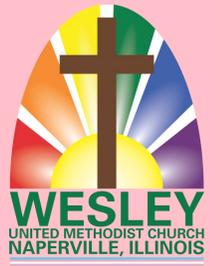




# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“REJOICE”  
DECEMBER 14, 2025



WELCOME



THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**



PRELUDE

*While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*

Arr. J. Sanborn



+CALL TO WORSHIP

Our souls proclaim your greatness, O God.

**And our spirits rejoice in you.**

We will praise you as long as we live.

**We will sing praises to you our whole lives long.**

We will not trust in the powerful of this world,

**But will trust in you—Creator of heaven and earth,**

the One who gives food to the hungry,

**the One who enacts justice for the oppressed.**

Our souls proclaim your greatness, O God

**As we worship you in this place.**



OPENING PRAYER

**Holy God of Joy, we rejoice in the reality of who you are. We live within the joy of your love for us. Our contentment comes and goes. Our happiness ebbs and flows. Our feelings depend upon our circumstances, our physical health, and our brain chemistry. But our joy is deeply rooted in our identity as your beloved children, and we give you thanks. Amen.**



ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Music: *Light of Hope* by Joel Raney

*Please share in the words in bold, and in singing following the lighting of the candle.  
First, the choir sings, then the reading. After the candle is lit, we all join our voices in song.*

*Responsive Litany*

In a world where we often seek personal happiness, Advent beckons us to a deeper expression of our faith in Christ.

**For the Lord, our God, is with us, both now and forevermore.**

Advent beckons us to remember God’s unconditional love, even when we stumble.

**For the Lord, our God, is with us, both now and forevermore.**

Advent beckons us to remember God’s invitation to the human heart to be still in the face of strife.

**For the Lord, our God, is with us, both now and forevermore.**

Advent beckons us to remember we always have hope, even when it seems as if our world is caving in around us.

**For the Lord, our God, is with us, both now and forevermore.**

This morning, we light three candles. The first candle reminds us of the hope that God’s light never ceases to shine. The second candle reminds us that, in a world of discord, we hear again the calming words of our Savior, “Peace, be still.” The third candle reminds us that our joy abides in God, who gently whispers to each human heart, “Come, follow me, for I have come that you might have life and have it to the fullest measure!”

*The third candle of the Advent wreath is lit.*

Light of life, Mak-er of day, gath-er our  
sha-dows and cast them a-way. Bea-con of  
truth, gleam-ing and bright, shine in our  
hearts, shat-ter our night.



**+OPENING HYMN**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

UMH 211



**INVITATION TO THE PRACTICE OF GIVING**

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.



**OFFERING PRAYER**

**Gracious God of deep joy, even when storms rage, and doubts rise, you call us to see with kingdom eyes—to look for healing, hope, and signs of your grace breaking in. In this Advent season of expectation and weariness, we bring these gifts as expressions of joy, rooted not in ease but in trust. May our giving bear witness to your good news: that the blind still see, the lame still walk, and the poor still receive care. Use these offerings and us as signs of your coming reign, lights in the storm, and carriers of joy. In the name of Jesus, our hope and our Redeemer. Amen.**



**+GOSPEL READING**

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

Luke 1:46-55



**TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

Rev. Alexander Dungan



**JOYS AND CONCERNS**



**ADVENT PRAYERS FOR JUSTICE**

Lord our God,  
you have revealed yourself as One  
who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;  
In a world that looks away from injustice,  
You cast your eyes on the destitute, the poor, and the wronged;  
You have called us to follow you,  
to preach good news to the poor,  
to proclaim release for the captives  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set at liberty those who are oppressed  
and to proclaim the time of your blessing.

**Be present with your church, Lord,  
as we respond to your call.  
Open our eyes to the downtrodden.  
Fill us with compassion for the plight of the alien,  
the refugee, and the immigrant.  
Lead us into ministries that help orphans and widows.  
Give us courage to block the paths of the ungodly  
who exploit the poor.**

Set us free from pious exercises  
that prevent us from the true worship you choose:  
Sharing bread with the hungry,  
Sharing homes with the homeless,  
Sharing clothes with the naked,  
Sharing hearts with our own kin.

**So may your justice roll down like waters,  
your righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.  
Lead our footsteps to stand with the poor,  
that we might stand with you.**

Have mercy, O God:  
Scatter the proud,  
Put down the mighty,  
Lift up the lowly,  
Fill up the hungry,  
And send the rich away empty-handed.



