, deep down in my heart...
Jesus gave to me, and no one can destroy it.
I have joy in my heart; deep, deep down in my heart...

Common Prayer (*unison*)

**God of mercy:
Help us to forgive, as you have forgiven us.
Help us to trust you, even when hope is failing.
Help us to take up our cross daily
and follow you in your redeeming work;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Children's Time

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

"Come and Fill Our Hearts"

TFWS 2157

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Alleluia!

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

Be Thou My Vision

Thomas Quigley (cf. 20th century)

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art -
thou my best thought, by day or by night;
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father; thine own may I be,
thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*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

*Passing of Peace

“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.

Epistle Reading

Colossians 1:15-28

*Gospel Reading

Mark 8:27-30

Anthem

Osoro Nka – Let the Heavens Speak

Newlove Annan

Let the Heavens speak and let the earth respond to what Jesus has done for his children,
Let the Heavens rumble and let the earth respond to what Jesus has done for his children,
He has saved us from the hands of the enemy
He has been victorious for his children
Let us always rejoice, let us sing to glorify what Jesus has done for his children.

Message

Announcement

*Hymn

“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

UMH 344

Lord, you have come to the lakeshore
looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;
you only asked me to follow humbly.
O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling have spoken my name;

now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.

You know so well my possessions;
my boat carries no gold and no weapons;
you will find there my nets and labor.
O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.

You need my hands, full of caring
through my labors to give others rest,
and constant love that keep on loving.
O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.

You, who have fished other oceans,
ever longed for by souls who are waiting,
my loving friend, as thus you call me.
O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.

*Benediction

Rev. Megan Stowe

Postlude

"How Great Tho Art"

Llyod Larson

Lyrics: Carl Gustav Boburg

Tenor Solo – David Potts

Worship Leaders: Gifty Bentum-Asante, Desmond Cheetham, Linda D'Acri, David Dagle,
Chris Kerns, Byungmoo Lee, William Ness, Debbie O'Driscoll, David Potts, Jennifer Quansah,
Chancel Choir, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

Call to Worship – Psalm 19 ALT. *The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version*, Oxford Univ. Press.
Common Prayer – *Book of Common Worship*, Westminster/John Knox Press, 1993, p. 374, ALT.
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