everything [in]between

March 30, 2025

PRELUDE

4th Sunday in Lent

Alison Bjorkedal, harp Thatcher Schreiber, oboe

WORDS OF WELCOME

May the peace of Christ be with you! And also with you!

> **"Kyrie" from Missa Papae Marcelli** Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c1525-1594)

lost & found

"Bruyères" from Préludes

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

transcr. Susan Jolles and Humbert Lucarelli

Sanctuary Singers Sacred Dancers

Molly Vetter Senior Pastor

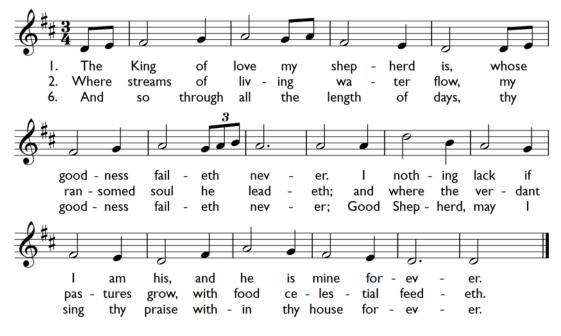
Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)

MORNING PRAYER

LENTEN INTROIT

Shepherding God, You look for us. You search for us. You turn every corner and climb every mountain. You call our name until your voice is hoarse. When we lose our way, you never stop seeking after us. So once again we pray, find us in this moment. Look for us. And then surround us with your presence, so that we might feel you near. With hope we pray, with hope we listen. Amen.

Heather Butterfield



WORDS: Henry W. Baker, 1868 (Ps.23) MUSIC: ST. COLUMBIA Irish Melody; harm. from The English Hymnal, 1906

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CHILDREN'S TIME

Molly Vetter



ANTHEM

"Pie Jesu" from Requiem Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Temple Hammen, soprano Organ, harp & oboe

Pie Jesu, Domine, dona eis requiem dona eis requiem sempiternam requiem

Merciful Jesus, Lord, give them rest give them rest, eternal rest.

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 119:167-176

Ellen Evans Agee

My soul keeps your decrees; I love them exceedingly.

I keep your precepts and decrees, for all my ways are before you.

Let my cry come before you, O Lord; give me understanding according to your word.

Let my supplication come before you; deliver me according to your promise.

My lips will pour forth praise, because you teach me your statutes.

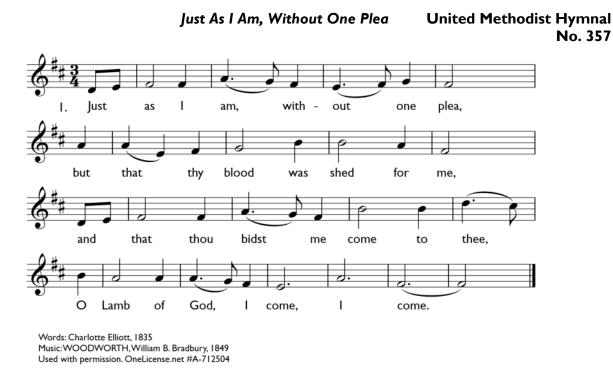
My tongue will sing of your promise, for all your commandments are right.

Let your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts.

I long for your salvation, O Lord, and your law is my delight.

Let me live that I may praise you, and let your ordinances help me. I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek out your servant, for I do not forget your commandments.

This is the word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.



HYMN

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 15:1-7

Molly Vetter

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

This is the word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.





Words: Charlotte Elliott, 1835 Music:WOODWORTH,William B. Bradbury, 1849 Used with permission. OneLicense.net #A-712504

SERMON

Everything [in] Between: lost & found

Molly Vetter

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD

CALL TO PRAYER Wherever I May Wander (excerpt) Sanctuary Singers New England Folk Melody, arr. Daniel Nelson, text by Ann B. Snow

> Wherever I may wander, wherever I may be, I'm certain of my maker's love; God's care is over me.

> > God made the great high mountains, and made the wide blue sea; God made the sky with birds that fly; God made the world, and me.

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS AND THE WORLD

Janet Hoskins

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

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

The Lord Is My Shepherd John Rutter (b. 1945) Chancel Choir Organ, harp & oboe

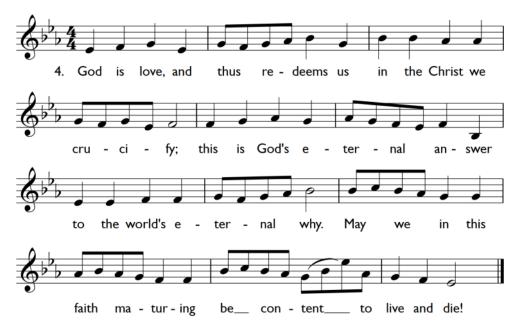
The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing. He shall feed me in a green pasture, and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort. He shall convert my soul, and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For thou art with me: Thy rod and thy staff comfort me. Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me: Thou hast anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full. But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

When Our Confidence Is Shaken

UM Hymnal No. 505

Please stand as you are able.



