



1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent
November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025
Joint Service 9:30am
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**

Hope (Faith)...the openness to follow what God had revealed through scripture and the spirit.



# Welcome to Wesley!

We are glad you joined us today.

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

Greeters/Ushers
Offering

**Nov 30<sup>th</sup>** Mulvihill Team

Mick Team

Betrand/Hamilton Team
Thom Team

Dec 7th

The Christmas season poinsettias have been placed in the church by the Montgomery family in loving memory of husband and father, Malcolm.

**Prayers of Joy & Concern Prayers of Joy & Concern** This week we ask you to please keep Laurene Crooks, Stanley Bucholtz, Deborah McCulloch, and Bob Taylor in your prayers.

This week we pray for New Life Community Church and Storrington Pastoral Charge (Inverary).

# Living With Respect to God's Creation Sustainable Advent Calendars & Decorations

- Choose a reusable advent calendar: Instead of buying a new disposable calendar each year, invest in a wooden or fabric calendar that can be refilled annually.
- Fill with eco-friendly treats or activities: Fill your reusable calendar with small, sustainable gifts like locally made chocolates, organic tea bags, or experience-based "IOUs" (e.g., watching a Christmas movie together, a winter walk).
- Create your own wreaths and garlands using foraged natural materials such as pinecones, holly sprigs, ivy trails, dried orange slices, or popcorn strings. These items are often compostable after the holidays.

## Wesley United Church 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent November 30th, 2025

\*Please Mute all phones
\*\* Indicates please stand

Prelude Sing Along Angels, From the Realms of Glory
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
Angels, We Have Heard on High
VU 38

Life and Works of the Church

Juanita Cooper

**Welcome and Acknowledgement** 

**Lighting of Christ Candle\*\*** 

**Opening Hymn\*\*** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VU 1

# Responsive Call to Worship/Lighting of the Advent Candle\*\*

P: The prophet Isaiah announced that people of all nations will come to the mountain of the Lord and learn God's ways.

C: When we look at this suffering world, we know we need to follow God's ways.

P: God will settle disputes among the nations. Weapons will be transformed into tools for planting and growth.

C: Nations will live in peace no more will they prepare for war.

P: We cling to that promise and light this candle of hope, inspired by a vision of a world where children grow into adulthood, and parents live to old age.

Let us pray together:

C: Living God, make us more aware of your presence. We trust your promises and wait with hopeful hearts. Come, Lord Jesus.

# **Prayers of Adoration**

P: Almighty and everlasting God, you hold all our days in your hands and embrace us in your everlasting arms. In a tired and violent world, you are hope. In a hectic and busy world, you are peace. In a hurting world, you are comfort. In Jesus Christ, you

bring love into this world and call us to embody his love in all we do and say. In our worship this day, we offer you our love and loyalty, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit. Make us one in worship and service, so that the world will see your hope at work in us and through us, making all things new. **Amen.** 

# **Prayer of Confession**

C: God of hope, we confess that we often prefer to accept half-truths and pleasing ideas, rather than your challenging word. We praise our own cleverness rather than your wisdom. We have exploited others for our benefit and used the earth without a thought for its wellbeing. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct who we shall be through the mercy of Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

P: Receive the Good News in hope. With great mercy, God forgives what we have confessed and offers us new life in Christ. Trust in the hope that you are forgiven and that, with God, new things are possible.

#### **Youth Time**

Choir Anthem O Come Divine Messiah

PP

# **Prayer for Understanding**

C: God of hope and healing, we turn to your Word to hear your will and your wisdom for our times. Open our hearts and minds by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit so that we might hear what you are saying to the church through Christ, your Living Word.

# **Scripture Readings**

Susan Hanniman

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm 122

Matthew 24:36-44

Message: "There is Hope in Jesus Christ"

Hymn\*\* Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

VU 25

P: This Sunday we celebrate the Advent of Hope, coming to us in Jesus Christ. Think of your gifts as seeds of that hope that we can plant in the world God loves for Christ's sake.

## **Prayer of Dedication**

C: God, our hope and our help, receive our gifts as seeds of gratitude for your gift to us in Christ Jesus. Bless these seeds with growth so that hope will sprout in people who struggle with despair, and places trying to rebuild after devastating loss. Be their hope and their help, through Christ our Lord.

