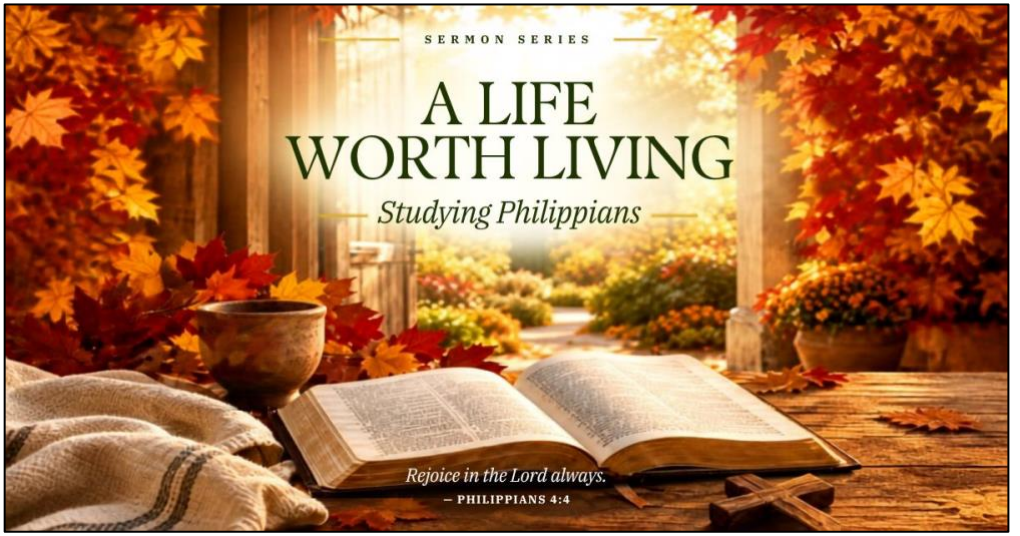
Welcome to
WILSON MEMORIAL UNION CHURCH

Wilson Memorial is a vibrant, interdenominational, community-focused church.
We aspire to be the Light on the Hill, reflecting God's love and sharing the message of Christ.



October 11, 2026

7 Valley Rd, Watchung NJ
(908) 755-5020
www.wilsonmemorialchurch.org
Admin@wilsonmemorialchurch.org

**Wilson Memorial Church is a 21st century church. We engage both in-person and online worship environments. Photos and video snippets may be used in social media posts. If you are not comfortable with you or your child's likeness being shared, please notify an usher, our pastor or an Executive Board member.*

October 11, 2026 Please rise as you are able in body or in spirit **10:00am**

Bold print indicates unison read

PRELUDE *Various Melodies* Ricky Francese

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Cota Possien- Kania

We light this candle for Jesus Christ, who never asks us to carry our worries by ourselves. He gave us himself, and he gave us each other. May this light remind us that no one in this room carries anything alone.

HYMN #430 *Be Not Afraid*

V1: You shall cross the barren desert, But you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety Though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands And all will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

Refrain: Be not afraid
I go before you always
Come follow me
And I will give you rest

V3: Blessed are your poor, For the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn, For one day you will laugh.
And if wicked tongues insult and hate you All because of me,
Blessed, blessed are you!

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS Angela Della Ventura

CALL TO WORSHIP Cota Possien- Kania

Some of us walked in this morning carrying something heavy.

The Lord is near.

Some of us are worried about people we love, and about things we cannot fix.

The Lord is near.

We were never meant to carry any of it alone.

So we bring it here, together.

Come, let us set it down and worship.

Thanks be to God! Let us worship together.

OPENING PRAYER

God of peace, we bring you what we have been carrying all week: the worries we talk about and the ones we keep to ourselves. Meet us here. Remind us that you are near, and that the people sitting around us are part of how you hold us up. Quiet our minds long enough to hear you. Amen.

HYMN #384 *Rock of Ages*

V1: Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, save from wrath and make me pure.

V3: Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;
Naked come to thee for dress, helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me Savior, or I die.

V4: While I drew this fleeting breath, when my eyes shall close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgement throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me; let me hide myself in thee.

