# LAITY SUNDAY

**Proper 24**
**October 18, 2026**

WESLEY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS

## WELCOME

## 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.

## PRELUDE

*Old Rugged Cross* — Arr. C. Berry

## +CALL TO WORSHIP

We are chosen children of God, bound together by the Holy Spirit.
**Grounded in love, we belong to God, and through God, we belong to one another.**

The Spirit empowers us to live as imitators of Christ in love of God, neighbor, self, and all creation.
**Grounded in love, we belong to God, and through God, we learn to love one another.**

The Spirit inspires us to receive God's Word with joy in a world that rejects the good news.
**Grounded in love, we belong to God, and through God, we live in joy with one another.**

Come, let us worship in the assurance of God's love that chooses us, empowers us, and inspires us to live as the family of Christ.
**We come to worship God in the assurance that we belong to God, and through God, we belong to one another. Amen**

## +OPENING HYMN

*Make Me a Servant* — TFWS 2176

## +GOSPEL READING

*Stand in body. Stand in spirit. However you are led and able* — Matthew 22:15-22
The Gospel of our Lord! **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**

## TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Alexander Dungan

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of Grace, we know that you have chosen us, but we often forget that you have also chosen others. You call us to be imitators of Christ, yet many times we are imitators of the world. You challenge us to turn from our idols, but we are tempted to turn back to them again and again. Rescue us, Lord, from ourselves. Show us your way. Guide our every action, that we may live as you call us to live.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

**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** *Take My Life, and Let It Be* UMH 399

**SERMON** Ray Trygstad

**+CLOSING HYMN** *Here I Am, Lord* UMH 593

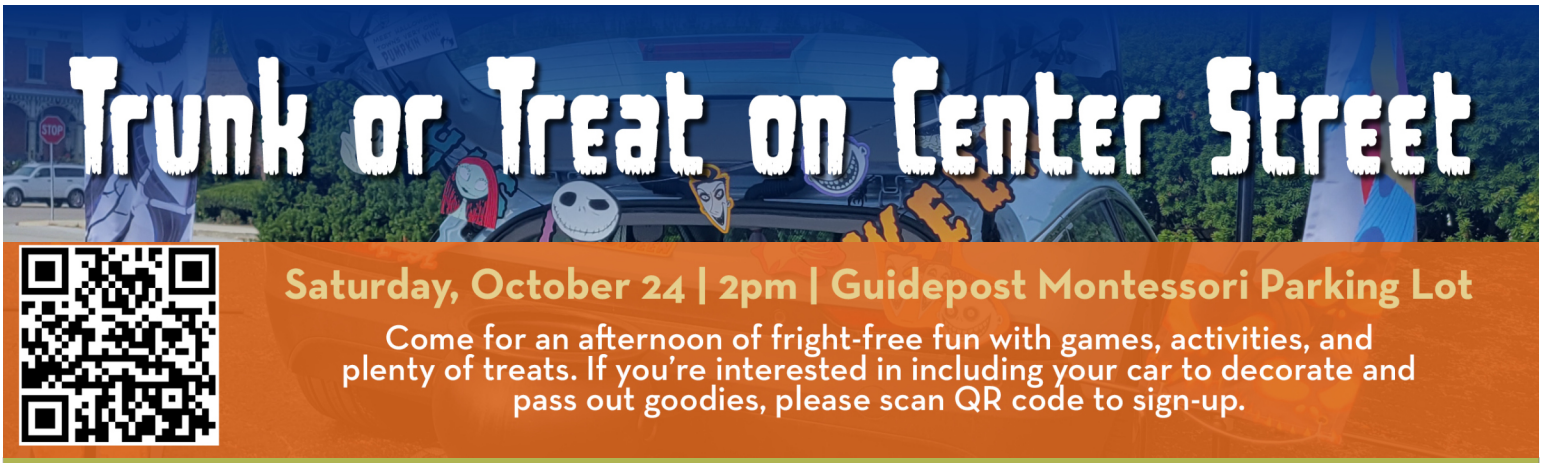
**+BENEDICTION**

May God bless you with the assurance that you are chosen children of God, empowered and equipped by the Spirit to live as the Family of God in a world in desperate need of the good news. **Amen.**

**POSTLUDE** *O Worship the King* Arr. F. Lopez

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**The flowers on the altar are donated by Wesley in celebration of all our amazing lay leaders, lay servants, and lay members of the church who form our community.**




# Preparing the Disciples

**A November Bible study through Mark 8-10 as Christ guides us into the next chapter of our faith journey.**

# Advent on Stage

Join us for a musical sermon series as we begin a new church year with song!

**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)

### 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.

### 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 wesleynaperville@gmail.com

### 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 Pastor Alexander know.

### 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 wesleynaperville@gmail.com, contact the church office, or Pastor Alexander.*

**WORSHIP RESOURCES USED TODAY** Keith Haring. National Coming Out Day, from The Keith Haring Foundation. [retrieved October 8, 2026]. https://www.haring.com/!/art-work/national-coming-out-day:, *The United Methodist Book of Worship. The United Methodist Hymnal.* New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. " Images by Alexander Grey and Unchalee Srirugsar via Pexels. Discipleship Ministries Worship Planner, https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning.

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

**wesleynaperville.org**

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Available by appointment

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


***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

**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 Alexander with any questions!**

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## NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS