



Palm Sunday March 24, 2024

PRELUDE

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Arr. Joe Cox (b. 1954), set for two cellos by Richard An

Josh Roebuck, piano Ben Solomonow and Jeffrey Ho, cellists

WORDS OF WELCOME

Molly Vetter Senior Pastor

Sing songs of loudest praise!

Hosanna!

Sing songs that are unashamed.

Hosanna!

Sing songs without being afraid.

Hosanna!

Sing for the God of tomorrow and today.

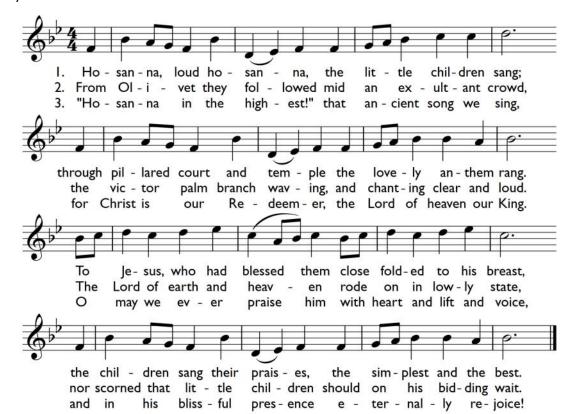
Hosanna!

Let us worship the One worthy to be praised.

PALM PROCESSIONAL Please stand as you are able.

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

United Methodist Hymnal No.278



MORNING PRAYER

Everest Harvey

Dir., Youth & Social Justice Ministries

God of grace,

your Word is like a song.

It is the melody that we long to sing,

the refrain that we pray will get stuck in our heads.

So as we return to scripture once more,

we pray that you would allow us to sink into this song.

Allow us to hear the truth in between the words.

Allow the cries of the crowd's "hosannas" to feel like our own.

With open hearts and open ears we pray, amen.

~Prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

CHILDREN'S TIME

Please be seated.

Diana Holbert

Pastor of Children & Families

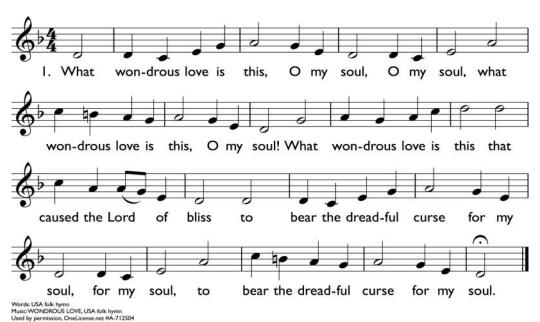


THE COMMUNITY INTERACTS WITH THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN

What Wondrous Love is This?

United Methodist Hymnal No. 292



SCRIPTURE READING

John 12:12-16

Mary Garbesi

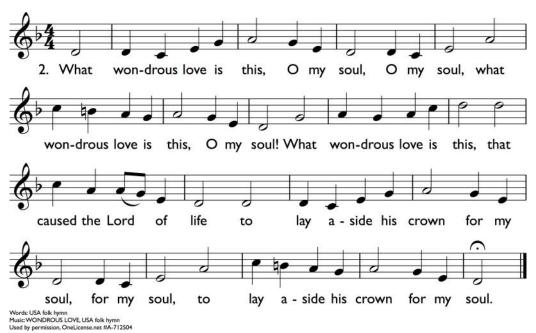
The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord— the King of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: "Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples

did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN What Wondrous Love is This? United Methodist Hymnal No. 292



SCRIPTURE READING

John 13:1-20

Molly Vetter

Now before the festival of the Passover, lesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

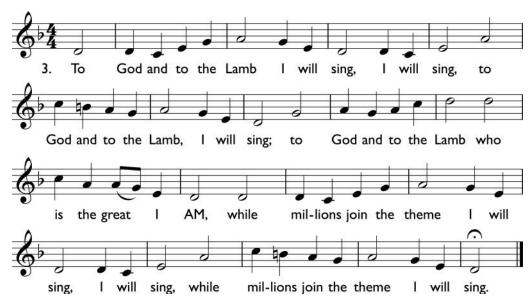
I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But it is to fulfill the scripture, 'The one who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' I tell you this now, before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am he. Very truly, I tell you, whoever receives one whom I send receives me; and whoever receives me receives him who sent me."

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

What Wondrous Love is This? United Methodist Hymnal No. 292



SERMON

Wandering Heart: Songs of Loudest Praise

Molly Vetter



THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD

CALL TO PRAYER

Pilgrim's Hymn

Chancel Choir

Stephen Paulus (1949-2014), text by Michael Dennis Browne (b. 1940)

Even before we call on Your name
To ask You, O God,
When we seek for the words to glorify You,
You hear our prayer;
Unceasing love, O unceasing love,
Surpassing all we know.
Glory to the father,
and to the Son,

And to the Holy Spirit.

Even with darkness sealing us in,

We breathe Your name,

And through all the days that follow so fast,

We trust in You;

Endless Your grace, O endless Your grace,

Beyond all mortal dream.

Both now and forever, And unto ages and ages, Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS AND THE WORLD

Tanya Sun

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.

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS AND LIVES

Molly Vetter

GIVING BACK TO GOD

We are thankful for all that God has blessed us with, and we consider financial giving an act of worship. We invite you to express your worship by becoming a faithful giver to support God's work through Westwood Church. To make a one-time or recurring donation, **use the QR code** or **visit www.Westwood UMC.org/Give**.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Ben Solomonow & Jeffrey Ho

"Adagio" from Concerto for 2 Cellos in g minor, RV 531

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

United Methodist Hymnal No. 280

Please stand as you are able.



WORDS:Theodulph of Orleans, 8-9th cent.; trans. by John Mason Neale, 1851 (Mt. 21:8-9; Mk. 11:8-10; Lk. 19:36-38; Jn. 12:12-13)

MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, 1615; harm. by W.H. Monk, 1861; ST.THEODULPH Used with permission. OneLicense.net #A-712504

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Molly Vetter

Please remain standing as you are able.

THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH GOES OUT TO SERVE

HYMN

My Song is Love Unknown

New Century Hymnal No.222



Words: Samuel Crossman, 1624-83 Music: LOVE UNKNOWN; John Ireland, 1879-1962 One License.net #A-712504

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

Molly Vetter

BENEDICTION

Please remain seated.

POSTLUDE

Pie Jesu Andrew Lloyd Webber (b. 1948) Chancel Choir Carmen Edano, alto soloist Sabrina Langlois, soprano soloist

Ben Solomonow and Jeffrey Ho, cellists
Sanctuary Dancers

Pie Jesu, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem.

Merciful Lord, that takest away the sins of the world: in thy mercy grant them rest.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem sempiternam.

Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: in thy mercy grant them rest everlasting.

"Mary's Witness" choreographed by Ruth Elin Drossel and danced by Isabel Kilroe

PARTICIPATING TODAY

Westwood Pastoral Staff

Rev. Molly Vetter (she/her), Senior Pastor

Everest Harvey (they/them)

Director of Youth & Social Justice Ministries

Rev. Dr. Diana Holbert (she/her)
Pastor of Children & Families

Sanctuary Music Leadership

Dr. Andrew Schultz (he/him), Dir. of Sanctuary Music Josh Roebuck (he/him), Organist

Chancel Choir Section Leaders

Sabrina Langlois (she/her), soprano Carmen Edano (she/her), alto Taylor Jacobs (he/him), tenor Hsin-Yu Hung (he/him), bass

Guest Musicians

Jeffrey Ho & Ben Solomonow, cello

Sacred Dancers

Ruth Elin Drossel and Isabel Kilroe

Liturgists

Mary Garbesi (she/her) Tanya Sun (she/her)

Production Team

Maureen Schultz (she/her), Production Manager Richard An (he/him), Videography & Sound Hsin-Hua Wang (she/her), Videography & Sound Guillermo Gonzalez (he/him), Videography

Altar Flowers

Given by Pat Wood in memory of Mindy Jones

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The following people have requested prayer, or others have requested prayers for them:

Ongoing Prayer Requests

- Yinka Bamgbose
- The Family of Jeanne Reedy (Haltiwanger)
- ♦ Donna Heidt and her sister, Joann
- Diane Symensma and Tonia Symensma-Cohen
- ♦ Alice Jackson, Nancy Price's mother
- ♦ Michael Kelly
- ♦ Cynthia Hinds
- ◆ David Chin & Jacquelyn Yeh
- Noah Hazel
- ♦ Bridgette Lee & son, Luke
- ♦ Charles S.
- Beverly & Brydon Shirk
- ♦ The Veikune Family
- ♦ Coral Moore
- ♦ Nancy Hill
- ♦ Bonnie Crouch
- ♦ Jane Crail
- ♦ Jackie Vincent
- ◆ Earle Hager
- ♦ Yinka Bamgbose
- ♦ Kelly O'Brien
- The Abernethy Family
- ♦ Jim Agee

These requests are held in prayer by the pastoral staff and by the prayer chain. You are encouraged to join in praying for them by name.

