



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

May 31, 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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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: Take heart! For we are gathered in the Creator's presence

All: to proclaim the wonders of the Lord.

One: Get up! For we are beckoned by the Risen Son

All: to respond to grace undeserved.

One: God is calling us! For we are united by the Spirit

All: to follow Jesus on the way. Let us worship God.

Introit: All Will Be Well

Through the love of God, our Saviour, all will be well.

Free and changeless is His favour - All, all is well.

Precious is the blood that healed us, perfect is the grace that sealed us,

Strong the hand stretched out to shield us - All must be well.

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

God the Father, our Creator, who made the heavens and earth; we are your children, and we are in awe of all you have made. Christ the Son, our Redeemer and Savior; you lived and died for us all. You live again, and have prepared the way for us. Holy Spirit, the Sustainer, you move in us and among us. We follow your wisdom and feel your presence. God, Triune, Three-in-one, help us to know you more fully. Guide us in this time of worship. Amen.

Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God Almighty

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;

holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee;

casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,

which were, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

1st Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:1-2:4

Call to Confession:

One: If we say we are completely put together, the truth is not in us but if
we confess our distractions, our errors, and our anxieties, God will
meet us and renew us.

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

**Holy and triune God, you alone live in perfect relationship, one God
in three persons; mutual and loving, ever seeking reconciliation and
unity. You have called us to live in your completion, yet we confess that
our relationships are imperfect and we are incomplete without you. We
are selfish and greedy. We are anxious and resenting. We feel the shame
of our foolish behaviour and brokenness. We have allowed sin to drive us
apart from one another and from you. Forgive us and restore us. Draw us
close and bind us together in your mercy. May we long for wholeness and
peace; may we strive toward gratitude and grace. In the saving name of
your son, Jesus Christ, by the working power of your Holy Spirit, we pray.
Amen.**

Litany of Assurance: (responsive)

One: God has promised that whenever we repent and seek a new union
with God, forgiveness is ours. That promise comes true now.

**All: We know that in Christ Jesus, we are loved and forgiven.
Thanks be to God!**

Ministry of Music: Let The Lower Lights Be Burning (Words & Music: Philip Bliss)
Neil Peet, Robert McNeily & David Chafe

Story of Our Mission: Belonging Without Barriers

Offertory Invitation:

One: As Jesus sent his disciples, we too are sent to nurture the faith of our community. We are called to be generous to all as a sign of our commitment to the faith journey. Our generosity will be seen as a reflection of God's love.

Hymn: Maker In Whom We Live ~ VU 321

Maker, in whom we live,
in whom we are and move,
the glory, power, and praise
receive for your creating love.
Let all the angel throng
give thanks to God on high,
while earth repeats the joyful song
and echoes to the sky.

Spirit of Holiness,
let all your saints adore
your sacred energy, and bless
your heart-renewing power.
No angel tongues can tell
your love's ecstatic height,
the glorious joy unspeakable,
the beatific sight.

Incarnate Deity,
let all the ransomed race
render in thanks their lives
to you for your redeeming grace.
The grace to sinners shown,
you heavenly choirs proclaim,
and cry, "Salvation to our God,
salvation to the Lamb!"

Eternal, Triune God,
let all the hosts above,
let all on earth below record
and dwell upon your love.
When heaven and earth have fled
before your glorious face,
may all the saints your love has made
sing everlasting praise.

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!

Gift Given to the Memorial Fund in Loving Memory of:

Marie Rowe from Ralph & Ann Perry

Prayer of Dedication: (in unison)

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, bless and use these gifts, given here and through PAR and other means, for the ministries of this church and for your work through Mission and Service in Canada and around the world. Amen.

New Testament Lesson: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 ~ Dawne Smith

Responsive Psalm: 8 (VU 732) ~ Dawne Smith

One: O God, our God, how glorious is your name in all the earth! From the lips of infants and children your praises reach up to the heavens.

All: You have set up a stronghold against your foes, to quell the enemy and the stranger.

One: When I look to the heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their places,

All: what are we mortals that you should be mindful of us, mere human beings that you should care for us?

One: You have made us little less than divine, and crowned us with glory and honour.

All: You have made us rulers over all your creation, and put things under our feet,

One: all sheep and cattle, all creatures of the wild,

All: the birds of the air and the fish in the sea, and all that make their way through the waters.

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: Matthew 28:16-20

Ministry of Music: He Lifted Me ~ Wesley Gentlemen's Chorus
(Words & Music: Charles Gabriel, 1905. Arr: David Chafe, 2026)

Sermon

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Hymn: Go To The World

Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
Baptising as the sign of our rebirth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray,
The nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
For I am with you 'til the age shall end,
When all the hosts of glory cry, "Amen!"
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Commissioning and Benediction

Piano Postlude: Sunshine in My Soul ~ Dr. David Chafe
 (Words by Eliza Hewitt. Music by John Sweeney. 1887)

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 a special thank you to Neil Peet and Robert McNeily for leading our congregational singing and sharing their ministry of music with us; and to our Gentlemen's Chorus for their ministry of music. We also thank Dawne Smith for sharing in the reading of scripture.

The Wesley United Church Hymn Team is pleased to announce our 11th "Sing the Story" gospel singalong, taking place Sunday, June 7th at 2:30 at Coughlan Memorial United Church in Harbour Grace. We hope you will be able to join us in person, or online on our Facebook and YouTube channels, or on VOWR. Freewill offerings will be gratefully received with all proceeds in support of Coughlan Memorial United Church.

Wesley Church Council is looking for individuals who would be interested in serving on a committee to work on implementing our MAP Report. If you are willing to do this, or would like more information, please speak with Jim Butters, Erika Harris or Rev. Bill.