

Welcome to...



We're glad you're here!

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What's up in worship?

This month: Advent asks us to recognize the future return of Christ and yet the present "God with us." Our journey home, no matter what life throws at us, is never absent from the presence of Christ! **Today** we recognize the distance between God and us, and celebrate the One who made the move so that we could be "home for the holidays." Not only that, Jesus is "coming home" one day in the future – a day we look forward to with hope and promise. **Next week** we take a moment to celebrate the music that gets us through Advent and ready for Christmas in a Festival and Advent and Christmas Music, featuring all of our musical groups in praise to God.

Today's Community Connections:

- **The altar flowers are presented today by William, Anna Maria, Sean and Adam Stoerle in memory of Serafino and Santa Rizzo.** If you are interested in providing fresh flowers for worship, please sign up at the *Connections Corner* table. (See bullet point below.)
- Feel like you missed something? The *Connections Corner* table can help. Head across the atrium and get the information you need just under the tv monitor.
- Don't receive our weekly e-news? You should! Please email Sue Kiefner at: SueK@wesleychurch.com to get on the list!
- Have you seen our new website? Ric Lehman has been working diligently to update it. Go check it out! Look next to the graphic above for where to go...
- Those who have assigned giving envelope numbers will please pick up their 2018 envelopes on the table just outside the library. Requests to have a number assigned to you can be shared with Sharon Schultz.
- All those who did not receive a Finance team mailing this week can pick that information up on the same table. It consists of a letter and a 2018 pledge card.
- Christian Education for all ages will be offered on December 3 and 17, beginning at 9 AM (8:30 for adults). It will NOT be offered on December 10 and 24.
- Wesley Church, in partnership with the Salvation Army (Angel Tree) and Mammy's Angels Giving Tree, is hoping to brighten the holidays of over 120 individuals through your generosity. Take a tag or two from the tree and be a secret angel!

ADVENT ALERT!

Advent begins today! Due to the timing of Christmas and a few other events happening during Advent, our Sunday morning worship schedule is as follows, for ALL SUNDAYS in December: We will worship all together in one blended worship style at 10 AM.

Wesley Church Staff

Pastor Andy Krpata – Ext 13
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Today's morning schedule:

8:30 – Adult Sunday School
9:00 – Sunday School for children
10:00 – Blended worship
Hospitality is offered in the atrium.

Church office hours are from
9 AM-3 PM weekdays
during the school year.

† invites all to stand, if able.

Blended Worship Order

December 3rd, 2017; 10:00 AM – The First Sunday of Advent

Prelude *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* (arr. S. Brendlinger) Frank Arbushites, piano

† **Welcome and Greeting** Bob Keiderling, Minister of Discipleship

Kinderchor (Children's Choir) *Everybody Ought to Know* Heather Hunter, Director

† **Praising God in Song** *Hail to The Lord's Anointed* #203, United Methodist Hymnal
Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus The Ensemble

Welcoming New Members Ken and Betty Weaver, Frank Madura, Terry Nighan Please see the insert.

Introduction to Advent Pastor Andy

Advent Wreath Lighting

Reader: God of justice and peace, healing and comfort, we see all that is wrong and wonder where you are.

Reader: We are a broken people, unable to work together for our common good. We cannot see or hear each other even within our own families and communities.

Reader: We live in a suffering world. Our nations are filled with conflict and violence. The fragile earth cries out with longing for redemption.

All: We, God's people, long for God's presence, saying with the prophet: "If only you would tear open the heavens and come down!"

Reader: On this first Sunday of Advent, we light this candle to remind us of our longing that God will come into the world, bringing justice and peace, comfort and healing.

(The first candle is lighted.)

All: Sung Response:

***O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel***

Scripture: Isaiah 64:1-9 and Mark 13:24-37 Betty Weaver, Reader

Children's Message Pastor Andy

Anthem *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* (arr. L. Smith) Chancel Choir

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded,
For with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in human nature,
In the body and the blood,

† invites all to stand, if able.

He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heavenly food.

At his feet the six winged seraph;
Cherubim with watchful eye,
Veil their faces to his presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord most high!"

Congregational Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Bob and Pastor Andy

Whether offering your prayer aloud or keeping it confidential, please continue to fill out the blue cards and place them in the offering so that the prayer team may continue to faithfully do its work. Thank you!

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Message

"Coming Home: The Distance"

Pastor Andy

Musical Response

God With Us (Jason Ingram & Leslie Jordan)

The Ensemble

You've come to bring peace/To be Love, to be nearer to us
Oh You've come to bring life/To be Light, to shine brighter in us
Oh Emmanuel/God with us

CHORUS

Our Deliverer /You are Savior/In Your presence we find our strength
Over everything, our Redemption
God with us, You are God with us

Oh You've come to be Hope/To this world, for Your honor and name
And You've come to take sin/To bear shame and to conquer the grave
Oh Emmanuel, Oh God with us (to chorus)

You are here/You are holy / We are standing in Your glory (3x)
You are here/You are holy / We are standing in Your glory, Lord (to chorus)

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Please see the liturgy on the insert.

All are welcome to receive communion in the United Methodist tradition. The table is open to all. We receive by method of intinction. Ushers will guide you into forming lines in the aisles. The servers (our new members) will hand you a piece of bread which you may dip into the cup, and then return to your pew. Please bring forward with you your Sign-in Cards / Prayer cards (available in the pew racks), as well as your morning offering. Both can be placed in the offering plates as you come forward to receive communion.

