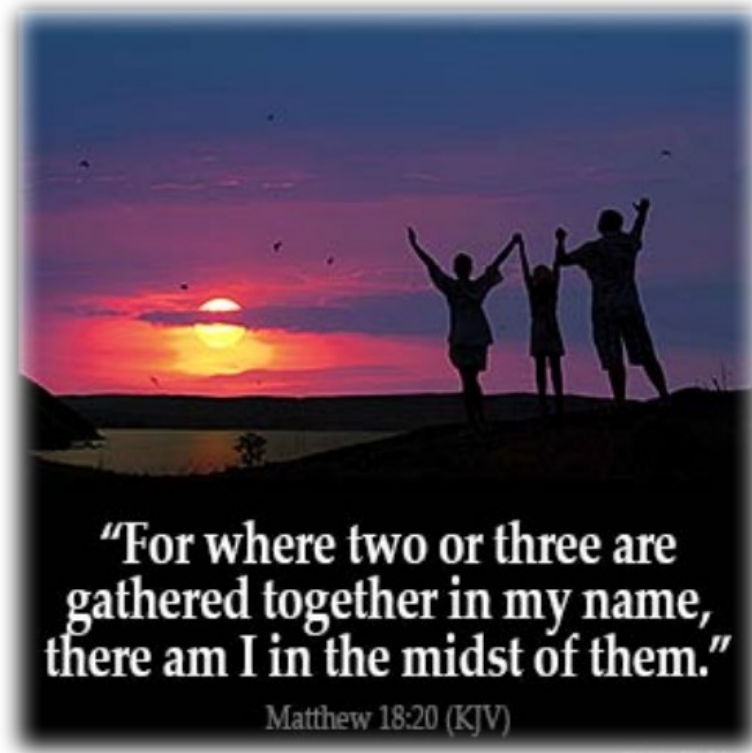




Wesley United Church
101 Patrick Street, (P.O. Box 26010)
St. John's, NL A1E 0A5

September 6, 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)
Office Coordinator: Nancy Bursey Building Caretaker: Paul LeDrew
Video Technician: Mark Chafe

Church Office: Telephone – 579-3682 Fax 579-3703
Rev. Bill's Cell Number: (709)683-1980

Church Email – info@wesleychurch.ca Website – www.wesleychurch.ca
www.facebook.com/wesleyunitedchurch

CCLI License # 21898182

CCLI Streaming License # 20489183

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 may be fewer in number today, but we are never alone.

All: Christ promised to be right here with us.

One: Where two or three gather in Jesus' name, his love fills the room.

All: Surrounded by that love, let us open our hearts and worship God together!

Choral Introit: Spirit Of The Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me!

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me!

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me,

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me!

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

Loving God, we thank you for bringing us together today. Your word promises that where two or three are gathered in your name, you are right here in the middle of us. We claim that promise now. Open our hearts, calm our minds, and fill this space with your peace. Guide our time together, and let everything we do bring honour to you. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn: I Sing The Mighty Power

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
the moon shines full at God's command and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the One that filled the earth with food;
who formed the creatures with a word and then pronounced them good.
O God, your wonders are displayed where'er I turn my eye;
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below but makes your glories known;
and clouds arise and tempests blow, by order from your throne;
while all that borrows life from you is ever in your care,
and everywhere that I may be, you, God are present there.

Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 12:1-14

Call to Confession:

One: Sometimes we do not feel like praying. We resist a time of confession as too negative and not really needed. Yet we cling to our idols and to our anger toward other people. Both poison our thoughts and deeds. We need moments to get at “what’s eating us” in order to survive. Let us join together in prayer:

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

Holy One, you call us to wake from sleep, to become aware to our surroundings. The dawn of a new time of preparation is upon us. Forgive us when sleepiness takes its toll, when our discussions become battles, when our judgement and self-judgement outweigh our faith. Let us put on the light of Christ and live as you have called us in respect, in mutual dialogue, and in healthy living. Help us so that everything we do reflects Christ’s light. For our sake, and in Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

Litany of Assurance: (responsive)

One: Our good news is found in Christ's love and forgiveness of sin.
Thanks be to Christ who sets us free to love and to serve.

All: We rejoice! For in Christ we are forgiven!

Ministry of Music: When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder ~ Dawne Smith
(Words and Music: James Black, 1893)

Story of Our Mission: Restoring Sacred Connections

Offertory Invitation:

One: Where two or three gather in God’s name, the Spirit is present.
Putting on the spirit of community, harnessing the justice of God,
we seek to reconcile ourselves to a new vision. Let Jesus be real
among us as we bring our offerings!

Offertory Hymn: Take My Life And Let It Be

Take my life and let it be
consecrated, all for thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love,
take my feet, and let them be
swift and purposeful for thee.

Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee;
take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love: and I will pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

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!***

Prayer of Dedication: (in unison)

Generous God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, you have shown us what it means to love. And you have called us to follow your example - to love our neighbours as we love ourselves, to offer our lives and our resources in your service. Accept the gifts we bring today and those already given through PAR and other means. May they help to spread the love we have received to the world around us. Amen.

New Testament Lesson: Romans 13:8-14 ~ Heather Griffin

Responsive Psalm: 149 (VU 873) ~ Heather Griffin

One: Sing to God a new song;

All: give praise in the assembly of the faithful.

One: Let Israel rejoice in its Maker;

All: let the children of Zion exult in their Sovereign!

One: Let them praise God's name with dancing;

All: let them sing God's praise with tambourine and harp!

One: For you, O God, take delight in your people;

All: you crown the humble with victory.

