



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

October 11, 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
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www.facebook.com/wesleyunitedchurch

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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: God has visited the earth and watered it.

All: God has provided the people with grain and crowned the year with overflowing bounty.

One: The earth has yielded its increase, God; our God has blessed us!

All: Let us give thanks and praise to God!

Choral Introit: We Praise You For The Sun

*We praise you for the sun, the golden shining sun,
That gives us healing, strength and joy; we praise you for the sun.*

*We praise you for your love, your patient, endless love,
That gives us healing, strength and joy; we praise you for your love.*

Prayer of Approach: (**in unison**)

Gracious and bountiful God, we come into your presence today with hearts full of praise and thanksgiving. You are the giver of all good gifts, pouring out your unfailing love, mercy, and provision upon us day after day. Thank you for the beauty of your creation, for the changing seasons, and for the harvest that sustains us. Thank you for our homes, our families, our friends, and the fellowship of this church community. When we are in need, you provide. When we are weak, you are our strength. For the seen and unseen blessings in our lives, we offer you our deepest gratitude. Open our hearts and our minds today. Let your Holy Spirit move among us so we may hear your Word, know your will, and be equipped to share your love and grace with a world in need. May all that we say and do in this time of worship bring honour and glory to your holy name. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn: Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever-joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us strong in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God for all that has been given,
the Son, and Spirit blest who dwell in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be, evermore.

1st Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 8:7-18

Call to Confession:

One: *"Were not ten made clean? Where are the nine? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"* Let us admit how often we take God's daily mercies for granted. Let us turn to God in confession, remembering that our merciful Creator is ever ready to forgive.

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

Gracious God, on this day of thanksgiving, remind us of the truth that every good and perfect gift comes from you. God, we admit that even in our moment of gratitude, we fall short. We feel thankful for the gifts without acknowledging the Giver. We praise the beautiful creation around us without drawing close to the Creator. We sing about our salvation without glorifying you – our Savior. Forgive us. Remind us, O God, that any good we experience is only a glimpse of your character. That any blessing is only a foretaste of what you have in store for those who put their hope in you. And that even our lives - the very breath in our lungs - is only there because of your deep love for us. God, reveal yourself to us in every good gift, and give us eyes to see you in them. For our sake, and in Christ's name, we pray. Amen

Litany of Assurance: (responsive)

One: God is a gracious giver. God is gracious in forgiveness.

All: God calls us to new patterns and new life. We are a forgiven people! Thanks be to God!

Hearts and Hands

Ministry of Music: My Tribute ~ Wesley Hymn Team
(Words and Music: Andraé Crouch, 1971)

Story of Our Mission: The House Of Friendship

Offering Invitation:

One: On this day of Thanksgiving, we are given the opportunity to show proper thanks to God for the bounty of the harvest by doing with it what God intended ~ sharing. God's bounty is never meant for one individual but to benefit all of God's children. Let us accept God's gracious invitation to share with others that with which we have been blessed.

Offertory Hymn: We Praise You, O God ~ VU 218

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name: glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,
through trial and tempest, companion and guide.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.

With voices united our praises we offer,
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing,
to you, our great Redeemer, forever be 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!***

Gifts Given To The Memorial Fund In Loving Memory Of:

Percy Rideout, who would have turned 95 on October 10th from Dorothy Rideout
Parents Howard & Phyllis Barrett from son Ian Barrett
(Memorial Hymn Sing) Clyde Crummey from Ruth Crummey

Prayer of Dedication: (in unison)

Giver of great gifts, we pray surrounded by family, friends and neighbours. We present our offerings, given here and through PAR and other means, to celebrate the goodness of community and all that being community entails. We lift up our hearts in gratitude to become part of the gift that we give. This we pray in sincerity and hope. Amen.

New Testament Lesson: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 ~ Cheryl Briggs

Responsive Psalm: 65 (VU 782) ~ Cheryl Briggs

One: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; to you shall vows be performed

All: You give heed to prayer; to you all mortals shall come.

One: The burden of our sins is too great for us,

All: but you will purge them away.

One: Blessed are the people you choose and bring to dwell in your courts.

All: We shall be filled with the blessings of your house, your holy temple.

One: With awesome deeds you answer our prayers for deliverance, O God our saviour -

All: you that are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the far-off seas.

One: By your strength you make fast the mountains,

All: and gird yourself round with power.

One: You still the raging of the seas,

All: and the roaring of the waves, the tumult of the peoples.

One: Those who dwell at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your wonders;

All: the gateways of both morning and evening shout for joy.

One: You visit the earth and water it,

All: you make it very fruitful.

One: The waters of heaven brim over their banks,

All: providing us with grain, for so you have prepared the land,

One: drenching its furrows, settling its ridges,

All: softening it with showers, and blessings its growth.

One: You crown the year with goodness,

All: and your paths overflow with plenty.

One: The pastures of the wilderness abound with grass,

All: and the hills are girded with joy.

One: The fields are clothed with sheep;

All: the valleys are decked with wheat, so that they shout and sing for joy.

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 17:11-19

Hymn: Come, You Thankful People Come

Come, you thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest-home!
All is safely gathered in,
safe before the storms begin;
God, our maker, does provide
for our needs to be supplied:
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest-home!

For our God, one day, shall come,
and shall take this harvest home,
from the field shall in that day
all offences purge away;
giving angels charge at last
in the fire the weeds to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store
in the garner evermore.

All the world is God's own field,
harvests for God's praise to yield;
wheat and weeds together sown,
here for joy or sorrow grown;
first the blade, and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear:
Harvest-giver, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.

Even so, God, quickly come
to your final harvest-home!
Gather all your people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin;
there for ever purified,
in your presence to abide:
come, with all your angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest-home.

Sermon

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: For The Fruit Of All Creation

For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.
For these gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God.
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour,
God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbour,
God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us,
thanks be to God.

Commissioning and Benediction

Piano Postlude: The Way Of The Cross Leads Home ~ Dr. David Chafe
(Words: Jessie Pounds, 1906. Music: Charles Gabriel, 1906)

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.

The Fall Fair Committee will be holding a **Flipper Dinner** on Thursday October 22nd 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 October 16th**. Tickets will not be sold at the door but can be picked up at the Church on Friday, May 29th 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**.

The next "Sing the Story" gospel singalong will take place Sunday, October 18th at 7:00 at the Salvation Army St. John's Temple Corps, 101 Torbay Road. The Wesley Hymn Team and the Salvation Army Temple Songsters and Band will once again join forces for a joyous hour of wonderful songs of the faith we all know and love so well. We hope you all can join us. Freewill offerings will be gratefully received, with all proceeds in support of Bridges to Hope Food Bank. If you are unable to attend, you may donate to Bridges to Hope by visiting www.bridgestohope.ca.

The Wesley 55+ group will meet on Wednesday 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.

The Thrift Shop will be open on Tuesday 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.

Wesley Church Council is looking for persons interested in serving on a Fundraising Committee to help address financial issues in the church. If you would be interested in serving on this committee, please speak with Jim Butters or Rev. Bill for more information.

Cowan Heights United Church will be hosting a concert by Darrin Martin on Friday October 16th at 7:00 pm. Proceeds go to support our ministry! Tickets are \$30 each; you can reserve tickets by email at office@cowanheights.ca or calling 709-745-2871.