



WESLEY UNITED CHURCH



**3rd Sunday of Advent/ Choir
Sunday**

December 14th, 2025

Service 11:00am

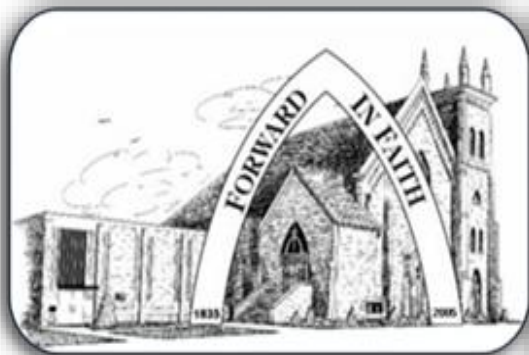
Pastor Zacharia Mandara

VISION STATEMENT

Wesley United Church is
a Christian Community
focusing on spiritual
growth and serving each
other and the world.

Core Values

Joy...of being lifted
beyond ourselves to a
meaning and purpose
greater than ourselves.



Welcome to Wesley!

We are glad you joined us today.

It is our prayer that you will be richly blessed as we worship together.

Dec 14th

Dec 21st

Greeters/Ushers

Locke Team

Hunt Team

Offering

McKay Team

Fisher Team

Wesley United Church

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 14th, 2025

*Please Mute all phones

** Indicates please stand

Prelude Carols While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

VU 75

Oh, How Joyfully

VU 57

The First Nowell

VU 91

P: Welcome in the name of Christ. God's grace, mercy and peace be with you

C: and also, with you.

P: Let us recognise God's presence with us. As God's people we have gathered:

C: let us worship him together

P: Sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs:

C: let us sing to God with thankful hearts.

P: God is spirit:

C: let us worship him in spirit and truth.

Opening Hymn Good Christian Friends, Rejoice VU 35

Lighting of Advent Candle of Joy**

P: Mary praised God who entrusted her with a sacred role.
Great things God has done!

C: With Jesus' birth, the world will never be the same again.

P: The powerful will be toppled from their thrones.

C: The hungry will be lifted up and joy will break through in unexpected places.

P: Every time a child is born, the world change for someone. Our lives changed when a humble young woman gave birth to the One who would save us. On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of joy.

P: Let us pray together:

C: Living God, gift us with Mary's trust and readiness to accept your purpose. May we celebrate your coming, as we say with joy: Come, Lord Jesus.



Hymn It Came upon the Midnight Clear VU 44

P: We pray for those who cannot be here today because of health issues, or any other reasons; Laurene Crooks, Stanley Bucholtz, Deborah McCulloch, and Bob Taylor. Lord be with them this time of the year. The lonely, homeless, unemployed and international students who cannot go back and celebrate Christmas with their families.

Hymn Away in A Manger VU 69

Reading: Isaiah 35: 1-10 Susan Hanniman

Hymn Hark! The Herald Angels Sing VU 48

Choir There Was a Child of Galilee MV 134

Reflection

Choir He Came Out of Love PP

Reading: Psalm 146:5-10 Susan Hanniman

Soloist Of the Father's Love Begotten (V1,3,5) VU 61

Jessica Green

Hymn Joy to the World VU 59



Prayer of Dedication

C: God, our Judge and our Joy, receive our gifts as seeds of gratitude for your gift to us in Christ Jesus. Bless these seeds with growth so that joy will blossom for people depleted by challenges, and places overwhelmed by scarce resources. Be their justice and their joy and ours, through Christ our Lord.

Reading: James 5:7-10

Susan Hanniman

Hymn O Come, All Ye Faithful

VU 60

Reflection

Hymn Silent Night, Holy Night

VU 67

Reading: Matthew 11: 2-11

Hymn Go, Tell It on the Mountain

VU 43

Closing Prayer

P: Gracious and loving God, we thank You for the joy You place in our hearts a joy not rooted in circumstances, but in the steady promise of Your coming. May our words, our actions, and our lives bear witness to the light of Christ, so that others may glimpse Your love through us. Keep us watchful, hopeful, and joyful as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Emmanuel. We offer this prayer with gratitude and expectation, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn Joyful, Joyful We Adore You

PP

Benediction

P: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. May the joy of Christ be your strength, the peace of His presence guide your steps, and the light of His coming shine through your lives. Go in hope, go in peace, and go rejoicing, for the Lord is near. **Amen.**

Choral Response** Go Now in Peace

Postlude O Holy Night

Jessica Green



A Message of Hope, Joy, and Peace.

Dear beloved friends in Christ,

As the calendar turns toward Christmas, the familiar cold and dark outside are beautifully contrasted by the light and warmth we share within our church family. This holy season is a time for remembering the greatest gift, the birth of Jesus Christ and allowing the true spirit of Christmas to refill our hearts with hope, joy, and peace.

The story of Christmas is first and foremost a story of Hope. In a world that often feels complex and uncertain, we are reminded that God kept His promise to send a Savior. That hope is not a fragile wish, but a firm conviction rooted in the faithfulness of God. May the star that guided the Magi also guide your steps, reminding you that no matter what shadows this past year may have held, the light of Christ is eternal, promising new beginnings and unwavering presence. Let this hope be the anchor for your soul today and in the year ahead.

This hope gives rise to profound joy. The angel proclaimed to the shepherds, "I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." This is not the fleeting happiness of a holiday gift, but the deep, abiding gladness that comes from knowing we are loved unconditionally by our Creator. This Christmas, we pray that you find simple, true joy in sharing warmth with your family, in lifting your voice in carols, and in the quiet moments of gratitude for the blessings in your life.

Finally, we reflect on the gift of Peace. The angels sang of "peace on earth," a message that speaks to our desire for reconciliation in the world and, crucially, for stillness within our own hearts. The peace Jesus offers is a stillness that surpasses all understanding, guarding our hearts and minds against anxiety and fear. We pray that in the midst of the holiday rush, you find moments of sacred calm a space where you can feel the presence of the Holy Spirit reassuring you that you are safe, loved, and whole.

May this Christmas be a deeply meaningful one for you and your family. We look forward to celebrating the birth of our Savior with you and embracing all the promises that the New Year holds.

With love and blessings,

Pastor Mandara

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Wednesday 9am-1pm
Thursday 9am-2pm

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Hours: Saturday 4pm-6pm

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