#### 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.**



#### ANTHEM

*A La Nanita Nana (with Coventry Carol)*

Arr. Greg Gilpin



#### SERMON AND INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

REJOICE

Rev. Eunbae Doh



#### +CLOSING HYMN

*People, Look East*

UMH 202



#### +SENDING FORTH

**Advent people, go now in the blessing of God's joy, confident that the day we await is close at hand and ready to cooperate with God in building the kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**



#### POSTLUDE

*Ding Dong! Merrily On High!*

Arr. B. Erdstrom

∞

**The flowers on the altar are presented in celebration of Linda Osanka's birthday!**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21ST- 10 AM  
SERVICE OF CAROLS AND HYMNS  
AND CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH- 3 PM  
CHRISTMAS EVE AND CANDLE LIGHTING SERVICE**

I would love to invite any families to be part of our Christmas pageant **NEXT SUNDAY** in church this year! Any child can join and all ages are welcome! We have speaking roles, nonspeaking roles, and behind-the-scenes puppetry and prop roles for any comfort level. The pageant will be on Sunday, December 21st during our 10am worship. If you're interested in participating, please let Pastor Alexander know as well as what your child/children's comfort level is for participating. We hope to see you there! You can reach out to Pastor Alexander at [alexander@wesleynaperville.org](mailto:alexander@wesleynaperville.org). Thank you!



**UWF Candy and Nut Sale!**

The United Women in Faith will be selling candy and nuts after church on Sundays in December. The Dark Chocolate Pecans, the Mammoth Pecans, and the Pecan Clusters are each \$10. Look for Ellen Sellberg in the atrium. Thank you for your support!

-Wesley United Women in Faith.

## 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

**Worship in-person or online** wesleynaperville.org (Sanctuary–Level 1)

**Sunday School** immediately following the time for Young Disciples.

**Fellowship in the Atrium** (Coffee and Nibbles–Level A)

**5th SUNDAYS ARE WORSHIP THROUGH MISSION**

**Foxhall AA** (Enter through Franklin Street Entrance–Fellowship Hall)

### 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. Talk to Pastor Alexander for more info.

### WESLEY KIDS DAY OUT

Flexible part-time daycare ministry during the school year Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 9am to 2pm, June & July Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 9am to 1pm for children 6 months to 5 years of age. Contact Christine and Sherice for more information and tours (630) 355-1758 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 Substitute Teachers.

Please visit 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 more information.

### JOIN THE CHOIR!

Lend your voice at our weekly choir rehearsals at 6:30pm on Wednesday! Contact Nicole Melody (Director of Music) [info@wesleynaperville.org](mailto:info@wesleynaperville.org) with questions.

### IN THE NAME OF JESUS, WE PRAY...

(6-14-25) For continued courage to fulfill our baptismal vows to *accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.*

(8-11-25) For Russetta Rauch and her son, Doug, as he transitions to a new medication. Prayers of strength and healing in the midst of change.

(11-19-25) For Chelsea Guanzon as they recover from surgery.

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

### 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](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, 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: Mar. 29, May 31, Aug. 30.

*If you have a prayer concern, email us at [prayers@wesleynaperville.org](mailto:prayers@wesleynaperville.org), contact the church office, Pastor Doh, Pastor Duane, or Pastor Alexander.*

## CHURCH OFFICE

Sundays: 9am–1pm  
M- 8am–3pm  
T, TH: Closed  
W, F: 8:30 am–3:30 pm  
(630) 355-1834 ext. 101  
info@wesleynaperville.org

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

## WESLEY KIDS DAY OUT

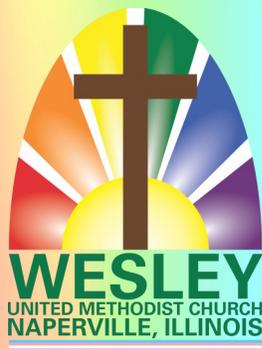
Christine Singer, *Director*  
Sherice Horton, *Assistant Director*  
Summer: T,W,TH 9am–1pm  
(630) 355-1758  
wesleykidsdayout@gmail.com



Rev. Eunbae Doh, ext. 102  
*Lead Pastor*  
M, W, TH  
pastor@wesleynaperville.org

Rev. Alexander Dungan, ext. 104  
*Pastor 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*



**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](http://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."

**As much as we love our time together on Sunday morning, we believe that our highest ministry is out in the world. This is why we have moved from the "traditional" model of church, to being a Center for Peace and Justice in accordance with our United Methodist Social Principles.**



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Wesley Kids Day Out was established in 1973 as a Christian outreach to parents and children of our community. Our mission is to offer children a constructive, fun environment, as well as an opportunity to socialize with

children their own age while developing skills to aid them in preschool and kindergarten.

Summer: June & July T,W, TH 9am–1pm  
Fall, Winter, Spring: Late August–May M, W, F 9am–1pm

**WORSHIP RESOURCES USED TODAY** "John the Baptist", from the Altar of St. Catherine (1465), from Vanderbilt Divinity Library, <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/diglib-fulldisplay.pl?SID=20251203912452922&code=ACT&RC=56284&Row=8>, [retrieved December 3, 2025]. 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 Srirugsar via Pexels.