## The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also, with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: All powerful and ever-living God, we do well, always and everywhere, to give you thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord. With your only Son and the Holy Spirit, you are God, wise and wonderful; You are God, great and good you are God, awesome and peaceloving. You are God, holy and worthy of honour; You are God, living and true and so, Holy One and Holy Three, we praise your name with the angels and the saints, with the heavens and the earth and all your creatures high and low:

C: Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

P: Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three, In Jesus you lived among us, healing, teaching, dying, rising, inviting us all to feast with you. He healed the sick though he himself suffered. He offered life to sinners though death hunted him down. With a love stronger than death, he opened his arms on the Cross and surrendered his Spirit. And so, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

C: Christ died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

P: Holy Spirit, come now and settle on us and on these gifts of bread and wine; that they may be for us Christ's body and life blood, healing, forgiving and making us whole. So may we become Christ's body, the Church, serving with love in creation until that day when all creation feasts in the presence of God, in the fullness of mercy and peace, which we taste today through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray for God's kingdom to come: **Our Father...** 

P: On the night before he met with death, Jesus came to the table with those he loved. He took bread and blessed you, God of all creation. He broke the bread, saying Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is my body, given for you. After supper he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to you, God of all creation and then He passed the cup among his disciples, saying "Take this, all of you and drink from it. This is the cup of the new covenant sealed in my blood for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

**Communion Hymn** As We Gather at Your Table

VU 457

#### **Benediction**

P: Go in love and loyalty, knowing that Christ goes before you, Christ goes behind you, Christ walks beside you, and Christ lives within you. And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and communion in the Holy Spirit be yours, now and evermore. Amen.

**Closing hymn\*\*** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

VU<sub>2</sub>

Choral Response\*\* Go Now in Peace

Postlude See Amid the Winter's Snow

Sandra Allen



#### Life and Work of the Church

2026 Budget - The 2026 budget will soon be drafted. All Council Chairs and committees with expenditures or revenues are asked to submit these projections to the Treasurer, Rhonda Belisle (<a href="mailto:rhonda.belisle@rbc.com">rhonda.belisle@rbc.com</a>) or bookkeeper, Kathy Saar (<a href="mailto:wesleyuc.finances@gmail.com">wesleyuc.finances@gmail.com</a>) by Nov 30th.

**Christmas Craft Sale** Sat Dec 6<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm at Zion Evangelical UC. Please come out for a tea and cookie and browse through our Christmas gift selection.

**Dec 13th** will be the soup kitchen's annual Christmas Dinner. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Thanks to everyone who made donations for our **adopt a family project**. The gifts and gift certificates were delivered on Monday and were very gratefully received by the Bernadette McCann House staff.

Many thanks to the **decorating volunteers** who decorated our church so beautifully for the Christmas season! Also, reminder of advent sing song prior to the service starting this Sunday.

# **Upcoming Service Dates:**

Sun Nov 30<sup>th</sup> There will be a brunch to follow the service.
Sun Dec 7<sup>th</sup> There will be a Congregational Meeting taking place after the service to discuss Wesley United Church and Zion Evangelical Church hiring a shared interim minister for a 2-year term.

**Sun Dec 14<sup>th</sup>** There will be a joint choir service at Wesley beginning at 11:00am with a potluck lunch to follow.

#### Office hours next week:

Mon Dec 1<sup>st</sup> – 9:00am-1:00pm

Tues Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8:00am-12:00pm

Fri Dec 5<sup>th</sup> - 9:00am-2:00pm

#### Contact Us

275 Pembroke St. East, Pembroke ON K8A 3J9

Office Phone: (613) 735-6132

Web: www.wesleyunitedchurch.ca

Pastor: Zacharia Mandara

Email: zadama@msn.com

To arrange a visit with Pastor Mandara, please call 613-293-1723

Music Director: Sandra Allen

Email: descantmusicstudio@gmail.com

Office Administrator: Emily Jamieson

Email: wesleyuc.office@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tuesday 8am-12pm

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

**Property Manager:** Robert Leach

Phone: 613 732-4871

Soup Kitchen Co-Ordinator: Rhonda Belisle

Email: rhondabelisle@hotmail.com

Phone: 613 732-9573

Hours: Saturday 4pm-6pm

Find Us on Facebook
Friend & Follow Us!