TODAY'S GUEST MUSICIANS



Jeffrey Ho, cello (Santa Monica, CA), performs frequently in Southern California venues such as the Broad Stage, Zipper Hall, and Disney Concert Hall. He has recorded several chamber music performances thru LACMA Bing and KUSC radio with Antonio Lysy, Movses Pogossian, and Neal Stulberg. He has appeared with USC Thornton Edge, UCLA Flux, the Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra, and the Phoenix Orchestra. He was a member of the UCLA Spikes Cello Quartet as part of the Gluck Foundation, which brought music to various parts of Southern California. Jeffrey performs as duo with his sister pianist/composer, Caroline Ho. Jeffrey received his B.A. from the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music under the tutelage of Antonio Lysy and earned his M.M with Ralph Kirshbaum at the USC Thornton School of Music. Jeffrey currently studies at the New England Conservatory with Lluis Claret. He plays on a composite late 17th-century Milanese cello and has a keen interest in violinmaking. He recently completed his first baroque cello bow.

A prize winner of the Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition, **Ben Solomonow** has been featured on the American national radio stations WFMT and NPR, and has been invited to perform solo recitals, chamber recitals, and concertos in halls including the Walt Disney Concert Hall, Ravinia's Bennett-Gordon Hall, and the Seoul Arts Center. Recent concerto appearances have included performances with the Pacific Symphony Orchestra at the SOKA Performing Arts Center under Carl St. Clair, and the Colburn Orchestra at the Walt Disney Concert Hall and under Xian Zhang. Having completed his Bachelor and Masters degrees at the Colburn Conservatory of Music under Clive Greensmith, Solomonow continued to pursue a Graduate Certificate under Ralph Kishbaum at the University of Southern California. Other influential teachers have included Hans Jensen and Arnold Steinhardt. As a Stradivari Society Artist, Solomonow performs on an 1898 Vincenzo Postiglione cello on generous loan by the Stradivari Society of Chicago.



Westwood UMC Mission Statement

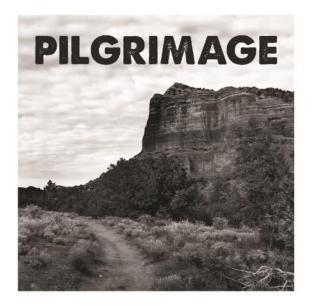
Westwood Church is a Christian community that welcomes all people and focuses on becoming and making disciples committed to justice, kindness and walking humbly with God. We welcome and affirm our ministry with all persons, regardless of age, race, ethnic origin, economic status, ability, gender, marital status or sexual orientation, from first-time visitor to lifetime member.

We seek to understand and carry out God's will, bearing witness to Christ's compassion and embracing the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We foster spiritual growth in all persons - children, youth, and adults; through individual and corporate prayer and study, worship of God, nurturing relationships, and participating in ministries of justice and mercy at home and in the global community. ALL ministries of Westwood UMC are available to ALL people.

A Reconciling Church: We, the faith community of Westwood Church, affirm that a God-filled perspective understands and embraces diversity and radical inclusivity; for that reason we embrace and affirm the full inclusion of everyone regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. We explicitly welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people who have been marginalized and diminished within the larger United Methodist tradition. We commit to embracing the responsibility of pushing for a more open and inclusive United Methodist Church.

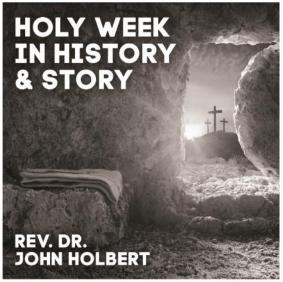
You are welcome here. You are supported here. You are included here.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



THE LOFT "The Practice of Living With Purpose" Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter Today, March 17th (10:30am) Upstairs in The Loft

During the final week of his earthly life Jesus enters Jerusalem to much fanfare. Moreover, Jesus began to speak more frequently about the purpose of his life and why living out of his purpose might cost him his life. Living with purpose connects us to our deepest sense of self and the Sacred. Join us this Sunday as we explore how we might practice living with a sense of purpose.



