

# Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

November 24, 2024

Reign of Christ Sunday / Thanksgiving Sunday

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*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.*

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

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Prelude

Pastel on We Gather Together

Charles Callahan  
KREMSER

Greeting

\*Call to Worship

One: Give thanks to the Lord, who is good!

**Many: God's steadfast love endures forever.**

One: We are redeemed from trouble.

**Many: God delivered us from our distress.**

One: God gathered us.

**Many: Give thanks to God for all God has done for us!**

\*Hymn

"We Gather Together"

UMH 131

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;  
he chastens and hasten his will to make known.  
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing,  
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,  
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;  
so from the beginning the fight we were winning;  
thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,  
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.  
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;  
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

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

\*Praise Songs

**Ayeyi Wura (You Own Our Praise)**

A-ye-yi Wurae' ----A-ye-yi Wurae'  
Ye yi W'ayε Na yε Ma Wo so!

You own our praise! You own our praise!  
We praise you, Lord, and we lift you high!

**Praise, O Praise, My God and King**

Praise, O praise, my God and King.  
Hymns of adoration, sing;  
For his mercies, shall endure; Ever faithful, ever sure ...

Alleluia, Alleluia!  
King of Kings and Lord of Lords!  
For his mercies, shall endure; Ever faithful ever sure...

Prayer for God's Reign (*unison*)

**We believe in you, O God,  
for you have made the suffering of humanity your suffering.  
You have come to establish a kingdom of the poor and humble.  
Today we sing to you,  
because you are alive,  
you have saved us,  
you have made us free;  
through Jesus Christ our Savior,  
who lives and reigns with you in unity with 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

Amman Mma – Children of the World

Children of the world, children of the world, praise the Lord, for He is a mighty King.

Children of the world, children of the world, praise the Lord, for He is a mighty King.

He has conquered death. When He speaks, everything remains still. He is a conqueror. We will worship Him always.

Children of the world, children of the world, praise the Lord, for he is a mighty King.

Children of the world, go! We will sing for Him. We will shout praises unto Him. We will magnify Him always. We will give him all the glory and honor.

### \*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.

### \*Gospel Reading

John 18:33-38a

### Anthem

"Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above"

Austin C. Lovelace  
(1919-2010)

Alleluia, praise the Lord! Alleluia, Amen.  
Praise the Lord who reigns above, and keeps his court below;  
Praise the holy God of love, and all his greatness show;  
Praise him for his noble deeds, praise him for his matchless power:  
Him from whom all good proceeds let earth and heaven adore.  
Celebrate the eternal God with harp and psaltery,  
Timbrels soft and cymbals loud in his high praise agree:  
Praise him every tuneful string; all the reach of heavenly art,  
All the powers of music bring, the music of the heart.  
Him, in whom they move and live, let every creature sing,  
Glory to their Maker give, and homage to their King.  
Hallowed be his name beneath, as in heaven on earth adored;  
Praise the Lord in every breath, let all things praise the Lord.  
Alleluia, praise the Lord! Alleluia, Amen.

### Message

## Announcement

*Hymn	“God of Grace and God of Glory”	UMH 577
*Benediction		
Postlude	Postlude on “Cwm Rhondda”	arr. Mark Rippe Hymn Tune - John Hughes

## MUSIC NOTES

### We Gather Together - KRESMER

In many American hymnals, "We gather together" appears as a Thanksgiving hymn. Perhaps this is because of the opening line and the general idea that God is with us regardless of our circumstances. However, the hymn speaks more about God's providence throughout the trials of life. The story behind the hymn clarifies its text. This hymn is a late sixteenth-century expression of celebration of freedom by The Netherlands from Spanish oppression. *The United Methodist Hymnal* has placed this hymn in the "Providence" section rather with other traditional American Thanksgiving hymns, broadening its use from this national holiday to use during any difficult circumstances. The hymn gained recognition in the United States when it found its way into the hymnal of the Methodist-Episcopal Church in 1935. The popularity increased during World War II when singers connected "the wicked oppressing" to Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan. "We Gather Together" was featured at the Funeral Mass for Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis in 1994. -C Michael Hahn, professor of church music at Perkins School of Theology.

### "Cwm Rhondda"

John Hughes (1873-1932) composed the tune in 1907 for the inauguration of the organ at Capel Rhondda in Hopkinstown, Wales. "Cwm Rhondda" (taken from the Welsh name for the Rhondda valley) is considered the unofficial anthem of Wales and is often sung by fans at the Millennium Stadium when Wales plays rugby. — Deanna Witkowski, pianist, composer, arranger, author

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

Call to Worship – Psalm 107 ALT. *The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version*, Oxford Univ. Press.  
Prayer for God's Reign – *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, 511, ALT.  
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