Music during Communion:

Like a Child

Of the Father's Love Begotten (arr. J. Rouse)

The Ensemble

Frank, piano

Community Connections (Please see front of bulletin) Andy and Bob

† Closing Song *Blessed Assurance (My King Is Coming Soon)*

Ensemble

† Benediction and Choral Response:

Walk in the Light (N. Price/D. Besig)

Chancel Choir

May the light of God shine down on us
as we leave this quiet place.
May we go and share with all of the world
the blessings of God's grace.
With the hope and love, joy and peace
the Advent promise brings,
Let us wait and watch with open hearts
to welcome our Lord and King.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done."

Philippians 4:6 New Living Translation

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM NOV. 26TH **Clarke Chapman** gives thanks for the life of faith of my cousin Joanne Rogers. **Chris Foster** for Bill Whipple's health issues and a successful resolution and curing of same. Prayers for Natasha & Joshua Raysor & family. For Larry Miller (Carolyn) on passing of sister. **Tom & Bonnie Keel** for Tom who is in hospital (Room 323) for diagnosis and for his brother, Chris Pucci, on dialysis, that he may receive a kidney. **Sandy & Andy Kereczman** continue to pray for Andy and for healing. **Bob Keiderling** for sister, Pat Solazzo with breast cancer; For Donna to have a clear mind and clarity as executor of her Mom's estate; and for Ray Buckno who completed radiation treatments and prayers for healing completely. **Frank Madura** for God's guidance as I look for a job; God's grace & wisdom as his Mother's caregiver; and God be with all caregivers. **Charlie Neunert** for cousin, Doug, with stage 4 cancer. **Kasey Renowden** for Austin, newborn, with necrotizing pneumonia, which is basically eating his lungs away. He is in Shands Hospital in Gainesville, FL. For Miles & Sue; for cousin Dick (Jeanette) with stage 4 lung cancer; and for niece Brenda with bone cancer. **Audrey Vigilanti** for Ricky Sterner, who, thanks to modern medicine and above all, everyone's prayers, is doing terrific. The tubes are out and he is breathing on his own with his new lungs. He still has 3 months of hospitalization, so please continue prayers.

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM NOV. 19TH **Anon.** for healing for Kasey Renowden & Melissa Day. **Joan & Bob Barlieb** thanks to everyone praying for granddaughter, Kyleigh Kerecz, (13); She is home & for continued healing from successful back surgery: **Shirley Brandon** for sister-in-law, Frances Brandon, now in Manor Care rehab. **Karen Hornberger** for friend Christine Garipolj in hospice. May God grant her a peaceful journey. **Cindy Ivins** for Rebecca Flores with chemo followed by radiation. **Betty Krupka** for daughter Sue for healing from spinal surgery. **Kylie Lerch** for Cpl. Seth Kelly injured in line of duty. **Nancy Lewis** for father in law George for testing & recovery. **Marmaras Family** for Kate Marmaras declining; Melissa Day's cancer; Bill Whipple's medical tests; Louis' Horwath's stomach issues; People affected by natural disasters in CA, PR & in US. **Rebecca Roe** healing for her toxic black mold illness; and for her daughter Pamela's divorce. **Walter Migliori** for Barb Brown, who has bone cancer. **Betty & Ken Weaver** prayers for Ron Nakata, and wife, Gail. For daughter Christine. For Scott Duncan, recurring cancer, & wife Donna **Anon.** for pregnant daughter considered high risk due to an inherited blood issue.

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS: **Ray Buckno** prayers for the continued healing of his mouth and face. **Betty Holt** with lung problems. **Melissa Day** with cancer. **George Danner and his wife Martha** as he recovers. **Donna Giardina** for brother Tommy suffering with two types of cancer. **Peter Marmaras** for prayers for Mother, Kate. **Audrey Vigilanti** for Carol Vigilanti suffering with kidney disorder, lupus & lymphoma. **Suzanne & Mike Krom** for Theresa for healing her cancer. **Sue Kiefner** prayers for friend's husband, Geoff battling colon cancer. **Chuck & Wendy Stehly** for Jeff with brain cancer & for friend Ivelisse, with breast cancer & receiving treatment. **Suzanne Hastie's** parents, Aaron & Janice Hastie, with health issues. **Joan & Bob Barlieb** prayers for granddaughter, Kyleigh Kerecz, (13) for continued healing from successful back surgery:

JOYS AND PRAISES: **Karen Schaefer** gives thanks for the joy in our church. **Audrey Vigilanti** reports that Ricky Sterner is doing very well after a double lung transplant and is breathing on his own with the new lungs. Family thanks everyone for prayers, and especially to the family of the donor of the lungs, **Deb Silliman** for Jackie & baby Ethan Michael doing well; Praise for Tina & Cindy, my awesome teaching partners for Sunday School.

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY TO: **Barbara Guldner** on the passing of husband George. **Nicole & Christian Lockhart** for the family of Vanetta Dorm on her passing. **Larry & Carolyn Miller** on the passing of his sister.

THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP:

At Home: George & Martha Danner, Betty Hein, Naomi Jones

Gracedale Nancy Breon, Jane Sandt, Dorothy Collin

Moravian Village Agnes Smith, Loretta Jensen
Yolanda McKinnon

Traditions of Hanover Marian Jeffery

Westminster Village Howard & Shirley Beiseigel
Irvin & Lorene Arnold

Arlington (Easton) Sylvia Thele

King's Daughters Gertrude Kunsman

Manor Care Frances Brandon

Traditions HOA Betty Holt

Sterling Heights Peggy Jacobson

Kirkland Village Barbara Guldner

WESLEY CHURCH MINISTRIES:

Our teachers and facilitators; Good Grief: Men's & Women's Small groups, TEACHRwanda; Visitation/Stephen Ministry; We've Got Your Backpack Day; Backpack Buddies; Cancer Support Group; Wesley Community Garden; Outreach Depot.

We ask that you please update your prayer request information at least every two weeks.
This ensures that your request will remain on the Prayer List. Thank you.

"Prayer is where the action is." John Wesley