



6th Sunday after Epiphany  
February 16, 2025

 WELCOME

 PRELUDE

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us / He Leadeth Me*


W. Bradbury, arr. L. Shackles

 +A MEDITATIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

*Stand in body. Stand in spirit. Please share in the words in bold.*

Lord, you welcomed me when others turned away.  
You allowed me to touch you, with all my imperfections.  
**You defended me when others tried to dismiss me.**  
**You welcomed me, and I'm so thankful.**

How could I respond to such love? I offered you the best that I had.  
I broke open that expensive jar that I adored. Then, I poured its fragrance all over your tired feet.  
**I swept the dust of the world from your skin with my hair.**  
I poured and wiped; poured and wiped until the fragrance and my worship filled the air.  
**Today, as we think of your love toward us, O Christ, may the air fill with the sweet fragrance of worship.**


 +HYMN

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

UMH 384

 SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

 OPENING PRAYER

adapt. BOW 527

We are people who journey as vessels containing wellsprings of hope; sharing, replacing, and adding new waters of proclamation, power, prophecy, and prayer to the containers of our life and faith. We pause and reflect on the movement of the tide in this journey, as it washes upon our shores, cleansing and calling us back to ministry and faith.

We pray for our global community. **O Creator God, let the water of your womb heal.**  
We pray for the bent-overness of our lives and world. **O Creator God, let the water of your womb heal.**  
We pray for those living in the midst of violence. **O Creator God, let the water of your womb heal.**  
We pray for those living in poverty. **O Creator God, let the water of your womb heal.**  
We pray for the effort of peace. **O Creator God, let the water of your womb heal.**  
We pray to truth the validity of our diverse experiences.  
**O Creator God, let the water of your womb heal.**  
We pray for the call within by you, the One who create in us wellsprings of hope.  
**O Creator God, let the water of your womb heal.**

**O Creator God, may the waters that covered us at our birth once again remind us of our creation in you. Remind us that we are vessel off the waters of hope and that your outpourings have power to heal and make whole our bruised world. Let the living waters of creation, womb, baptism, and Spirit encircle us that we may remember we are yours and be thankful. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

 HEBREW BIBLE READING

Psalm 7: 1-8, 7-14 NRSVUE , Pew Bible 491

 +GOSPEL READING

Luke 7:36-50 NRSVUE

*Please stand in body, stand in spirit for the reading of the Gospel. Listen to your body.*

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and when he went into the Pharisee's house he reclined to dine. And a woman in the city who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair, kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him, that she is a sinner." Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak." "A certain moneylender had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly." Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven loves little." Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" But he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

*This is the word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.*



**+DOXOLOGY**

*Come, Thou Almighty King*

UMH 61 v. 4

**To thee, great One in Three, / eternal praises be,  
hence evermore. / Thy sovereign majesty / may we in glory see,  
and to eternity love and adore!**



**TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES**

Alexander Dungan



**HYMN OF PREPARATION**

*Woman in the Night*

UMH 274 v. 1, 3, 4, 6



**SERMON and INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP**

Rev. Megan Tobola



**ANTHEM**

*Blessed Shall They Be*

Natalie Sleeth



**INVITATION to the PRACTICE of GIVING**

*As forgiven and reconciled people, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.*

Give by Text: (630) 528-0155, Online: [wesleynaperville.org/giving](http://wesleynaperville.org/giving)

The offering basket is also available at the front of the sanctuary.



**PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**



**+CLOSING HYMN**

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

UMH 121



**+BENEDICTION**



**POSTLUDE**

*When the Roll is Called Up Yonder*

James Black, arr. M. Hayes

*All are invited to a time of fellowship in the Atrium following the postlude.*

## ***The Lenten Journey Begins Soon!***

### **SAVE THESE DATES**

#### **Wed. 3/5 ASH WEDNESDAY**

*Imposition of Ashes* - 8:45 - 9:15 am /

11:15-11:45am / 1:45 - 2:15 pm

In the Sanctuary and Atrium

#### **Wed. 3/5 ASH WEDNESDAY**

*Ecumenical Service*

at First Congregational UCC

(25 E Benton Ave) at 7:30 p.m.