Words: Fred Pratt Green, 1971;© 1971 Hope Publishing Co. Music: GRAFTON; from Chants Ordinaires de l'office divin, 1881; harm. from The English Hymnal, 1906 Used with permission. OneLicense.net #A-712504

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Molly Vetter



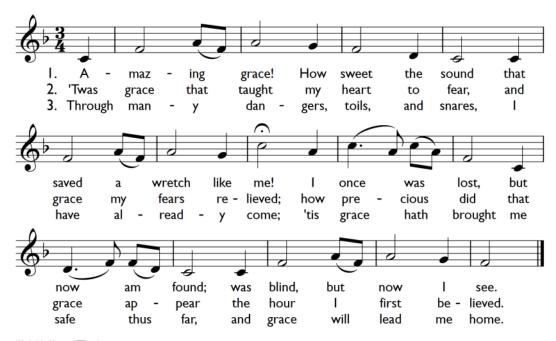
THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH GOES OUT TO SERVE

HYMN

Amazing Grace

United Methodist Hymnal No. 378

Please remain standing as you are able.



Words: John Newton, 1779; st. 6 anon. Music:AMAZING GRACE, 19th cent. USA melody Used by permission, OneLicense.net #A-712504

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Molly Vetter

Please be seated.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE	"Carillon" (based on The Bells of Château de Longpont)	Peter Fennema
Please remain seated.	Louis Vierne (1870-1937)	Organ

PARTICIPATING TODAY

Pastoral Staff

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

Sanctuary Music Leadership

Dr. Andrew Schultz (he/him), Dir. of Sanctuary Music Peter Fennema (he/him), Organist

Chancel Choir Section Leader

Temple Hammen (she/her), soprano Carmen Edano (she/her), alto Taylor Jacobs (he/him), tenor Jeremy Sarmiento (he/him), choral scholar Max Weitzman (he/him), choral scholar

Guest Musicians

Thacher Schreiber, oboe Alison Bjorkedal, harp Mike Stancliff, bass

Sacred Dancers

Jenniffer Duran-West, Denise Freese, Isabel Kilroe (choreographer), Stephanie Lange, and Hsin-Hua Wang

<u>Liturgists</u>

Ellen Evans Agee (she/her) Heather Butterfield (she/her) Janet Hoskins (she/her)

Production Team

Richard An (he/him), Videography & Sound Guillermo Gonzalez (he/him), Videography Elijah Reynolds (he/him), Videography

Altar Flowers

Given by Nancy & John Richardson - In loving memory of Hope and John Richardson, who were married on April 2, 1942, and shared 67 beautiful years together.

STAFF OUT TODAY

Byron Jones (he/him), bass

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Ongoing Prayer Requests

- Eunice, a friend of Nancy Griffin
- Allison Arnold
- Beverly Clajus' brother-in-law
- Carol Collins & Family on the death of Jim
- Beverly Bell
- Leslie Castillo
- Bette Caldwell
- Charles, Sabrina, and Ruby Simmons
- Penny Gipson & Family
- Joyce Wu & Michael Javalera
- Gregg Hesling
- Sherry Burch
- Patrick, Megan, and Pat Bird
- Rhonda K. Lawrence
- Wayne Koupal
- Laquetta Willis
- Beverly & Brydon Shirk
- Nancy Hill
- Bonnie Crouch
- Coral Moore
- Jackie Vincent
- Jim Agee
- Christina Stevens & Family
- All those affected by the recent wildfires in Pacific Palisades and Eaton Canyon
- The people of Russia, Ukraine, Palestine, Israel, Myanmar, and the Sudan.

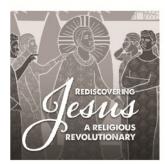
These requests are held in prayer by the pastoral staff. You are encouraged to join in praying for them by name.



Today's guest musicians are made possible by the Friends of Sanctuary Music Fund. If you would like to make a donation, please scan the QR code or go to www.westwoodumc.org/FriendsOfMusic.







