

# Wesley United Methodist Church

*November 21, 2021*



**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

### Preparing Your Home & Heart for Worship

*Create a space that brings reminders of God's presence. Candles. Colorful flowers. Pictures. 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.*

### Gather and Spend Time with God Together

*“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*

### Welcome and Orientation

*Centering our attention on God's Holy Presence*

### Gathering Centering Music

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

### Call to Worship

One: Around the world this day, the universal church celebrates  
“The Reign of Christ”.

Christ Jesus, friend of the poor, the meek and the merciful,  
has been enthroned above all authority and power in this world and  
in the world that is to come.

**Many: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth,  
serve the Lord with gladness come into his presence with  
singing.**

One: God has placed everything under Christ's wounded feet,  
appointed the one who wore a crown of thorns as the supreme head  
of the church, his body.

**Many: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, come into his  
courts with praise. Give thanks and praise his loving  
name!**

### Opening Praise “How Great is Our God”

1. The splendor of the King clothed in majesty, Let all the earth  
rejoice; Let all the earth rejoice. He wraps Himself in light and  
darkness tries to hide and trembles at His voice and trembles at His  
voice.

Chorus- How great is our God! Sing with me! How great is our  
God! And all will see how great, how great is our God!

2. And age to age He stands; time is in His hands, Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End. The Godhead three in one: Father, Spirit, Son, The Lion and the Lamb, The Lion and the Lamb.

Chorus-How great is our God! Sing with me! How great is our God! And all will see how great, how great is our God!

3. Name above all names, Worthy of all praise, My heart will sing How great is our is our God! Name above all names, Worthy of all praise, My heart will sing How great is our is our God!

Chorus-How great is our God! Sing with me! How great is our God! And all will see how great, how great is our God!

### 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.*

### Thanksgiving Prayer

One: Faithful witnesses tell of your boundless generosity,  
and their telling is compelling to us;  
You give your world to call the worlds into being;  
You give your sovereign rule to emancipate the slaves and the oppressed;  
You give your commanding fidelity to form your own people;  
You give your life for the life of the world...  
broken bread that feeds,  
poured out wine and binds and heals.

**Many: You give...we receive...and are thankful.**

One: We begin this day in gratitude, thanks that is a match for your self-giving,

**Many: gratitude in gifts offered, gratitude in tales told, gratitude in lives lived.**

One: Gratitude willed, but not so readily lived, held back by old wounds turned to powerful resentment, slowed by early fears become vague anxiety, restrained by self-sufficiency in a can-do arrogance, blocked by amnesia unable to recall gifts any longer.

**Many: Do this yet. Create innocent spaces for us this season for the gratitude we intend.**

One: In thankfulness,

**Many: we will give, we will tell, we will live, your gift through us to gift the world. Amen**

## Proclamation and Response

Epistle Reading

Revelation 1:4b-8

<sup>4</sup>John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and made<sup>l</sup> us to be a kingdom, priests serving<sup>[c]</sup> his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup>Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

<sup>8</sup>“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Special Music

Gospel Reading

John 18:33-38

<sup>33</sup>Then Pilate entered the headquarters<sup>[a]</sup> again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” <sup>35</sup>Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” <sup>37</sup>Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” <sup>38</sup>Pilate asked him, “What is truth?”

Meditation

Just Thanks

Pastor Gretchen Nelson

Faith Response

One: Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?"

Jesus answered, "you say that I am a king.

For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

(John 18:37)

Loving God of power and justice and peace, in our broken world  
We seek a new order.

**All: Where there is mutual support in church and  
Community,**

One: we seek a new order.

**ALL: Where there is mutual support in church and  
Community,**

One: We seek a new order.

**ALL: Where there is abundant time for healing,**

One: we seek a new order,

**ALL: where there is peace and freedom for all.**

### Sharing Christ's Peace

*This is your opportunity to practice witnessing God's shalom. Cross your arms or press hands together at your heart, bow to one another while keeping eye contact. Offer this or similar greeting: "The Christ in me greets the Christ in you. Abundant peace." Use your social media and texts to send Christ's peace out into the world.*

### Offering

*Giving is a spiritual practice of our faith. Sharing God's Good News through mission and ministry together through 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).*

Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" 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!

### 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". 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.*

## Collect

God of grace, love, power, and resistance: You delivered your Son into this world to testify to the truth. Mobilize us. Give us the nerve to continuously take up the project of liberation like Christ the King. Give us the courage to eagerly respond to your call to advocate for justice and peace in our communities, so that the oppressed will be set free. It is because of the Spirit that gives each one the sustenance needed to do this hard work, we pray. Amen.

## 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.**

## Thanksgiving and Communion

### Invitation to Christ's Table

### Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance

One: God of Grace, you have gifted us with a world of abundance; a land of plenty; a country where all can have enough.

**Many: We come before you to thank you for this prosperity and to repent from our struggle to share this wealth.**

One: God, we declare our own complicity in systems that sustain some of us, while forsaking many others.

