

Wesley United Methodist Church

August 2, 2020



Gretchen Nelson, Pastor
Sylvia Krisnow, Secretary

Jerry Sowers, Minister of Music
Cynthia Campbell, Accompanist

Members of Wesley, Ministers

**The Vision of Wesley United Methodist Church is to serve
all people with the love of Jesus Christ.
Order of Worship – 10:00 A.M. Service
Gather and Spend Time with God Together**

Preparing your home for Worship

Create a space that brings reminders of God's presence and love. Candle. Colorful flowers. Picture. Bible. Cross. Make it a joyful and prayerful place. Ask everyone in your home for suggestions. Before the gathering time, play music, turn off devices not used for worship, start to pay attention to your breath as a gift from God. Pray. Worshiping together as house churches in the model of Acts 2:46-47.

Welcome and Orientation

Centering our attention on God's Holy Presence with our breath and senses.

Gathering Centering Music

Let the music fill your hearts and spirits becoming aware of God welcoming you in love.

Opening Prayer

All: O God who wrestles with us, circle our hearts, centre our minds, still our bodies be present to us now. Amen.

Opening Act of Centering our Hearts as One

Reader One: Let the hungry come to me, let the poor be fed.
Let the thirsty come and drink, share my wine and bread.
Though thou hast no money, come to me and eat!
Drink the cup I offer, feed on finest wheat! (hymn by Delores Dufner)

Many: We are hungry, Lord!

Reader One: We come to church today with different types of hunger for you.

Reader Two: Some of us sit down at the table eagerly, because we are hungry. Some of us have come because we know we should eat, even though we don't feel like it.

Reader One: Some of us are ravenous.

Reader Two: And some of us have lost our appetite, and we don't even know why.

Reader One: And yet you have drawn us to your welcoming table, one and all, your arms open to embrace us just as we are.

Many: As we settle in this morning, fill us with your presence so that when we leave today, we can leave saying, “That is exactly what I needed!”

Opening Hymn

“Come Away With Me”

FWS 2202

Come away with me to a quiet place, apart from the world with its frantic pace, to pray, reflect, and seek God's grace.

Come away with me. Come away.

Come and pray with me on a gentle sea, on top of a hill in the Galilee, in gardens like Gethsemane.

Come away with me. Come away.

Come today with thoughts of the countless ways that God's steadfast love blesses all our days, and join with me in silent praise.

Come away with me. Come away.

Come and say, in words whispered from your soul, the feelings and actions you can't control. Your spirit needs to be made whole.

Come away with me. Come away.

Come away with me to a quiet place, to God's loving arms waiting to embrace all those who come in hope of grace.

Come away with me. Come away.

Glory Sightings

Witness to God's faithfulness and love in the world. You are invited to share where have you witnessed good news. Raise a hand, write in the Facebook Comments, add into Zoom Chat.

Break Bread

Blessing the Meal

“Day by day, as they spent much time together in temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts...” Acts 2:46

Breaking Open the Word with Scripture

First Testament Reading

Genesis 32:22-31

²² Jacob got up during the night, took his two wives, his two women servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed the Jabbok River's shallow water. ²³ He took them and everything that belonged to him, and he helped them cross the river. ²⁴ But Jacob stayed apart by himself, and a man wrestled with him until dawn broke. ²⁵ When the man saw that

he couldn't defeat Jacob, he grabbed Jacob's thigh and tore a muscle in Jacob's thigh as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ The man said, "Let me go because the dawn is breaking."

But Jacob said, "I won't let you go until you bless me."

²⁷ He said to Jacob, "What's your name?" and he said,

"Jacob." ²⁸ Then he said, "Your name won't be Jacob any longer, but Israel,^[a] because you struggled with God and with men and won."

²⁹ Jacob also asked and said, "Tell me your name."

But he said, "Why do you ask for my name?" and he blessed Jacob there. ³⁰ Jacob named the place Peniel,^[b] "because I've seen God face-to-face, and my life has been saved." ³¹ The sun rose as Jacob passed Peniel, limping because of his thigh.

Psalter

Psalm 17

UMH pg 749

¹ Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry;

give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.

² From you let my vindication come;

let your eyes see the right.

³ If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,

**if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;
my mouth does not transgress.**

⁴ Concerning what others do:

I have avoided the ways of the violent by following your word.

⁵ **My steps have held fast to your paths;**

my feet have not slipped.

⁶ I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;

incline your ear to me, hear my words.

⁷ Wondrously show your steadfast love,

O saviour of those who seek refuge
from their adversaries at your right hand.

¹⁵ **As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness;**

when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your presence.

