



"FORGIVE US AS WE FORGIVE"

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026



Arr. M. Hayes



WELCOME



PRELUDE

I Stand in Awe



+CALL TO WORSHIP

Followers of Christ, we live in a world where we hurt one another, where sin divides us one from another and makes us enemies instead of neighbors.

Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

The divisions in our world seem like too much to overcome, and we wonder if this forgiveness thing really works anymore. Maybe it worked for Jesus, but not for us.

Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

We find ourselves tempted by easy answers and quick solutions, reticent to do the slow and difficult work of reconciliation.

Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

In this place, may we encounter Christ who meets us in the places where we want to give up, where we despair that life-giving change is even possible, with abundant grace to sustain us on the journey.

God, form us today as people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

Amen.



+OPENING HYMN

Come Christians, Join to Sing

UMH 158



INVITATION TO THE PRACTICE OF GIVING

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

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



OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful Deliverer, you part the waters when we feel trapped and forgive debts too great to repay. In the face of fear and brokenness, you lead us with compassion and grace. May the gifts we bring today reflect our deep gratitude for your mercy. Let them support ministries of reconciliation and acts of healing, justice, and welcome. Teach us to lead not with judgment, but with generosity, recognizing that what we have, we hold by your mercy. Bless these offerings and bless us as stewards of your kin-dom, always seeking to build a world where grace is not rare but abundant. Amen.



+GOSPEL READING

Stand in body. Stand in spirit. However you are led and able

Matthew 18:21-35

The Gospel of our Lord! **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**



TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Alexander Dungan



JOYS AND CONCERNS



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

What if God paid us back in full for all the wrong we have done?

O Lord we seek your mercy...

yet we ourselves look for payback when we are wronged.

**We think it "only fair" and "what is right" when we retaliate
and use harsh words
and withdraw from relationship.**

**The forgiveness you offer on our account
is larger than we can comprehend,
still we withhold forgiveness
and carry the grudge over petty items.**

**We are eager to do your judging.
And the worst: we conspire our inner thoughts
to secure your forgiveness
while avoiding honest repentance.**

**Forgive us Lord for the sins we know in our hearts.
Save us Lord from the sins we hide.**

(pause for reflection and self-examination)

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and has not dealt with us according to our sins.
Instead, God has chosen the sacrifice of God's own son on our account.
It is because Jesus Christ pays the last full measure
that our sins are forgiven.
This gift of forgiveness makes us able,
with the power of Holy Spirit,
to choose to forgive, renew
and live again in right relationship with each other and with our God.
In the name of Father, and the Son,
and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



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.**



PREPARATION HYMN

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

TFWS 2171



SERMON

FORGIVE US AS WE FORGIVE

Pastor Eunbae Doh



+CLOSING HYMN

Freely, Freely

UMH 389



+SENDING FORTH

Followers of Christ, go now in the blessing and assurance that you are a forgiven people empowered by
grace to forgive and heal the divisions that keep us from truly loving God, self, neighbor, and all creation
with the fullness of our beings. **Amen.**



POSTLUDE

The Solid Rock

Arr. L. Shackley

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**The flowers on the altar are in celebration of the 68th wedding anniversary of Jerry and Marjorie
McIntosh. Congratulations to both of you!**

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

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

10:00 AM (Hybrid):

2nd - 4th Sundays:

After Worship In-Person

6:45 PM

CHILDREN and YOUTH

Time for Young Disciples in worship, immediately followed by Sunday School (2nd–4th Sundays). Talk to Pastor Alexander 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 our finance chair, Ron Sellberg, at rpsellberg@aol.com for more information.

JOIN THE CHOIR!

Lend your voice at our weekly choir rehearsals at 6:30pm on Wednesdays when we return in September!

CHURCH DIRECTORIES

We are working on updating them. We will let you know when they are available. If you have any changes you would like made, contact the office or Lynn T 630-957-7612.

STYROFOAM RECYCLING

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. Help our earth!

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

IN THE NAME OF JESUS, WE PRAY...

11-20-25) For Fay Wilson as she recovers from surgery.

