

# Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

March 2, 2025

Transfiguration 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 "Arabesque" Claude Debussy

Greeting

\*Call to Worship

One: God is great and is exalted over all the peoples.

**Many: Let them praise your great and awesome name.**

One: Holy is our God!

**Many: Holy is our God!**

One: Lover of justice, you have established equity.

**Many: You have brought justice and righteousness.**

One: Extol the Most High our God; worship at God's footstool.

**Many: Holy is our God!**

\*Hymn "Christ Is the World's Light" UMH 188

Christ is the world's light, Christ and none other;  
born in our darkness, he became our brother.  
If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:  
Glory to God on high!

Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none other;  
no one can serve him and despise another.  
Who else unites us, one in God the Father?  
Glory to God on high!

Christ is the world's life, Christ and none other;  
sold once for silver, murdered here our brother;  
he, who redeems us, reigns with God the Father;  
Glory to God on high!

Give God the glory, God and none other;  
give God the glory, Spirit, Son, and Father;  
give God the glory, God with us, my brother:  
Glory to God on high!

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

\*Praise Songs

**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...

**Me yi N'aye (I Will Praise Him)** [Feel free to sing in either language]

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...

Common Prayer (*unison*)

**God of power and wonder,  
we are awestruck by the glory of your presence.  
We rejoice at what we can see;  
we marvel at what we cannot see.  
You dazzle us with your brightness;  
you overshadow us as with a great cloud.  
Loving, protecting, challenging, nurturing,  
you strengthen and transform us.  
May we love and serve you in all that we are and do.  
Glory be to you. Amen.**

Children's Time

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

"Come and Find the Quiet Center"

TFWS 2128, v. 1

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.

**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 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

Luke 9:28-36

Anthem

“This Is My Beloved Son”

Pepper Choplin (b. 1957)

Long, long ago, the prophets spoke to ancient generations.  
But in these days, God shows His ways and through the Son He's spoken.  
The Son is in God's likeness, in glory and in brightness, in high authority.  
You are my Son, beloved one, you are my first begotten.  
The heavens you made, your hand has laid the very earth's foundation.  
The Son is in God's likeness, in glory and in brightness, in high authority.  
The Son, your sins has lightened, He sits upon the right hand of power and majesty.  
The first begotten One, this is my high and holy Son.  
On earth one day, John, Peter, James followed Him up a mountain.  
Before their eyes, His face would shine with light as bright as morning.  
His garment shone and brightened.  
The disciples were so frightened, their faces on the ground.  
A bright cloud overwhelmed them, a voice came forth to tell them,  
"Now listen to this one, for this is my beloved Son!"

Message

Holy Communion

“The Great Thanksgiving”

UMH 13-14

*The United Methodist Church practices Open Communion. All who desire to live in the love and peace of Jesus Christ are welcome to the bread and cup of communion. At the direction of the ushers, come forward using the center aisle to stand or kneel at the communion rail for distribution of the elements. After consuming the elements and private prayer at the rail, you may return to your seat via the side aisles. Please alert the ushers to anyone wishing to be served while remaining seated in the sanctuary. Non-alcoholic grape juice is used, and gluten-free wafers are available.*

Communion Music

“O Bread of Heaven”

César Franck

The Immigrant Apostles' Creed (*unison*)

**I believe in Almighty God**

**Who guided the people in exile and in exodus**

**The God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon,**

**The God of foreigners and immigrants**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean,**

**Who was born away from his people in his home,**

**Who fled his country with his parents**

**When his life was in danger**

**When he returned to his own country**

**He suffered under the oppression of Pontius Pilate,**

**The servant of foreign power.**

**Jesus was persecuted, beaten, tortured**

**And unjustly condemned to death.**

**But on the third day Jesus rose from the dead,**

**Not as a scorned foreigner**

**But to offer us citizenship in God's kingdom.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**The eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us,**

**Who speaks all languages, lives all countries,**

**And reunites all races.**

**I believe that the Church is the secure home**

**For foreigners and for all believers.**

**I believe that the communication of saints begins**

**When we embrace all God's people in all their diversity.**

**I believe in forgiveness, which makes us all equal before God,**

**And in reconciliations, which heals our brokenness.**

**I believe that in the Resurrection, God will unite us as one people**

**In which all are distinct and all are alike at the same time.**

**I believe in life eternal,**

**In which no one will be a foreigner but all will be citizens**

**Of the kingdom where God reigns forever and ever. Amen.**

Announcement

\*Hymn

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

UMH 396

O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;  
be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend.  
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near;  
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;  
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;  
but Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,  
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will.  
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;  
O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee  
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be.  
And Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;  
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.

\*Benediction

Postlude

“Trumpet Voluntary”

Gordon Young

Worship Leaders: Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle, Ronna Davis, Earl Flagg, Chris Kerns,  
Byungmoo Lee, Debbie O’Driscoll, David Potts, Jennifer Quansah, Gary Robinson,  
Chancel Choir, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

Call to Worship – Psalm 99 ALT. *The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version*, Oxford Univ. Press.

Common Prayer – *Worship & Song: Worship Resources*, Abingdon Press, 2011, 13.

The Immigrant Apostles’ Creed - Attributed by Rev. Jose Luis Casal

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