Special Music

Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:13-21

¹³ When Jesus heard about John, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. When the crowds learned this, they followed him on foot from the cities. ¹⁴ When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion for them and healed those who were sick. ¹⁵ That evening his disciples came and said to him, "This is an isolated place and it's getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

¹⁶ But Jesus said to them, “There’s no need to send them away. You give them something to eat.”

¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here except five loaves of bread and two fish.”

¹⁸ He said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves of bread and the two fish, looked up to heaven, blessed them and broke the loaves apart and gave them to his disciples. Then the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ Everyone ate until they were full, and they filled twelve baskets with the leftovers. ²¹ About five thousand men plus women and children had eaten.

Meditation Encounters Intimate and Mysterious **Pastor Gretchen Nelson**

Responsive Hymn “O Food to Pilgrims Given” UMH 631

1. O food to pilgrims given,
O bread of life from heaven,
O manna from on high!
We hunger; Lord, supply us,
nor thy delights deny us,
whose hearts to thee draw nigh.

2. O stream of love past telling,
O purest fountain, welling
from out the Savior's side!
We faint with thirst; revive us,
of thine abundance give us,
and all we need provide.

3. O Jesus, by thee bidden,
we here adore thee, hidden
in forms of bread and wine.
Grant when the veil is risen,
we may behold, in heaven,
thy countenance divine.

Break Open our Hearts with Prayer

As we share in prayer today you are encouraged to pray aloud your joys and concerns. Complete your prayer with "Lord, in your mercy" and all the people respond "Hear our prayer". (You are invited to write your prayers in the Chat or Comment feed. Also please email them to the church office so the Prayer Team may continue to pray with you during the week).

Prayers of the People – Open Your Hand

Prayer of Intercession based on Matthew 14:13-21 and Psalm 145:15-16

Lay Leader: Loving God, You are our Creator and Sustainer. When You open Your hand, You satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing. And so we look to You whenever we are in need, trusting in Your love and Your abundant goodness. As You once fed the hungry crowds with five loaves and two small fish, we ask that You would again fill those who are empty this day. Pour out Your Spirit on all who hunger and thirst. We pray for those who are physically hungry—whose stomachs are empty. We think especially of the people who are facing critical food shortages; who are suffering the effects of malnutrition and starvation; and watching helplessly as loved ones die.

ALL: Lord, in Your mercy, open Your hand. Pour out Your Spirit, so that they may be filled.

Lay Leader: We pray for those who are empty emotionally—who are lonely and long for companionship and love, who are caught in the grip of depression, or overwhelmed with grief.

ALL: Lord, in Your mercy, open Your hand. Pour out Your Spirit, so that they may be filled.

Lay Leader: We pray for those who are spiritually empty—who are troubled, but don't know where to turn; who long for purpose and meaning, but don't know where to look; who need You, but do not yet know You.

ALL: Lord, in Your mercy, open Your hand. Pour out Your Spirit, so that they may be filled.

Lay Leader: God, we praise You for Your abundant gifts in our lives. Pour out Your Spirit on us as well. Fill us with Your compassion and love, so that we would willingly share some of our abundance with those who have need.

ALL: Lord, in Your mercy, open Your hand. Pour out Your Spirit, so that we may be filled.

(Prayers of the people are lifted up with response.)

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Sharing Christ's Peace

During this season of Spacial Distancing, practicing Christ's Peace is a witness of God's shalom. Cross your arms or press hands together at your heart, bow to your companion while keeping eye contact. Offer this similar greeting "The Christ in me greets the Christ in you. Abundant peace." Use your social media and phones to send Christ's peace into the world.

Praise God!

Offering

Giving is a spiritual practice of our faith. Sharing God's Good News through mission and ministry continue even as we are physically separate. Keep your covenant tithe, pledge, and offering with God. Consider healthy ways to be in service with your gifts and skills.

Musical Offering

During this musical act of praise, you are encouraged to praise God with your gifts. Wherever you are—lift up your hands, sway, dance, let the spirit of God move you (on screen or off).

Hymn of Praise "Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown" UMH 386

1 Come, O thou Traveller unknown,
whom still I hold, but cannot see;
my company before is gone,
and I am left alone with thee;
with thee all night I mean to stay,
and wrestle till the break of day.

2 I need not tell thee who I am,
my misery or sin declare;
thyself hast called me by my name;
look on thy hands, and read it there!

But who, I ask thee, who art thou?
Tell me thy name, and tell me now.

3 Yield to me now, for I am weak,
but confident in self-despair;
speak to my heart, in blessings speak,
be conquered by my instant prayer.
Speak, or thou never hence shalt move,
and tell me if thy name is Love!

