



**Wesley United Church**  
**101 Patrick Street, (P.O. Box 26010)**  
**St. John's, NL A1E 0A5**

**April 19, 2026**

“We Welcome the Opportunity to Welcome You”



In Ministry: The Whole Congregation

Clergy: Rev. Bill Mercer B.A., M.Div.

Director of Music: Dr. David Chafe M.Mus., B.Mus (Honours)

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[www.facebook.com/wesleyunitedchurch](http://www.facebook.com/wesleyunitedchurch)

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*Today's bulletin is dedicated to the glory of God  
and presented in loving memory of Mona and Ian  
Noseworthy by Carl and Keith and family.*

Piano Prelude ~ Dr. David Chafe

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle and Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: We need God's presence on the long road. The road between fear and hope, the road between the place where all is lost and the place of resurrection.

**All: Like the disciples walking the road to Emmaus, we are in need of God's company!**

One: Jesus, stand among us, in your risen power,

**All: let this time of worship, be a hallowed hour. Let us worship God!**

Introit: This Is Our Story

This is our story, this is our song,  
You're among family, here you belong.  
Sing to the rafters, give it your all,  
Live in God's presence, answer the call!

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

**Lord Jesus Christ, stay with us, too, we pray, in every part of our journey, no matter how full of doubt or fear we may be today. Through your Holy Spirit, we pray that you will open our eyes, too. Help us see you as our risen Lord, in all your beauty, and in all your loving power. Amen.**

Hymn: Joyful, Joyful We Adore You ~ VU 232

Joyful, joyful, we adore you,  
God of glory, life and love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before you,  
opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
drive the gloom of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.

All your works with joy surround you,  
earth and heaven reflect your rays,  
stars and angels sing around you,  
center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
sound their praise eternally.

You are giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever blest,  
wellspring of the joy of living,  
ocean depth of happy rest!  
Source of grace and fount of blessing,  
let your light upon us shine;  
teach us how to love each other,  
lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus  
which the morning stars began;  
God's own love is reigning o'er us,  
joining people hand in hand.  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
victors in the midst of strife;  
joyful music lifts us sunward  
in the triumph song of life.

1st Scripture Readings: Acts 2:14, 36-41

Call to Confession:

One: When we confess our lives, we are calling on God who promises, not only to hear us, but to heal us with forgiveness and hope. Let us confess together:

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

**Risen Lord, what is it that keeps us from recognizing you? When we are so full of ourselves, it is all too easy to block you right out of our lives. Maybe it's the way we interpret Scripture that obscures the signs pointing to you. Perhaps we are guilty of being slow of heart when we don't recognise you in our neighbour, or in the guise of the poor or the dispossessed. Our eyes and ears have become so crammed with the sights and sounds of living that we simply fail to see you or to recognize your voice. Help us to empty ourselves of all that hinders our awareness of your presence with us. Fill us with the joy of knowing your continuing presence, so that, like those travellers on the road to Emmaus, we too, hasten to share this great good news with others. For our sake, and in your name, we pray. Amen.**

Litany of Assurance: (responsive)

One: Whether we believe it, or not, Jesus Christ never leaves us nor forsakes us. Let us open our hearts to receive the grace which Christ brings to us.

**All: We are forgiven! Thanks be to God.**

Hearts and Hands

Ministry of Music: All Things New ~ Ruth Wakeham  
(Words and Music: Frances Havergal, 1879. Arr: Elaine Hagenberg, 2021)

Story of our Mission: Flowing Beyond The Banks

Offering Invitation:

One: Our lives overflow with blessing and goodness, gifts which come from God. Out of the bounty of our lives, let us present to God our gifts and offerings with overflowing thankfulness.

Offertory Hymn: Abide With Me; T'is Eventide (see bulletin insert)

Abide with me, 'tis eventide! The day is past and gone; The shadows of the evening fall; The night is coming on! Within my heart a welcome guest, Within my home abide;	Abide with me, 'tis eventide! Thy walk today with me Has made my heart within me burn, As I communed with Thee. Thy earnest words have filled my soul And kept me near Thy side;
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<i>O Savior, stay this night with me; Behold, 'tis eventide! O Savior, stay this night with me; Behold, 'tis eventide.</i>	Abide with me, 'tis eventide! And lone will be the night, If I cannot commune with Thee, Nor find in Thee my light. The darkness of the world, I fear, Would in my home abide;
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Offertory: The Doxology

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow!  
Praise him all creatures here below!  
Praise him above ye heavenly host!  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!***