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION Pastor Ryan

(All who wish are invited to take part verbally in our prayer of reconciliation.)
God of peace, too often we carry what we were never meant to carry alone. We say we are fine when we are not. And when someone near us is struggling, we don't reach out because we do not know what to say. Forgive us. Teach us to ask for help, and help us to become to be the supportive presence someone else is praying for. Amen. (A time of silent reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Pastor Ryan

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

ANTHEM *River by Myles Smith*

Out in the deep end, you're treadin' water
Waves crashin' on you, mm-mm, mm-mm
Feels like you're sinkin', like you're goin' under
So you peddle harder

Oh, you don't have to be
So strong when you're with me
On your darkest nights
You'll never be alone, I'll be by your side
Let it out, let it go, it's okay to cry
You can let the river flow
You can let the river flow

Don't keep it a secret when deep down you're hurtin'
Just open the curtains, mm-mm, mm-mm
No, it's not a weakness to share all your burdens
The weight of the world can be heavy

But you don't have to be
So strong when you're with me
On your darkest nights
You'll never be alone, I'll be by your side
Let it out, let it go, it's okay to cry
You could let the river flow
You could let the river flow

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

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 4:1-9 Liturgist, Cota Possien-Kania

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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.

SERMON We Carry It Together Bailie Gregory

INVITATION TO OUR TIME OF OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavn'ly host,
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

ANTHEM *Instrument of Peace – The Porter's Gate*

Lord make me an instrument of peace, an instrument of peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
Where there is darkness, let me sow light.
Where there is giving, we shall receive, and in the dying, we're life.

Lord make me an instrument of peace, an instrument of peace.

Where there is sorrow, let me sow hope. Where there is doubt, let me sow faith.
Where there is injury Your pardon give,
Your consolation to those in pain.

Lord make me an instrument of peace, an instrument of peace. Amen.

BENEDICTION Bailie Gregory

POSTLUDE Ricky Francese

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wilson Welcomes Bailie Gregory to Worship

TODAY: Blessing of Animals at 11:30.

Shelter Drive for Hope 4 Paws Humane Society and Raffle

*RESCHEDULED to **Oct. 18** Kindness Trail Clean up 11:30-2pm

Happy Birthday to Dolores Kresge!! Join us for cake at coffee hour today.

Oct 17: The Frippery Thrift Store will be open from 9:30am- 12:30pm

Oct. 19: Executive Board Meeting 6:30pm in Fisher Hall

Oct. 25: Blood Drive at the Watchung Exempt Hall 8am-2pm

Oct. 31: Enchanted Forest • 11am-1pm on the Kindness Trail

*Be a Host at the Enchanted Forest. WE NEED YOU!!

Set up, dress up, hand out treats and provide activities. See Bella to sign up.

Candy donations are also being accepted in the narthex.

The Shawl Ministry needs your shawl or blanket before Nov. 1st.
Please drop off at St Mary's or Wilson Church and we will deliver them to the residents of McAuley Hall in Watchung this Christmas season.

STAR FISH NEEDS:
Current needs include soup, toothpaste, toilet paper, paper towels, shopping bags.

Join us as we welcome back our Courageous Conversations. Our topic for the next 2 meetings will be, "Grace at the Table."
Tuesday, October 20 at 6:00 PM
Tuesday, November 17 at 6:00 PM

**Wilson Memorial Church is a 21st century church. We engage both in-person and online worship environments. Photos and video snippets may be used in social media posts. If you are not comfortable with you or your child's likeness being shared, please notify an usher, our pastor or an Executive Board member.*

.

How to Support the Work of Wilson Memorial Church

IN SERVICE: Place your offerings in the plate at the back of the Sanctuary.

BY MAIL: 7 Valley Road Watchung, NJ 07069

ONLINE: 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.

VENMO: We now offer a new Venmo option. Scan the QR code provided.



How to reach Pastor Rev. Ryan Irmer:
call the office for assistance at (908)755-5020.
In any kind of crisis, you can always email or call
Pastor Ryan at rirmer@wilsonmemorialchurch.org or (908)755-5589.

Rev. Ryan Irmer, Pastor
Angie Francese O'Neill, Director of Music
Ricky Francese, Accompanist
Jacob Feldman, A/V Specialist
Tina Kelly, Administrator
Bella Desiano, Children's Church
Tyler Lostan & Shirley Kreis, The Gathering Youth Group
Harold Kreis, Sexton
The Rev. Barbara Peters, Pastor Emerita
Lisa Renaud, Frippery (908)625-5042