#### **Wed. 4/2**

#### **Spring Break Vacation Bible School**

(ages 3-12; Time TBD)

#### **Sun. 3/30 Worship Through Mission**

@ 10 am

(More details soon)

#### **Sun. 4/13 Palm Sunday**

Worship at 10 am

Children and Youth are invited to join  
the Palm Processional

#### **Thurs. 4/17 Maundy Thursday**

Worship (TBD)

#### **Fri. 4/18 Good Friday**

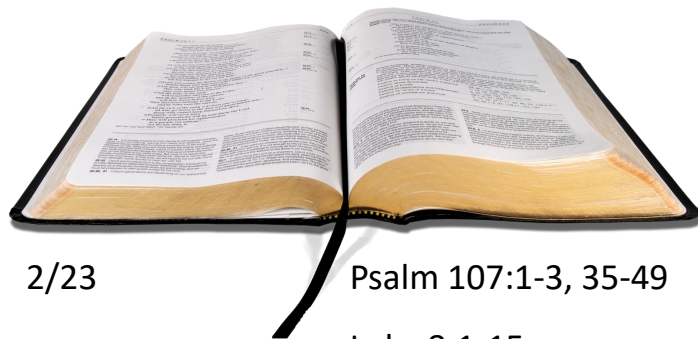
Worship at Community UMC

(20 Center Street) at 7:00 p.m.

#### **Sun. 4/20 Easter Sunday**

Worship @ 10am

## ***Upcoming Sunday Focus Scriptures***



2/23

Psalm 107:1-3, 35-49

Luke 8:1-15

3/2

Psalm 46

TRANSFIGURATION Luke 9:28-36

SUNDAY

3/9

Ezekiel 37:1-14,

LENT I

John 3:1-8

3/16

Romans 8:18-25

LENT II

Luke 8:40-55

3/23

Exodus 16:2-18

LENT III

Psalm 65:5-13

Luke 9:12-17

3/30

Psalm 56:1-13

LENT IV

Luke 10:38-42

*Worship Through*

*Mission*

4/6

1 Kings 10:1-10, 13

LENT V

Luke 11:27-32

4/13

Matthew 21:1-11

PALM SUNDAY

Psalm 118:19-29

# Wesley Kids Day Out!

Since 1973

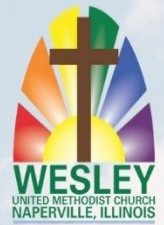


**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**  
*Our Domino's Pizza Fundraiser was a great success—we raised \$1,150!*  
Many thanks to all who contributed!

**LAST CHANCE TO RSVP!**

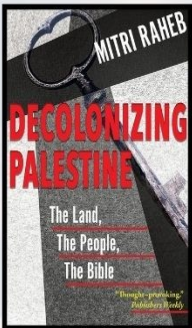
## LENT BOOK STUDY OPPORTUNITY

*with Pastor Emeritus, Duane Mevis*



“Decolonizing Palestine” by Mitri Raheb

I’ve been privileged to tour Israel/Palestine 7 times. I visited the holy sites but also tried to meet the people of the land. One of my favorites was Mitri Raheb, who was born near Bethlehem. He went on to become a Lutheran minister and serve the Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem. I enjoyed worshipping with him and learning his story.



He is now retired from the church but founded a college near Bethlehem with the mission of helping Palestinian youth. He recently wrote a book entitled “Decolonizing Palestine: The Land, The People, The Bible”. It’s an interesting book telling his story and the story of the conflict from a different perspective.



Sundays 3/9, 3/16, 3/23, and 3/30  
immediately after worship



RSVP by Sunday, February 16  
by contacting the Church Office



[INFO@WESLEYNAPERVILLE.ORG](mailto:INFO@WESLEYNAPERVILLE.ORG)

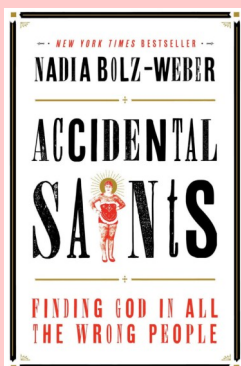


630-355-1834

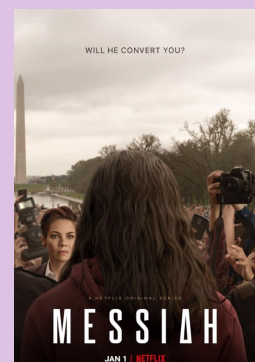
## ADULT ONE-TIME DISCUSSION OPPORTUNITIES with PASTOR MEGAN

If you have interest in being a part of any of these one time gathering and discussion opportunities, reach out to Pastor Megan at 630-355-1834 ext. 102 or [pastor@wesleynaperville.org](mailto:pastor@wesleynaperville.org).

*Accidental Saints:  
Finding God  
in All the Wrong People*  
by Nadia Bolz-Weber  
book discussion (books \$12)  
**TODAY!**  
following worship



*Messiah*  
Netflix series  
viewing and discussion  
(selected episode)  
**Wednesday, Feb 26.**  
**12pm**  
In person



## CHILDREN and YOUTH

Time for Young Disciples in worship, immediately followed by Sunday School (2nd—4th Sundays). On 5th Sundays we worship through hands on mission at 10am.