WISDOM AT WESTWOOD "Holy Week in History & Story" Today, March 24th (11am) Wesley Room and via Zoom

The most famous week in the Christian calendar is filled to the brim with interesting history coupled with elements of story. **Rev. Dr. John Holbert** will lead the class through the final week of Jesus's life as it is presented primarily in the Gospel of Mark.



18TH ANNUAL ORGAN CONCERT SERIES Today, March 24th (3pm) Josh Roebuck, Organist, Westwood UMC

Sunday, April 21 (3pm) Lukas Hasler, Concert Organist

As the spring approaches, so does the first half of this year's organ concerts in their brand new format - two concerts in the spring, and two concerts in the fall. It is our hope that this will avoid the summer heat in our non air-conditioned sanctuary, and allow for more people to attend that may normally be absent during the summer holidays. We invite you to join us in person at Westwood Church or via YouTube livestream! Free admission (voluntary offering will be available). For more info, visit www.WestwoodUMC.org/Concerts.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS





Sunday, March 31st (10:30-11:45am) Children's Sandyard

Sign up to be included in a tiny petting zoo for Easter morning! We will have five-minute slots for six people from 10:20-11:45am in the church sandyard. Because so many want to be able to spend time with the bunnies, we are inviting you to sign up for a five-minute slot, one slot for each person in your family. Six slots for each five minutes. Sign up before all the slots are full at www.WestwoodUMC.org/Bunnies.

In addition to our little zoo, the Grapplers and Westwood Kids team will offer tables with family crafts for everyone to enjoy, including making gorgeous butterflies to take home. A beautiful way to celebrate Resurrection Day!



EASTER TEA PARTY - VOLUNTEER or BRING FOOD!

On Easter Sunday, we're having a tea party between services, and we invite you to sign up to volunteer or bring food such as tea sandwiches, pastries, fruit, deviled eggs, etc. You're welcome to cook/bake the items yourself or order something from your favorite eatery to share - nothing that needs to be served hot or that needs a fork though.

We're also looking for some floral lovers to come on Saturday, March 30th (10am-12noon) to help create the table decorations. Sign up to volunteer or bring food at www.WestwoodUMC.org/TeaParty.



SPONSOR EASTER FLOWERS

Deadline: Tuesday, March 26th

This Easter, the Sanctuary and Narthex of the church will once again be decorated with beautiful flower arrangements and flowering plants. Three large arrangements (\$200 each), to be placed in the Chancel, are available to be given by individual donors or groups of donors in honor or memory of loved ones. Donations of \$20 and up will make possible the other flowering plants for the day. All dedications will be printed in the worship guide on Easter morning. Make a donation online at www.WestwoodUMC.org/Give, and then email Sabrina Simmons at sabrina@westwoodumc.org with the wording of your dedication.



SINGERS OF SOUL BENEFIT CONCERT Sunday, April 14th (4:30-6pm) Westwood UMC Sanctuary

In preparation for this year's General Conference, join us for a Singers of Soul benefit concert for Reconciling Ministries. Come by to celebrate Queer Joy and transforming the Methodist Church into a more welcoming and loving place. Doors will open at 4pm with tickets available. We encourage you to be as generous as you can. All donations go to support Reconciling Ministries and their advocacy at our upcoming General Conference.

Make a donation at www.WestwoodUMC.org/Give and choose "Benefit Concert."

EASTER at Westwood

EASTER SUNDAY - March 31st

Both The Sanctuary and The Loft gatherings will be held in the Westwood UMC Sanctuary and livestreamed via YouTube.

THE SANCTUARY GATHERING - 9:30am

Join us to celebrate Easter with trumpet fanfare and a joyful procession in our beautiful sanctuary. We invite you to join us to sing resurrection hymns and to hear a word of hope – about a love that triumphs over death. With beloved traditions and pageantry, we get to proclaim the bold, good news of God's love for all of us here, now. Easter gives us an occasion to notice and celebrate the beauty that is in front of us, and inside each of us, in all our wondrous diversity.