(1-20-26) For protection for the immigrant community as they experience heartbreaking levels of violence.

(8-23-26) For Chelsea Guanzon as they enter into a new school year and face additional complications with their knee. May they continue to heal.

(9-6-26) For Rev. Duane Mevis as he recovers from medical testing. Prayers and cards are much appreciated.

*If you have a prayer concern, email us at prayers@wesleynaperville.org,
contact the church office,
Pastor Doh, or Pastor Alexander.*

WORSHIP RESOURCES USED TODAY Piero, della Francesca, 1416?-1492. Madonna of Mercy, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/55354> [retrieved September 9, 2026]. Original source: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Piero_della_Francesca_-_Polyptych_of_the_Misericordia_-_Madonna_of_Mercy_-_WGA17449.jpg. United Methodist Discipleship Ministries, *The United Methodist Book of Worship. The United Methodist Hymnal*. New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. " Images by Alexander Grey and Unchalee Sirrugsar via Pexels.



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, Menstrual Hygiene Products, Shampoo & Conditioner (Travel Size Preferred), Soap, Socks, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Wash Cloths.

LOAVES & FISHES COMMUNITY SERVICES

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

KEEPING IN TOUCH

To subscribe to our weekly e-news scan the QR code, or contact Pastor Alexander. If you would like KIT mailed to your door every two to three weeks, please let Alexander know.



FIFTH SUNDAY WORSHIP THROUGH MISSION

On 5th Sundays we Worship Through Mission by doing some hands-on act of service that helps children and youth. We also have a special collection for United Voices for Children. If you have an idea for a Worship Through Mission opportunity, please reach out to Alexander or Pastor Doh. Next: Aug. 30.

DISABILITY EDUCATION SUMMIT

Saturday, September 26th from 9am-4pm

Location: Bethany of Fox Valley UMC, 2200 Ridge Ave, Aurora, IL, 60504

Cost: \$10 for participants, Free for volunteers!

Hosted by Pastor Alexander and the Northern Illinois Conference Committee on Accessibility. Reach out to Pastor Alexander to register or sign up as a volunteer!

CHURCH OFFICE

(630) 355-1834 ext. 101
info@wesleynaperville.org

Building Events ext. 110
events@wesleynaperville.org
Available by appointment

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Rev. Eunbae Doh, ext. 102
Lead Pastor
In Office T,W
pastor@wesleynaperville.org

Rev. Alexander Dungan, ext. 104
Pastor of Family & Justice
In Office W, TH 9am -2pm
alexander@wesleynaperville.org

Svetlana Mars, *Accompanist*
Chelsea Guanzon, *Ministry Candidate*

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

wesleynaperville.org

21 E. Franklin Ave
Naperville, IL. 60540

About Wesley UMC

Founded in 1832

Mission Statement

To proclaim God's grace through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to nurture spiritual growth throughout life, and to serve God by caring for all people.

Welcome Statement

God, as known to us in Jesus Christ, welcomes all. So do we. All people of any race, ethnic identity, gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, economic status, or life situation are welcome here. Wesley is also proud to be a member of the Reconciling Ministries Network, which is "Mobilizing United Methodists of all sexual orientations and gender identities to transform our Church and world into the full expression of Christ's inclusive love." www.rmnetwork.org

What We Believe In

Proclaiming God's grace through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
Nurturing spiritual growth throughout life.
Serving God by caring for all people.

We try to live into the challenge of John Wesley, who said:

"Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can.
At all the times you can. To all the people you can. For as long as ever you can."

Wesley has entered into a discernment process highlighted in Paragraph 213 of *The Book of Discipline*. This process allows us to partner with members of the community and the conference to evaluate Wesley's needs and passions to better serve the community. We invite everyone to ask questions and lend their voice to the ongoing discussion as we seek to further peace and justice in our world. Feel free to reach out to Pastor Doh or Alexander with any questions!

Disability Education Summit

Hosted by the Northern Illinois Conference Committee on Accessibility

Saturday, September 26th

9am-4pm

Bethany of Fox Valley United Methodist Church

2200 Ridge Ave, Aurora, IL 60504