4 'Tis Love!'tis Love! Thou diedst for me!
I hear thy whisper in my heart!
The morning breaks, the shadows flee;
pure universal Love thou art:
to me, to all, thy mercies move;
thy nature and thy name is Love.

Have Goodwill

Living God's Grace

Send this worship energy out to the world! What message does the world need? Create a way to let more and more people know the message of Christ, "You are not alone. I am here. Peace be with you." What can we do to create more peace in our household, in our family, in our relationships with those we cannot be with right now? How can we offer peace to those who feel no peace or comfort? Where will we go and take action with God's love? Make a plan today.

Blessing

I pray that out of God's glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Note after the service:

Prayers and liturgies today can be found: third-space.org.uk/; Carol Penner, <http://carolpenner.typepad.com/>; re.worship.com. All music used within CCLI#752546

Remember in our Prayers

Concerns: Cameron Glandon, Michael Dunkailo, David Cooper, Mrs Jones, Grace Burnell, Dianna, Carol, Bruce and Shanon, Camden, Dylan, Freta Lamb, Pauline Desclos, Joella, Richard Cooper, Marty Ammerman, Sylvia Santacruz, Joseph Gilday, Jerry McReynolds, Abby, Amber Stinson, Bill Mee, Zach Perkins, Caleb Coates, Ernie and Carolyn Taylor, Lynnette Scalzi, Zeb Cope, Ray Krisnow, Ramona Gemeinhart, Dennis Rosier, Pete Stone, Karen Bowers, Janice Crumpton, Jeff Birdsall, Kevin Lykins, Joe Ames, Nina Winfree, Barbara Greene, Ben Stanley, Susan Nichols, Jo and Buddy Carlisle.

Other Concerns: The Coronavirus, the tragedies occurring in our country and around the world; police officers and first responders; all who are grieving; our seniors; our church and the entire United Methodist Church; recovery from addiction; young adults needing a closer walk with Christ; those awaiting test results; healing for those in pain.

Nation and World: Our nation, leaders, military, deployed troops and their families.

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea

Birthdays/Anniversaries: **08/02** Nita Hartung;
08/03 Christopher Coccimiglio, Michael Saylor, Sr.;
08/06 Amy Stanley; **08/07** Valerie Holland

We at Wesley are glad you are here and invite you to worship with us often. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to consider Wesley. Pastor Gretchen would be happy to talk with you about it.

Announcements

August Counter Schedule:

2nd and 9th—Clyde Gumbert and Donna Turley
16th and 23rd—Mary Saylor and Stephanie Eitzen
30th—Amy Stanley and Becky Morris

Folk Jam on the Bank of the York River: Wednesday, August 12,

5:30-9:00 PM. Admission is free. Hear a talented group of musicians perform sea shanties and familiar oldies. **We'll meet outside in the canopy-covered pavilion adjacent to the Watermen's Museum, 309 Water Street, Yorktown.** Picnic tables are available, but you can also bring a lawn chair for social distancing. You are welcome to bring your own snacks and drinks. Contact person: Mary Saylor

H.E.L.P. Food Pantry: Thank you for your continued donations to the H.E.L.P. Food Pantry. They are grateful for all nonperishable food. Current needs are: canned meats (Spam, tuna, chicken, etc.). Dried beans are always needed as well as canned fruit and juice. Donations are delivered monthly. Contact person: Sherry Moore

Nightly Prayer on Facebook Live, Monday-Friday, 7:00 PM.

Summer Sessions led by Pastor Gretchen: Sundays at 4:00 PM on Zoom. Links and topics will be emailed each week.

Scriptures for August 9: Genesis 37:1-4; 12-28; Psalm 105; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-23

Week of 2 August 2020

Sun.	02	10:00 AM <i>Live Stream Worship Service – Zoom or Facebook</i> 4:00 PM <i>Summer Session on Zoom</i>
Mon.	03	7:00 PM <i>Prayer Time –Facebook</i>
Tues.	04	7:00 PM <i>Prayer Time –Facebook</i>
Wed.	05	7:00 PM <i>Prayer Time –Facebook</i>
Thurs.	06	7:00 PM <i>Prayer Time –Facebook</i>
Fri.	07	7:00 PM <i>Prayer Time –Facebook</i>
Sun.	09	10:00 AM <i>Live Stream Sunday Worship Service – Zoom or Facebook</i> 4:00 PM <i>Summer Session on Zoom</i>

OFFERING	General Fund: Received: \$3,698.00– Needed each week: \$4,876.00
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