



THE WISDOM PYRAMID

Alexa, Google, and Siri?

September 12, 2021



WASHINGTON
STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The congregation of Washington Street UMC praises and serves God from the heart of the city in ways that reach our neighbors near and far. We welcome and affirm all who seek the love and mercy of Christ regardless of race, creed, age, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic status. We honor traditions as rooted in our history, our expression of worship, and our respect for theological curiosity. We nonetheless see vital change and ongoing renewal as essential for spiritual growth.

WASHINGTON STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 12, 2021

11:00 AM - Sanctuary

Liturgical Color: Green, symbolizing our growth in Christ

*(As our worship begins, please silence any electronic devices. Portable hearing devices are available in the Narthex.
Please ask an usher for assistance.)*

GATHERING IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

Louis Shirer, organ

WELCOME

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: It is time for us let go of all wandering thoughts and distractions as we open ourselves to experience God's presence in this space.

All: We come into this space seeking God's wisdom and guidance for our lives.

One: May God grant us grace to hear the words of healing, love and hope that will guide us.

All: We trust that the presence of the Lord is in this place to guide us in paths of righteousness.

One: Then let us join our voices together now in praising our God whose wisdom is wide and whose compassion is great.

*HYMN 77

How Great Thou Art

HOW GREAT THOU ART

Words: Stuart K. Hine, 1953; Music: Stuart K. Hine, 1953

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #884

An Affirmation of Faith of the Korean Methodist Church

**We believe in the one God,
creator and sustainer of all things, Father of all nations,
the source of all goodness and beauty, all truth and love.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
God manifest in the flesh,
our teacher, example, and Redeemer, the Savior of the world.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
God present with us for guidance, for comfort, and for strength.**

**We believe in the forgiveness of sins,
in the life of love and prayer,
and in grace equal to every need.**

**We believe in the Word of God
contained in the Old and New Testaments
as the sufficient rule both of faith and of practice.**

**We believe in the church,
those who are united in the living Lord
for the purpose of worship and service.**

**We believe in the reign of God
as the divine will realized in human society,
and in the family of God,
where we are all brothers and sisters.**

**We believe in the final triumph of righteousness
and in the life everlasting. Amen.**

*GLORIA PATRI 70

Words: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th Century
Music: Charles Meineke, 1844

MEINEKE

MORNING PRAYER (In Unison)

Loving and caring God, in this time of worship, open us to your words of life and love and truth. Help us more fully understand what it means to truly be a disciple, a follower of the way of Jesus, a follower of the path of wisdom and co-laborers with you in the work of justice and peace. We offer this prayer in the wise and caring name of Jesus. Amen.

LISTENING FOR GOD

SOLO

Offertory
John Ness Beck
Bob Evans, baritone

FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 4:5-9

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Beth Matthews

SECOND LESSON

Romans 12:1-2

PROCLAMATION

"Alexa, Google, and Siri?"

Rev. Becky Shirley

RESPONDING TO GOD

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

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.

OFFERING OUR THANKS TO GOD

As we go into the world, we offer ourselves to God in loving service as we offer our gifts to the ministries of the congregation. Financial contributions may be placed in the offering plates located in the Narthex, online at wsmethodist.org, or through the mail. Thank you for supporting the ministries of this congregation with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN 528

Nearer, My God, to Thee
Words: Sarah F. Adams, 1841 (Gen. 28:10-22)
Music: Lowell Mason, 1856

BETHANY

*BENEDICTION

Please remain seated until the pastors have cleared the aisle. Please remember to practice social distancing when exiting.

*POSTLUDE

**Congregation standing. If standing is uncomfortable, please remain seated and continue your participation.*

When our worship ends, our service begins!

Reverend Becky J. ShirleySenior Pastor
rjshirley@umcsc.org**Reverend Alston Lippert**Associate Minister for Nurture & Disci-
-pleship Development
alippert@umcsc.org**Nicholas Todd Shumate**Director of Music
nicholas@wsmethodist.org**Felicia Yockel**Director of Child Development Center
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abbie@wsmethodist.org**Mackin Wall**Director of Family Ministries
mackin@wsmethodist.org**Jerry Sumpter**Director of Maintenance
jerry@wsmethodist.org**Terrence Chisholm**Soup Cellar Manager
tee_chisholm@yahoo.com**Louis Shirer**Organist
louis@wsmethodist.org**Rick Frierson**

Pianist

**WASHINGTON
STREET**

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PRAYER THOUGHT

Our prayers don't have expiration dates. God will eventually deliver.

PRAYER LISTThom Berry
Martha Boynton
Martha Brooker
Sally Christian
Mickey Epting
Charles GarrenFrances Grimes
Bud Harrelson
Karen Horne
Geneva Hutchinson
Lisa Johnson
Rev. Judy KingBeverly McClanahan
David Middleton
Lauren, Greg, and Nora
Blair Middleton and
family
Rick Rowe
Boyd SaundersStephanie Saunders
Sarah Threatt
Heidi Wall
Peggy Weston
Our homebound**IN MEMORIAM**Mr. Walter (Pete) Phillip Bailey
September 9, 2021*"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord..."***CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY**

Rev. Becky Shirley joins the entire staff and Washington Street Church family in expressing our deepest sympathy and Christian love to the Mrs. Judy Bailey and family in the passing of her husband, Mr. Walter (Pete) Phillip Bailey.

SERVING TODAYChildren's Moments
Usher
Sound/Video
Visitor Cards
Pew MaintenanceRev. Becky Shirley
Tommy Betenbaugh
Grant Jackson/Lynn Shirley
Suzanne Joye
Finance Committee**STEWARDSHIP REPORT****Giving to-date** (as of 9-5-21)
Church YTD \$452,049
Soup Cellar YTD \$53,332
Foundation Gifts YTD \$31,661
Attendance on 9/5/21: 94**Baptism**

We welcome Janelle Cotter Parker (Nelle) into the Family of God through Christian Baptism on Saturday, September 11, 2021. Nelle is the daughter of Janet "Cotter" Jenkins Parker and Connor Parker, and beloved granddaughter to Jan Jenkins, and great-grandmother, Janet Cotter.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD*The rose on the pulpit is placed in celebration of Fisher Elizabeth Case, born on August 31, 2021. Parents, Paul and Barrett Case, brother, Jackson, and grandparents, Ed and Sara Fisher, aunt and uncle Robyn and Kirk Rogers, and cousins Winn and Riggs welcome Fisher Elizabeth to their family as we welcome her to our Washington Street family.*