

Welcome to
WILSON MEMORIAL UNION CHURCH
A Member Congregation, International Council of Community Churches



October 8, 2023

Access Sunday
10:00 a.m.

7 Valley Road
Watchung, NJ
Phone: (908) 755-5020
Website: www.wilsonmemorialchurch.org
Email: admin@wilsonmemorialchurch.org

OCT. 8, 2023

Access Sunday

10:00 AM

***Please rise as you are able, in body or in spirit**

Bold print indicates a unison reading.

PRELUDE

Various Melodies

Ricky Francese

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

We light this candle to be reminded that God is accessible to everyone.

HYMN#657

He Has Made Me Glad

I will enter his gates with thanksgiving in my heart; I will enter his courts with praise.

I will say, "This is the day that the Lord has made!"

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

He has made me glad; he has made me glad;

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

He has made me glad; he has made me glad;

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

WELCOME

Rev. Michael Droege

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist, Anthony DiAndrea

Accessible, inclusive, multi-sensory God, in celebration of You and Your Creation today, we give thanks for all.

We give thanks for people of all experiences, disabilities, and abilities.

God, you invite us to learn more, to connect more, to offer helpful accommodations;
so people of all abilities and disabilities, minds and bodies, can thrive.

God, all minds, and bodies echo Your reflection.

God, You are accessible to all.

Let us open our awareness to You on this Access Sunday,

Together may Your Creation be joyful and reflective.

There is work to celebrate

And there is work to continue in making Your world fully accessible.

OPENING PRAYER

God of all of our senses and all abilities and disabilities, we come before you, preparing our bodies, hearts, and minds for worship. Whether having a singular or multiple focus; whether comfortable, uncomfortable, or somewhere in between; feeling included, discluded, or somewhere in between: we are celebrating the ways that our minds and bodies experience the world, and reflect and echo your love, truth, and grace. God, we thank you for diversity in abilities, which we celebrate today. Amen.

HYMN#85

I Love You Lord

I love you Lord, and I lift my voice to worship you, O my soul, rejoice! Take joy,
my King, in what you hear; may it be a sweet sound in your ear.

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

(All who wish are invited to participate verbally in our prayer of reconciliation.)

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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 debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, you heavenly host,
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**GATHERING OF OUR CHILDREN****SCRIPTURE**

Mark 2:1-5

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door, and he was speaking the word to them. Then some people came, bringing to him a man who was paralyzed, carried by four of them. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the man who was paralyzed lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the man who was paralyzed, “Child, your sins are forgiven.”

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

SENDING OUR CHILDREN

SERMON My Body Is Not What's Broken Rev. Michael Droege

ANTHEM *I Can't Give Up Now* muffin, *Psalmist*

BLESSING OUR CHILDREN

BENEDICTION Rev. Michael Droege

POSTLUDE	<i>Various Melodies</i>	Ricky Francese
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How to Support the Work of Wilson Memorial Church

In Service: You are invited to place your offerings in the plate at the back of the Sanctuary.

By Mail: Gifts can be sent to the office at:
7 Valley Road
Watchung, NJ 07069

Online: Use our secure giving portal by clicking the “Giving” link on our website; www.wilsonmemorialchurch.org

Text-to-Give: Text WILSONCHURCH to (908) 460-8818 and follow the setup prompts for your first time. Once set up, you can simply text the gift amount to the above number.

Follow us on social media @mywilsonchurch

Rev. Michael Droege, Pastor
Timothy Walton, Director of Music & Worship Arts
Matthew May, Lay Minister
Ricky Francese, Accompanist
Pam Cox, Bell Choir Director
Jacob Feldman, A/V Specialist
Tina Kelly, Administrator
Harold Kreis, Sexton
The Rev. Barbara Peters, Pastor Emerita

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Eyes Like Mine: Wilson warmly welcomes, muffin who will join our music collective today. She was brought to us by Krystle Allen who founded ‘Eyes Like Mine’ whose mission is to raise awareness about the abilities and potential of individuals with vision loss through community service initiatives, comprehensive empowerment workshops, and innovative social change awareness events. Wilson has been invited on October 7th to attend their ‘Miss Blind Diva Empowerment Pageant’ at the Newark Museum of Art.

Today: Blessing of the Animals

Oct. 28th Enchanted Forest on our Kindness Trail. 11am-1pm. Volunteers still needed! Reach out to kendalmactaggart@gmail.com

Coffee with Michael: Sit with Rev. Michael in a group setting and express interests, ideas, and ask your theological questions. The next gathering will be Oct. 29th at 11am in Fisher Hall.

Care Team: Our Wilson Care team is starting its engines again and there are openings for compassionate people who have a heart for making phone calls, writing notes, or paying visits to people who need some attention and care. Please reach out to the office to apply to the team! Admin@wilsonmemorialchurch.org.

For Prayer: Lisa Renaud • Ruth Chalker • Students of Morgan State University

Music Ministry: The music collective will resume their Tuesday night sessions from 6:30pm-8pm. All are welcomed.

Starfish: Please send in your nonperishable items for starfish. Check the expiration dates and purchase the smaller sizes for single use.
Special request for tuna, jelly, pasta, cereal. All in non-family size.

Looking ahead:

Nov. 12th Covenant Committee Blood Drive

Nov. 26th Hanging of the greens

Dec. 8th Advent Kick off dinner

Keep an eye out for the “Trees of Light” information!