## WESLEY KIDS DAY OUT

Part-time daycare ministry Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 9am to 2pm for children 6 months to 5 years of age. Contact Ken for more information and tours (630) 355-1758 [wesleykidsdayout@gmail.com](mailto:wesleykidsdayout@gmail.com). If you have a love for children ages 6 months to 5 years and are interested in working with them part-time, the Staff Parish Relations Committee would love to hear from you. We are presently considering applications for Teacher, Substitute Teacher, and Director. Please visit [wesleynaperville.org/kdo](http://wesleynaperville.org/kdo) for more info.

## GIVING TO OUR ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Fund invests donations to provide for outreach programs and to supplement the church budget. You can donate directly, dedicate a leaf on our Wesley Family Tree or put Wesley in your will. I am happy to help answer your questions. Please contact Barbara Burke, 239-405-5898, or email [barbaraburke123@att.net](mailto:barbaraburke123@att.net) for information on contributing to the Endowment Fund.

## MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Chancel Choir rehearses on most Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. All voices are welcome. Instrumentalists are also welcome to share their gifts. Contact Nicole Melody (Director of Music) [info@wesleynaperville.org](mailto:info@wesleynaperville.org)

## STYROFOAM RECYCLING

You are welcome to bring your styrofoam recycling to the special recycling bins on the lower level. Stained and soiled items are not accepted. Please rinse ahead of time.

## COFFEE HOUR

Join us after Worship in the Atrium for a cup of coffee or tea, and a little nibble. If you would like to bring a treat or help with set-up, contact our church office at 630-355-1834 or [info@wesleynaperville.org](mailto:info@wesleynaperville.org)

## HELPING ONE ANOTHER

The bins on the Lower Level (B) are available for donations and use of whomever may have need of these items that comes to our door: Deodorant—MOST NEEDED, Menstrual Hygiene Products, Shampoo & Conditioner (Travel Size Preferred), Soap, Socks, Toothbrushes—MOST NEEDED, Toothpaste, Wash Cloths (New or Gently Used but WASHED and ready for use)

## LOAVES & FISHES COMMUNITY SERVICES

The needs in our community outpace supply. You are welcome to drop off items to the donation baskets.



# DAYCARE ENROLLMENT

## AGES 6 MONTHS - 5 YEARS

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday**  
Full days: 9am-2pm  
Half days: 9-11:30 or 11:30-2

**SUMMER PROGRAM**  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
Full days: 9am-1pm

**630-355-1758**

wesleykidsdayout@gmail.com

**If you enjoy working with children of this age, job opportunities are available!  
Visit wesleynaperville.org/kdo**

### Sundays

Additional parking is allowed in the Old National Bank (formerly, Midwest Bank) lot

10:00 AM (Hybrid): **Worship in-person or online** wesleynaperville.org (Sanctuary—Level 1)  
2nd - 4th Sundays: **Sunday School** immediately following the time for Young Disciples.

After Worship In Person **Fellowship in the Atrium** (Coffee and Nibbles—Level A)

**5th SUNDAYS ARE WORSHIP THROUGH MISSION**

#### IN PERSON HOURS

#### CHURCH OFFICE

(630) 355-1834

**Emily Torres, Administrative Assistant**

Sundays: 9am—1pm

M- 8am--3pm

T, TH: Closed

W, F: 8:30 am—3:30 pm

ext. 110

*Building Events*

events@wesleynaperville.org

#### WESLEY KIDS DAY OUT

**Ken Tobola, Transitional Administrator**

**Sherice Horton, Assistant Director**

M, W, F 9am—2pm

(630) 355-1758

wesleykidsdayout@gmail.com

**Rev. Megan Tobola, ext. 102**

*Lead Pastor*

*Tuesdays are sabbath*

pastor@wesleynaperville.org

**Alexander Dungan, ext. 104**

*Minister of Family & Justice*

W, TH 9am -2pm

alexander@wesleynaperville.org

**Rev. Duane Mevis, Pastor Emeritus**

**Nicole Melody, Director of Music**

**Svetlana Mars, Accompanist**

**Chelsea Guanzon, Ministry Candidate**

5:00 PM **Center Street Table Dinner Dialogues**  
(Across the Street @ Community UMC).

A community meal. All are invited. All can serve.

Cover Image: Pittman, Lauren Wright. Anointed, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57085> [retrieved February 9, 2025]. Original source: Lauren Wright Pittman, <http://www.lewpstudio.com/>. *A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church, Year C* by Wilda C. Gafney, *The United Methodist Hymnal, The United Methodist Book of Worship*, UM Discipleship Ministries: "21st Century Worship Resources for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, Year C." Scripture translations: NRSV and NRSVUE. Bible clipart: <https://www.freeiconspng.com/img/35043>">Use These Bible Vector Clipart

CVLI #505421815 CCLI #11444135

### Keeping In Touch

Our weekly e-news helps us stay connected.

We can also send it in the regular post per



**God, as known to us  
in Christ Jesus  
welcomes ALL people.  
So do we.**

**wesleynaperville.org**