EASTER FAMILY TEA PARTY - 10:30-11:45am

Join us on our church courtyard for a free Easter Tea Party with tasty treats and conversation with our community. (Fancy hats optional.) During the Tea Party, you can also join us in the playground area for children's Easter crafts and activities, and a chance to visit real, live bunnies in our Easter petting zoo! Parents should plan to join their children in the activities. Sign up ahead of time to reserve a time with the bunnies at www.WestwoodUMC.org/Bunnies.

THE LOFT GATHERING - 11:45am

Join our Loft community for an Easter Sunday Celebration, featuring the Singers of Soul Gospel Choir, with a message from Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter. Children are welcome in The Loft gathering as Easter is an especially meaningful time to worship together.





PALM SUNDAY - March 24th

9:30am - The Sanctuary 10:30am - The Loft 3pm - Organ Concert

MAUNDY THURSDAY - March 28th

8:15pm - Contemplative Holy Thursday Sound Bath

GOOD FRIDAY - March 29th

6:30pm - Upstairs in The Loft

PRAYER STATIONS

Visit our outdoor prayer stations near the corner of Warner and Wilshire, along the sidewalk. Featuring sacred art from Sanctified Art.

CONTEMPLATIVE HOLY THURSDAY SOUND BATH Thursday, March 28th (8:15-9pm) The Sanctuary

This Maundy Thursday, join us for a contemplative experience that offers an evening prayer liturgy brought to life with a healing sound bath. Drawing from Christian Tenebrae traditions, the service will lead us into the darkness of holy week and give us an opportunity to contemplate the depth of divine love. Led by Ruth Sie and Pastor Molly Vetter, this experience brings gifts of a meditative sound bath into the sacred beauty of our sanctuary. Please wear comfortable clothes; you are welcome to sit or lie in our pews or bring a mat to lie on the floor.

COMPLETE INFO: www.EasterAtWestwood.com

WESTWOOD CHURCH

Pay Mally Vottor	Conjor Postor
Rev. Molly Vetter	
Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter.	Associate Pastor/Pastor of The Loft
Rev. Dr. Diana Holbert	Director of Children and Family Ministries
Everest Harvey	Director of Youth & Social Justice Ministries
Deaconess Jeanne Roe Smith	Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation Serving UCLA
Dr. Andrew Schultz	Sanctuary Music Director
Josh Roebuck	Sanctuary Organist
Sabrina Langlois, Carmen Edano, Taylor Jacobs, & Hsin	
Sabrina Simmons	Office Manager
Maureen Schultz	Digital Content Coordinator
Pablo Jauregui	
Julia Black	
Westley Garcia	Director of Loft Connections
Deanna Edwards	Children's Ministry Executive Assistant
Ruth Elin Drossel	
Jaime Top	Facilities Assistant
David Trotter.	
Youth and Children's Ministry Staff: Fozieh Karimi, Ashley Kishibay, Emily Kishibay, Lesley Castillo, Waldina	
Guevara, Eva Hooten, Josie Hooten, and Uriya Simeon	

West District Superintendent: Rev. Dr. Siosaia Tu'itahi
California-Pacific Annual Conference Bishop: Rev. Dr. Dottie Escobedo-Frank

The Sanctuary – 9:30am

A sacred gathering with traditional liturgy, a thoughtful message, and resounding organ.

More info: www.WestwoodUMC.org

The Loft - 10:30am

An innovative gathering with spiritual conversation, creativity, coffee, and music.

More info: www.TheLoftLA.org

Westwood Kids

Westwood Church has a vibrant Sunday morning Children's Ministry. Integrating biblical stories, music, art, and play, we are able to explore God's world using multiple teaching approaches. Join us in The Sanctuary at 9:30am with the children's choir following, and at 10:45am our biblical story time. Join our Westwood Kids email by contacting Pastor Diana Holbert at diana@westwoodumc.org.

Grapple Group

The Grapple Group provides a spiritual community for big questions for young people in grades 6-12. For more information, contact Everest Harvey, Director of Youth & Social Justice Ministries, at everest@westwoodumc.org.

Westwood Church 10497 Wilshire Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90024

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday (9am - 1pm)

Contact Us

wumc@westwoodumc.org 310.474.4511