**Gifts Given to The Memorial Fund in Loving Memory of:**

Arthur LeGrow from Claudette Russell  
Arthur LeGrow from Ray & Doris Sellars  
Arthur LeGrow from the LeGrow family  
Arthur LeGrow from Melvin & Dorothy Noseworthy  
Arthur LeGrow from Thelma Parsley  
Arthur LeGrow from Barry White

Bert Bussey (Kanata, ON), former member of George Street United Church by  
Heather & Don Sellars and Brenda & Suzanne Lee

Prayer of Dedication: (in unison)

**Like the disciples at Emmaus, we offer what we have. They offered their company, their table, their bread. We invite you to be with us as we offer you our love, our devotion, these gifts and those given through PAR**

**and other means. May our eyes be opened to your holy presence, now and always. Amen.**

2nd New Testament Lesson: 1 Peter 1:17-23 ~ Wanda Wells

Responsive Psalm: 116 (VU 836) ~ Wanda Wells

One: I love you, God, because you heard my voice when I made supplication,

**All: because you turned your ear to me, when I called upon your name.**

One: The cords of death entangled me, and the pangs of the Grave laid hold on me;

**All: I suffered distress and anguish.**

One: Then I called upon the name of God:

**All: "O God, I pray, save my life."**

One: How can I repay you, God, for all the good things you have done for me?

**All: I will take up the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of God. I will pay my vows in the presence of all God's people.**

One: Precious in the sight of God is the death of the saints.

**All: O God, I am your servant;**

One: I am your servant, the child of your maidservant.

**All: You have freed me from my bonds.**

One: I will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**All: and will call upon the name of God.**

One: I will pay my vows to God in the presence of all God's people,

**All: in the courts of the house of God, in your midst, O Jerusalem.**

Gloria Patri: (in unison)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Gospel Lesson: Luke 24:13-35

Hymn: As We Walked Home At Close Of Day

As we walked home at close of day,  
A stranger joined us on our way.  
He heard us speak of one who'd gone,  
And when we stopped, he carried on.

“Why wander further without light?  
Please stay with us this troubled night.  
We’ve shared the truth of how we feel  
And now would like to share a meal.”

We sat to eat our simple spread,  
Then watched the stranger take the bread;  
And as he said the blessing prayer,  
We knew that someone else was there.

No stranger he; it was our eyes  
Which failed to see, in stranger’s guise,  
The Lord who, risen from the dead,  
Met us when ready to be fed.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
As Mary and our sisters said,  
The Lord is risen from the dead!

Sermon

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Hymn: My Faith Looks Up To Thee

My faith looks up to thee,  
thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Saviour divine.  
Now hear me while I pray;  
take all my guilt away.  
O let me from this day  
be wholly thine.

While life's dark maze I tread,  
and griefs around me spread,  
be thou my guide,  
bid darkness turn to day;  
wipe sorrow's tears away;  
nor let me ever stray  
from thee aside.

May thy rich grace impart  
strength to my fainting heart,  
my zeal inspire.  
As thou hast died for me,  
O may my love to thee  
pure, warm, and changeless be,  
a living fire.

Commissioning and Benediction

Piano Postlude: Saviour, Like a Shepherd Leads Us ~ Dr. David Chafe  
(Words: Dorothy Thrupp, Music: William Bradbury, 1836)

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We welcome you to this service today in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. If you are a visitor, we extend to you special welcome and invite you to sign our guest book in the porch of the church so we might have a record of your visit with us.

We offer our heartfelt thanks to Ruth Wakeham for leading our congregational singing this morning and sharing her ministry of music with us; and to Wanda Wells for sharing in the reading of scripture.

Wesley Church Council is called to meet on Tuesday night in the office foyer, beginning at 7:00 pm. All members of the Council are asked to make an effort to attend.

The Fall Fair Committee will hold the first of **two Flipper Dinners** on Thursday May 14th starting at 5:00 pm for take outs and 6:00 pm for eat in. Tickets are \$30 and should be paid for and picked up by **Friday May 8th**. Tickets will not be sold at the door but can be picked up at the Church on Friday, May 8th between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. Tickets are available by calling the church office at **709-579-3682**, Marvin Barnes at **709-579-7900** or Pheobe Sheppard at **709-726-1689**.

Our Hearts and Hands are going to be hosting their second intergenerational event on Saturday May 16th in the Fellowship Hall of the church from 4:30 – 6:30 pm. This gathering will include a pot luck supper, intergenerational activities and discussions and worship, centered around the theme of “Consider The Lilies Of The Field.”. If you are interested in attending, all we ask is that you add your name to the sign up sheet, indicating the number of people attending and what type of dish (hot, cold or dessert) that you would be willing/able to bring along. We hope to have a good blend of all ages for Wesley InterGenerational Sessions. (WIGS)