**Many: And we come before you to seek your forgiveness, even as we pray for your justice.**

One: Righteous God, you hear the cry of the poor.

You listen to those who do without, while so many spend recklessly and leaders invest where moth and rust consume.

**Many: Be with us Lord. Hear our prayers.**

One: Touch our hearts that we may be faithful witnesses and effective voices for the kingdom reign of Christ.

**Many: God of mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection

you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**ALL: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

**ALL: Amen.**

Sharing and Receiving the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Praise God**

Hymn of Praise                    “Rejoice, the Lord is King”

UMH 715

1 Rejoice, the Lord is King!

Your Lord and King adore!

Rejoice, give thanks, and sing,

And triumph evermore:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

2 God's kingdom cannot fail,

Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;

The keys of death and hell

Are to our Jesus given:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

3 Rejoice in glorious hope!

For Christ the Judge shall come

To glorify the saints

For their eternal home:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Blessing and Commission

Be that savory aroma that lets all know that they belong.

Be that soulful song that fills the room with vibrations that console and inspire.

Be that cool and calming breeze that reminds others to live in peace.  
Be that firm ground that gives our children something solid to stand on, so that they can see farther.  
And offer always to one another the delicious kind of words that add beauty and flavor to our world.

### Announcements/Action Steps

*How shall we live as disciples this week? Highlights from the bulletin, newsletter, website, and emails. Please take time to read them all throughout the week for discipleship opportunities.*

[www.hamptonwesley.org](http://www.hamptonwesley.org)

### Postlude

Fellowship - Online, Fellowship Hall, and Outdoors.

*Prayers and liturgies today:* Bruce Prewer,

[http://www.bruceprewer.com/b\\_rcl.htm](http://www.bruceprewer.com/b_rcl.htm)

Walter Brueggemann, in *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth: Prayers of Walter Brueggemann* (Fortress Press,

2002).<http://houseblendministries.com/blog/permalink/gratitude-challenge-day-3/>

<http://www.christianaid.org.uk>. Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/11/prayer-new-order.html>.

Ashley Johnson, provisional deacon in The United Methodist Church at Union Church Boston.

Mari Castellanos, [http://www.ucc.org/justice\\_worker-justice\\_labor-sunday\\_worship-resources#liturgy](http://www.ucc.org/justice_worker-justice_labor-sunday_worship-resources#liturgy)

United Methodist Discipleship Ministries

United Methodist Book of Worship

*All music used within CCLI#752546*

### **Remember in our Prayers**

**Concerns:** Dave McKinney, Jeff and Laura Moore, Barbie Holland, Jacob Levy, John M, Nancy Companion, Jeff Birdsall, Sheree Yoder, Joseph Gilday, Bridget Norris, Joe Brookman, Margaret Cooper, Ed Robertson, Michael McPhail, Lucy Stowe, Betsy Pinder, Mason Allen, Kath, Kenny Crocker, Eli Sweeney, Don and Pat Brookman, Mike Mee, Patty Bumgarner, Crystal Radford, Joann Walsh, Grace Burnell, Freta Lamb, Joella, Abby, Bill Mee, Zach Perkins, Caleb Coates, Zeb Cope, Pete Stone, Karen Bowers, Kevin Lykins, Joe Ames, Nina Winfree, Ben Stanley, Susan Nichols, 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 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:** East Timor (Timor Leste), Indonesia, Philippines

**Birthdays/Anniversaries:** 11/21 Stew Bowden;  
11/24 David Brookman; 11/25 Kaye Brundage

### **Announcements**

**Happy Thanksgiving.** As we focus on giving thanks this week, I want to offer my gratitude to each and every one of you. The hospitality, service, and faith you express to me, one another, and the surrounding community is a beautiful blessing. May your thanksgiving bring grace to your heart and home throughout the year. Pastor Gretchen

**Advent Begins.** Next Sunday is the first Sunday in Advent. During worship we will adorn the worship space in preparation for this journey. Devotionals are available in the hallway. Bible Study will be on Tuesday evenings by Zoom, 6:00-7:30 PM, 30 November-21 December: 'All the Good' A Wesleyan Way of Christmas. Go on an Advent journey guided by the practices in John Wesley's means of grace. Books will be in next week. Help offset the cost to Wesley by donating \$12.50. Please annotate for Advent Bible Study. Let us take time to prepare to be at home in the Inn, making room in our hearts for love to be born anew.

### **United Methodist Women (UMW) Meeting:**

Monday, November 22, 6:30 PM, in the Fellowship Hall.