THE LOFT - "Jesus, Mysticism, and Social Action" - Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter Today, March 30th (10:30am) The Loft

The majority of Christians would probably not use the term "mystic" to describe Jesus. Many Christians, especially those of us in the West, think of mysticism as a spirituality that is disconnected from the everyday experiences of life. However, what we see in the life of Jesus is that his spiritual practices created a sense of Oneness with God and other human beings that deeply informed his beliefs on our responsibilities towards one another.

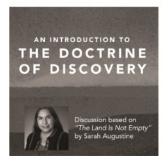
SPECIAL SUNDAY

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."



UMCOR SUNDAY Today, March 30th

Join us in supporting the incredible work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Your gifts cover UMCOR's operational costs, ensuring 100% of other donations go directly to relief efforts. Together, we can bring hope to those in need worldwide. Donate to support UMCOR online at www.WestwoodUMC.org/Give or by marking your offering "UMCOR Sunday."



WISDOM AT WESTWOOD: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY Today, March 30th (11am) Wesley Room and via Zoom

Nancy Price and Mary Garbesi will present the history and dehumanizing impact of the Doctrine of Discovery on indigenous people past and present. Our discussion is based on "The Land Is Not Empty" by Sarah Augustine.

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.

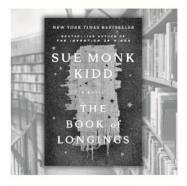
A Reconciling Church: We, the faith community of Westwood Church, affirm that a God-filled perspective understands and embraces diversity and radical inclusivity; for that reason we embrace and affirm the full inclusion of everyone regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. We explicitly welcome 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







SURVEY: OUR VISION + MISSION

Our Church Council is working to clarify and articulate the vision and mission of our church. As we continue our conversation, listening across the diversities of our church community, we'd love to ask for your input in the process, too. We wrote this short survey, and encourage you to respond to its questions. It would be helpful to hear from YOU, and to know that voices from throughout the congregation have been heard. Scan the QR code to fill out the survey online.



PRAYERFUL STITCHES Today, March 30th (12noon-1:30pm) The Loft

Prayerful Stitches is an outreach ministry of the church that provides prayer shawls for members and friends of our community who are struggling, a tangible way for the rest of the community to lay on hands and pray for the recipients, and a community gathering opportunity for the creators as they gather in prayer and fun whilst creating shawls. After the large distribution of shawls this year, we have a lot of work to do to rebuild our stock. Come for some great fellowship, crafting, and light potluck lunch. We can teach you to knit or crochet, and we have the supplies. RSVP to Ellen Evans Agee at ebea9999@gmail.com or Nancy Hill at njhill88@gmail.com.

NEW BOOK GROUP: THE BOOK OF LONGINGS

Starting in April, the next book group will be diving into "The Book of Longings" by Sue Monk Kidd, a feminist reimagining of the New Testament. It follows a fictionalized Galilean scribe named Ana who becomes the wife of Jesus during the lost years, commenting on the silencing of women across history and literature. To sign up, contact Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter at christopher@theloftla.org.



2025 ORGAN CONCERT SERIES AT WESTWOOD UMC

Join us in person at Westwood UMC or via YouTube livestream for three 60-minute concerts performed on the landmark Shaffer Memorial Organ.

Peter Fennema - Sunday, June 15th (3pm) Dr. Emma Whitten - Sunday, June 29th (3pm) Jason Klein-Mendoza - Sunday, July 13th (3pm)

For more info and opportunities to provide financial support for the series, visit <u>www.WestwoodUMC.org/OrganConcerts</u>.



SIERRA SERVICE PROJECT

We are going to San Diego with SSP from July 19-25. If you know a teenager who might want to go, reach out to Everest Harvey at everest@westwoodumc.org for more information and next steps!





SPONSOR EASTER FLOWERS Deadline - Tuesday, April 15th

SPONSOR

EASTER

FLOWERS

PALM

SUNDAY

MAUNDY

THURSDAY

CONTEMPLATINE

This Easter, the Sanctuary and Narthex will once again be decorated with beautiful flower arrangements and flowering plants. All are welcome and invited to sponsor flowers in honor, memory, or celebration of loved ones or events. Three large arrangements (\$200 each), to be placed in the Chancel, are available to be given by individual donors or groups of donors. 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.

Scan the QR code to donate and then email Sabrina Simmons at sabrina@westwoodumc.org with the wording of your dedication.

PALM SUNDAY IN THE SANCTUARY Sunday, April 13th (9:30am) The Sanctuary

"Everything In Between Shouting and Silence" - Rev. Molly Vetter Wave palm branches and sing "Hosanna" as we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem; little children will lead the procession. When the religious leaders try to silence the crowd, Jesus tells them that the noise level isn't the point—even the stones would cry out if they were silent. It takes wisdom to know when our voice is needed and when it's just noise.

