

5TH SUNDAY OF EXTENDED ADVENT

+Indicates that all are invited to stand in body or spirit.
Congregation is invited to respond as indicated by **Bold Print**

PRELUDE *Blessed Be the God of Israel* UMH # 209

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *Pastor Doug*

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER (UNISON) *Pastor Doug*
God, we do not know what to do, but You do. Open our hearts, eyes, and minds to You. Amen.

CENTERING TIME *Prepare the Way of the Lord* UMH # 207

+LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE *Jackie Z.*

Jackie: Blessed be the Lord God, who reigns over all the nations.

All: God remembers their people, and God is forever faithful.

Jackie: We are all partners in God's grace, living into God's kingdom.

All: God fill us with their love, helps us to see and to understand.

Jackie: We light this new candle, confident God's work will be completed.

All: We wait for and anticipate the fullness of God's everlasting peace.

+OPENING HYMN *Blessed Be the God of Israel* UMH # 209

+OPENING PRAYER (UNISON): *Jackie Z.*

Eternal God, from the beginning, you have been working for good. You called the heavens and earth into being, filling them with wondrous things. In gratitude, they offer you their unending praise. By your grace, you give us freedom and ability to join their chorus. You put your Spirit within us, so that we might share relationship with you. And you invite us, day by day, to live into your reality. Yet, we have become trapped in worldly ways of being. Temptations of power, privilege, and prestige distract us from our purpose. And we confess we do not always bear fruit worthy of your name. Forgive us, O God! Release us from the fears and failures of our past. Inspire in us hope for and an anticipation of your vision, for us and for all Creation. Help us to live faithfully before you, that by our words and deeds, we might produce a harvest of your righteousness. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

+SILENT PRAYER

+SHARING THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *Pastor Doug*

SCRIPTURE READING *Philippians 1:3-11* *Jackie Z.*

³ I thank my God every time I mention you in my prayers. ⁴ I'm thankful for all of you every time I pray, and it's always a prayer full of joy. ⁵ I'm glad because of the way you have been my partners in the ministry of the gospel from the time you first believed it until now. ⁶ I'm sure about this: the one who started a good work in you will stay with you to complete the job by the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷ I have good reason to think this way about all of you because I keep you in my heart. You are all my partners in God's grace, both during my time in prison and in the defense and support of the gospel. ⁸ God is my witness that I feel affection for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ This is my prayer: that your love might become even more and more rich with knowledge and all kinds of insight. ¹⁰ I pray this so that you will be able to decide what really matters and so you will be sincere and blameless on the day of Christ. ¹¹ I pray that you will then be filled with the fruit of righteousness, which comes from Jesus Christ, in order to give glory and praise to God.

MESSAGE *"Staying Focused"* *Pastor Doug*
Producing a harvest of God's righteousness

HYMN *All Earth is Waiting* UMH # 210

COMMUNITY PRAYER *Jackie Z.*

OFFERTORY *In the Singing* *TFWS # 2255*

+DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH # 95

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON): *Jackie Z.*

Gracious God, moment by moment, you pour out your blessing upon us, making us part of the good you are doing and sowing in us seeds and bear the fruits of peace and justice, mercy and love. From the great harvest, we return to you humble portions of what we have received. Multiply these to your service, that in their sharing we may anticipate the fulfillment of your kingdom. Amen.

Wesley United Methodist Church

Worship Sundays 9 AM

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Rev. Douglas Clement | wumcpastor@wesleyhopeconnection.org | 262-902-5914

DECEMBER 8, 2024

If you do not feel comfortable speaking your joy or concern aloud, please complete a prayer card and pass it toward the center aisle. Pastor will collect the cards as we sing the following hymn:

PRAYER HYMN *Come Now, Prince of Peace (V.1) - 3X* TFWS # 2232

JOY AND CONCERNS

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

+CLOSING HYMN *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve* TFWS # 2241

+BENEDICTION *Pastor Doug*

POSTLUDE *Of the Father's Love Begotten* UMH # 184

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

REACHING UP TO WORSHIP GOD | REACHING OUT TO SERVE OTHERS | REACHING IN TO GROW TOGETHER



ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECEMBER NOISY Can THE SALVATION ARMY

The Salvation Army exists, “to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.”

Tirelessly working every day within our community and around the United States, the Salvation Army works to alleviate many of the needs people have during times of struggle. Also well known for their “red kettles” and “bell ringing” during the Christmas season—the Salvation Army seeks to remember the “forgotten” during the Christmas season, blessing all they can with gifts of love and necessity during the holidays.

Since their beginning in 1865, the Salvation Army has helped tens of millions of people in need. They also provide programs of assistance to the disabled, elderly, ill, and under-privileged children. All monies collected and received by the Salvation Army are carefully used to meet needs with discretion and wisdom.



**WESLEY’S CHARGE CONFERENCE IS
THIS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH @ 9 AM.**

BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED @ 8:30 AM.

PLEASE JOIN DS PARK HUNTER, PASTOR DOUG AND THE WESLEY LEADERSHIP TEAM AS THEY REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE CHURCH. ALL MEMBERS OF WESLEY AND REGULAR ATTENDEES ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

UPCOMING DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



7: LARRY S.

9: PATRICK S.

Thank you to our Wesley volunteers staffing the SOS Food Pantry this past week! Helping out were Allean F., Jackie Z., and Mark K. and his wife. The Food Pantry is busier than ever, with many Marshfield families needing assistance.

**Wesley’s next week to staff SOS is
February 10-14, 2025.**

This week’s YouTube link for Sunday—

<https://www.youtube.com/live/NM7oHiBrMDg>

Children's CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 15 | 2024
during the worship service



LET’S PRAY THIS WEEK FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS!

If you have a joy or concern let us know! wumcoffice@wesleyhopeconnection.org

JOYS: those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week (see announcement page). Share with us your joys so we may celebrate together and glorify our Lord for your blessings!

- For **Auburndale youth basketball** as they begin their season.
- For **Jett** on earning his driver’s license.

CONCERNS:

- For **Gail** (*mother-in-law of Rachel S.*) as she deals with health issues.

HOMEBOUND: Ruth S. Dorothy D. Shirley S. Ardis A.

OTHERS:

- For those in the car accident Deb and Joel came across over Thanksgiving.
- For **those traveling** this holiday season and **those hunting** in the woods.
- For those for whom the holidays are a reminder of **loneliness** and **grief**.
- For those being made into targets of persecution, hate, and oppression.
- For individuals and communities subject to terror and violence.