A World Thank Program will be presented followed by an offering. Contact person: Nancy Gumbert

**Decorate for Advent** with the Hanging of the Greens during the Worship Service on Sunday, 28 November at 10:00 AM.

**Sages Luncheon:** Wednesday, 1 December, 12:30 PM – Surf's Up Restaurant, 100 Cary's Chapel Road, Poquoson. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. You can also call or email the church office if you would like to go. Contact person: Sylvia Krisnow

**The Peninsula Community Theatre**, 10251 Warwick Blvd, Newport News, will present “The Harmony Baptist Church Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Jubilee” on Sunday, 5 December, 2:30 PM. You may go to the Website PCTlive.org to purchase tickets and select your seats. **Or you may inform Mary Saylor by Nov. 23** that you’d like to go and a block of tickets will be secured. Tickets cost \$20 adults, \$17 seniors, \$12 students.

**Mary Levin Bible Study/United Methodist Women Christmas Party** at Carol Hale’s home: Wednesday, 8 December, 6:30 PM. Please bring a finger food and/or dessert to share. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped gift. \$10.00 (approximate) limit. All are welcome!

**Combined Christmas Cantata**, ‘The First Noel’, Sunday, 12 December, 3:00 PM, at Central UMC.

**The angels are here for the Salvation Army Angel Tree Adoption Program.** The angel tags are in the Fellowship Hall with a sign-up sheet. Please be sure to write the child’s name and assigned number on each gift purchased. There are 18 angels currently available. **Unwrapped gifts are due to the church by Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.** **Gift bags are welcome.** Contact person: Sylvia Krisnow

**Christmas Poinsettias:** There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to purchase Christmas Poinsettias. Please indicate how many white and/or red that you would like. The cost is \$13.00 each. Please sign-up, email the church office or call: 757-838-3044 The Poinsettias will be in the sanctuary on 12 December and will remain until Christmas Eve. **Please sign up by Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.** Contact person: Sylvia Krisnow

**Christmas Cards:** Each year there is an opportunity to write Christmas cards to anyone in the congregation. Please write the name of the individual or family on the envelope. No addresses needed. **Please bring cards by Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.** The cost is 10 cents per card. The money raised will be used where it is most needed. There will be a collection box on the cabinet in the hall outside the sanctuary. **Please mark your checks or cash: “Christmas Cards”.** The cards will be sorted for delivery on Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, during fellowship time in the Fellowship Hall and they will be ready for delivery the following Sunday. **Please stay during fellowship time to help sort the cards.** Contact person: Nancy Gumbert

**Church Directories:** Updated directories are available in the church office. One copy per family please.

**HELP Food Pantry Update:** Food Pantry needs: Dried beans, juice, powdered milk, canned vegetables (please no green beans or corn—there is an abundance of both), cereal, pork and beans, Ramen, instant potatoes, jelly, canned fruit, canned meats (like Spam and Vienna Sausages), canned pasta meals, crackers, rice, spaghetti noodles, spaghetti sauce, snack items (single-serve snack packs), bottled water, toilet paper, soap. The donations are delivered monthly. Contact person: Sherry Moore

**United Methodist Student Day is Sunday, 28 November:** The United Methodist Student Day invites the church to support United Methodist students in achieving their educational goals. The funds received award United Methodist scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students. Your gifts help young people achieve their educational calling with more financial freedom. To give online: [ResourceUMC.org/SSGive](http://ResourceUMC.org/SSGive)

**Scriptures for November 28:** Jeremiah33:14-16; Psalm 25; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-3

*As of 21 November 2021*

Sun.	21	9:00 AM <b>Sunday School</b> 10:00 AM <b>Worship Service – In-Person, Zoom or Facebook</b>
Mon.	22	5:00 PM <b>Prayer Time on Facebook</b> 6:30 PM <b>United Methodist Women (UMW) Meeting - *FH</b>
Tues.	23	9:30 AM <b>Chair Yoga – *FH</b> 5:00 PM <b>Prayer Time on Facebook</b> 6:30 PM <b>NA Meeting – *FH</b>
Wed.	24	5:00 PM <b>Prayer Time on Facebook</b>
Thurs.	25	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>
Fri.	26	
Sat.	27	
Sun.	28	9:00 AM <b>Sunday School</b> 10:00 AM <b>Sunday Worship Service – In-Person, Zoom or Facebook</b> <b>United Methodist Student Day</b>

\*FH=Fellowship Hall

**Worship Support**

<b>Laity</b>	<b>21 November 10:00</b>	<b>28 November 10:00</b>
<b>Fellowship</b>	Sharon Howell	Lynnette Scalzi
<b>Ushers</b>	Ray/Sylvia Krisnow	Joyce D’Bene Donna Turley
<b>Counters</b>	Clyde Gumbert Donna Turley	Mary Saylor/Clyde Gumbert
<b>Flowers</b>	Cornucopia	
<b>CHURCH ATTENDANCE</b>	<u>Nov 14</u> 41 In- Person/1 Zoom/29 Facebook	
<b>OFFERING</b>	Received: \$821.07 -	Needed each week: \$4,878.00

**Secretary Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM.  
**Phone:** 757-838-3044; **Address:** 2510 N. Armistead Avenue,  
 Hampton VA 23666-1506;  
**Pastor Gretchen Nelson:** Cell Phone 804-896 -6785; email:  
 gretchennelson@vaumc.org