One: Let the faithful exult in their glory;

All: let them sing for joy as they feast.

One: Let God's praise be on their lips,

All: the two-edged sword in their hands,

One: to bring the nations to justice,

All: and call to account the peoples,

One: to bind their rulers with fetters,

All: their great ones with bonds of iron,

One: to execute on them the sentences decreed.

All: This is the glory of all God's saints!

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 18:15-20

Sermon

Communion Hymn: O Jesus, Joy Of Loving Hearts

O Jesus, joy of loving hearts,
the fount of life, the light of all
from every bliss that earth imparts,
we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.

We taste your ever-living bread,
and long to feast upon you still;
we drink of you, the fountainhead,
our thirsting souls from you we fill.

Your truth unchanged has ever stood;
you plead with all to call on you,
to those who seek you, you are good,
to those who find you, life is new.

O Jesus, ever with us stay;
make all our moments calm and
bright;
chase the bleak night of sin away;
shed o'er the world your holy light.

Affirmation of Faith: (in unison)

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

The Great Thanksgiving

Invitation to the Table

Breaking and Sharing of the Bread and Pouring and Sharing of the Cup

Prayer After Communion: (in unison)

Holy, gracious, God, here at this table your promise of life is made tangible. We have rested in the depth of your love; we have tasted your nourishing, nurturing presence; we accept you into our bodies, into our lives. Together, at this table, you have offered us life. Together, by your grace, we accept the life you offer. And we give you thanks. Amen.

Hymn: O God, Who Shaped Creation

O God, who shaped creation at earth's chaotic dawn,
Your word of power was spoken, and lo! the dark was gone!
You framed us in your image, you brought us into birth,
You blessed our infant footsteps and shared your splendoured earth.

O God, with pain and anguish a mother sees her child
Embark on deadened pathways, alluring but defiled;
So too your heart is broken when hate and lust increase,
When worlds you birthed and nurtured spurn ways that lead to peace.

Although your heart is broken when people scorn your ways,
You never cease your searching through evil's tangled maze;
And when we cease our running, your joys, O God, abound
As of a searching woman when treasured coin is found.

In mercy and compassion your goodness is revealed;
With tenderness you touch us, and broken hearts are healed.
You claim us as your children, you strip our prideful shame;
With freedom born of mercy we bless your holy name!

Commissioning and Benediction

Piano Postlude: To God Be The Glory ~ Dr. David Chafe
(Words: Fanny Crosby, 1875 Music: William Doane, 1875)

We welcome you to this service today in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. If you are a visitor with us, we extend to you a 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 are very pleased to have Dawne Smith sharing in our service this morning as she leads the congregational singing and offers her ministry of music; and Heather Griffin who will be sharing in the reading of scripture.

Rev. Mercer will be away from the pastoral charge from September 14-21. While he is away, Rev. Oliver Dingwell will be available for any pastoral emergencies. Rev. Peggy Johnson will be leading in worship on September 20th.

Wesley United Church Women will be holding their Annual Memorial Hymn Sing on **Sunday, September 27th** during our **11:00 am.** worship service. This service of Remembrance and Celebration through Word and Song has always been a wonderful time of fellowship and we give thanks to God for loved ones who have touched our lives. Request forms have been mailed out and extras are available in the porch of the church. If you wish to make a donation and request, please fill out the form and return it to the church office by **Sunday September 20th**. The UCW will host a fellowship hour following this service.

The Wesley 55+ group will resume meeting on Wednesday September 16th. From 11:00 am. – 3:00 pm. in the Fellowship Hall. This group is open to all who are interested in a day of fellowship, exercise (for mind and body) and activities. Lunch is provided for all who attend. For more information please speak with Anne Marche or Ruby Shea.

VOWR Concert

VOWR's 3rd Annual Fundraising Concert ~ Swinging Back to the 50's ~ will be held on September 19th at Holy Heart Theatre beginning at 8:00 pm. This concert, hosted by Peter Halley, will feature local artists and the VOWR House Band (Paul Kinsman, Boomer Stamp, Sandy Morris, Glenn Parsons and Joe Tompkins). Tickets are available at a cost of \$62.00 from the Holy Heart Theatre Box Office (709) 579-4424 or their website: holyhearttheatre.com

Flea Market and Thrift Shop

We will be holding a Flea Market and opening our Thrift Shop on Saturday September 19th from 9:00 am. – 2:00 pm. We are looking for items for the flea market and volunteers to help us set up and assist with the sale. If you are able to do so, please speak with Helen Neimor. She can be reached at (709) 682-4982 or by email at hneimor@gmail.com

We will be accepting small household items, furniture, bedding, clothing, electronics, books and any seasonal items and treasures.

Items can be dropped off on Tuesday and Wednesday (September 15th and 16th) from 1:00 pm. – 3:00 pm. and Thursday and Friday (September 17th and 18th) from 9:00 am. – 5:00 pm.

If you are unavailable to drop items off, we will be doing pick-ups on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (September 15th – 17th) from 10:00 am. – 12:00 pm. There will be no pickups available on Friday or Saturday)

We thank you for your support in this fundraiser for the church!

The Thrift Shop, itself, is scheduled to reopen on Tuesday September 22nd from 12:00 pm. – 2:00 pm. If you would like to volunteer to help with this outreach ministry, please speak with Jennifer Pinsent Barnes. We are now accepting donations for the Thrift Shop, which can be dropped off next to the Paul LeDrew room Monday to Friday during regular office hours. Please ensure that all items are clean and presentable for resale.

Coming Soon