Our Westwood Kids Choir will join the Chancel Choir for a special Palm Sunday anthem, too. On Palm Sunday, we invite ALL our children to be a part of our Palm procession! In the Sanctuary Gathering, meet up in the back of the sanctuary so we can walk in together during the first hymn. Parents & grandparents are encouraged to walk with us!

PALM SUNDAY IN THE LOFT Sunday, April 13th (10:30am) The Loft

On Palm Sunday at 10:30am in The Loft, our pilgrimage journey takes a turn, as we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Join us this Sunday as we explore how we might practice living with a sense of purpose.

MAUNDY THURSDAY CONTEMPLATIVE SOUND BATH

Thursday, April 17th (8:15-9pm) The Sanctuary and via Livestream

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.



GOOD FRIDAY

GOOD FRIDAY IN THE LOFT Friday, April 18th (6:30-7:30pm) The Loft

We invite you to join us in The Loft for our Good Friday service as we reflect on the significance of Jesus' pilgrimage to the cross. All people, including children are welcome in The Loft gathering, too. While there is not dedicated childcare, there is an area within The Loft space that includes activities for children.

EASTER SUNDAY

EASTER SUNDAY IN THE SANCTUARY

Sunday, April 20th (9am & 11am) The Sanctuary "Everything In Between Grief and Hope" - Rev. Molly Vetter

Join us to celebrate Easter with trumpet fanfare and a joyful procession in our beautiful sanctuary, to claim courageous hope. We invite you to join us to sing resurrection hymns and to hear a word that speaks hope into our deepest grief -- 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. The good news of this story is that no matter how you arrive this Easter morning—whether you are steeped in grief, stunned in disbelief, or running in the direction of hope—resurrection is for you. This story is for you. Children are welcome in our Sanctuary Gathering, and we have kids worship activity kits available. During our "Time with Children", we invite young people to come forward for a lesson with Pastor Molly; afterwards, they'll return to their pews to sit with you. On-site childcare is available for children birth through age 4.

EASTER SUNDAY IN THE LOFT Sunday, April 20th (11am) The Loft

We invite you to join our Loft community in the Sanctuary for an Easter Sunday Celebration featuring the Singers of Soul Gospel Choir as we reflect on the hope we find in the resurrection of Jesus. Children are welcome in The Loft gathering as Easter is an especially meaningful time to worship together. We will have kids worship activity kits that you can pick up on your way in, just in case they need a little distraction during worship. Additionally, there will be a kids area in the back of the sanctuary for those who need a little more space to wiggle or parents who want to sit on the floor with their kids. On-site childcare is also available for children from birth through age 4.

EASTER

EASTER FAMILY TEA PARTY Sunday, April 20th (10-11am) Church Courtyard

Join us for a free Easter Tea Party with tasty treats and conversation with our community. (Fancy hats optional.) 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 bunny petting zoo! Parents should plan to join their children in the activities. Thanks to our Grapple group and our Westwood Kids Team for hosting these activities! Scan the QR code to sign up to bring food (think finger foods, tea sandwiches, fruits, pastries) and volunteer to arrange floral table decorations on Saturday, April 19th (10am-12noon).

WESTWOOD CHURCH

Dave Martha Mathematic			
Rev. Molly Vetter	Senior Pastor		
Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter	Senior PastorAssociate Pastor/Pastor of The Loft		
Dr. Deanna Edwards	Interim Director of Children & Families		
Everest Harvey	Director of Youth & Social Justice Ministries		
Deaconess Jeanne Roe Smith	Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation Serving UCLA		
Dr. Andrew Schultz	Sanctuary Music Director		
Peter Fennema	Organist		
Carmen Edano, Temple Hammen, Tay	lor Jacobs, Byron JonesChancel Choir Section Leaders		
Sabrina Simmons	Office Manager Facilities Manager		
Pablo Jauregui	Facilities Manager		
Julia Black	Loft Music and Worship Director		
Westley Garcia	Director of Loft Connections		
Hsin-Hua Wang	Children/Youth Choirs		
Jaime Top	Facilities Assistant		
David Trotter	Children/Youth Choirs Facilities Assistant Communications		
Youth and Children's Ministry Staff: Beverly Bell, Fozieh Karimi, Ashley Kishibay, Emily Kishibay, Lesley Castil-			
lo, Waldina Guevara, Eva Hooten, and Uriya Simeon			

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



Today's Worship Guide

To access a digital version, use the QR code or visit www.Westwood UMC.org/Livestream.

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