



The Sanctuary



April 19, 2026

3rd Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on "I Call To You, Lord Jesus Christ"

Peter Fennema

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

WELCOME

Molly Vetter

The Lord is with you.

And also with you.

HYMN

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise United Methodist Hymnal

Please stand as you are able.

No. 312



1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
2. There the glo - rious tri - umph waits, Al - le - lu - ia!
3. See! the heaven its Lord re - ceives, Al - le - lu - ia!



To his throne a - bove the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!
Lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates, Al - le - lu - ia!
Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ hath con - quered death and sin, Al - le - lu - ia!
Though re - turn - ing to his throne, Al - le - lu - ia!



Re - as - cends his na - tive heaven, Al - le - lu - ia!
Take the King of glo - ry in, Al - le - lu - ia!
Still he calls the world his own, Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739

Music: LLANFAIR, Robert Williams, 1817

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MORNING PRAYER

Stephanie Lange

Please be seated.

Jesus,
You have shown up so often in our world,
Offering healing, transforming our fears,
Teaching a new way of being in the world.
After Easter, you opened the meaning of the Scriptures
To the disciples on the road to Emmaus
And set their hearts ablaze.
By the power of your Spirit
Kindle our hearts as we hear your word proclaimed today,
That we may receive you with joy.
Amen.

-adapted from "Feasting on the Word," Kimberly Bracken Long, editor

CHILDREN'S TIME

Molly Vetter

THE COMMUNITY INTERACTS WITH THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN

Lord of All Hopefulness

The Faith We Sing No. 2197

I. Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy, whose
trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy: Be
there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray, your
bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

WORDS: Jan Struther
MUSIC: Irish Folk Melody; SLANE
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*I love the Lord, who has heard
my voice and my supplications,
and has inclined his ear to me
whenever I called.*

*The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.*

*Then I called on the name of the Lord:
O Lord, I beseech you, save my life!"*

*What shall I return to the Lord
for all my benefits?*

*I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord,*

*I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.*

*Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his faithful ones.*

*O Lord, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid.
You have loosed my bonds.*

*I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the Lord.*

*I will pay my vows to the Lord,
in the presence of all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.*

Praise the Lord!

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Lord of All Hopefulness

**The Faith We Sing
No. 2197**

2. Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith, whose
strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe: Be
there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray, your
strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

HYMN

Lord of All Hopefulness

**The Faith We Sing
 No. 2197**

3. Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace, your
 hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace: Be
 there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray, your
 love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.



THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD

CALL TO PRAYER

All Creatures of Our God and King (excerpt)
arr. John Rutter (b. 1945)

Sanctuary Singers

*Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfoldest blessing on our way,
O praise ye, O praise ye,
Alleluia, alleluia!*

*The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them the glory also show,
O praise ye, O praise ye,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS AND THE WORLD

Jo Schiff

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.WestwoodUMC.org/Give.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Earth Song
Frank Tichelli (b. 1958)

Chancel Choir

*This dark stormy hour,
The wind, it stirs.
The scorched earth cries out in vain:
O war and power, you blind and blur.
The torn heart cries out in pain.*

*But music and singing have been my refuge,
And music and singing shall be my light.
A light of song, shining strong:
Alleluia! Alleluia.*

*Through darkness and pain and strife,
I'll Sing, I'll Be, I'll Live, See...
Peace.*

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Please stand as you are able.

**United Methodist Hymnal
No. 95**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all crea - tures
here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly
host; praise Spir - it, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674
Music: OLD 100TH; attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551
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PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Molly Vetter

THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH GOES OUT TO SERVE

HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

United Methodist Hymnal

Please remain standing as you are able.

No. 92

1. For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry
3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and
5. For thy church, that ev - er - more lift - eth ho - ly

of the skies, for the love which from our birth
mind's de - light, for the mys - tic har - mo - ny
hands a - bove, of - fering up - on ev - ery shore

o - ver and a - round us lies;
link - ing sense to sound and sight;
her pure sac - ri - fice of love;

Refrain
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

Words: Folliot S. Pierpoint, 1864
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1838; arr. by W. H. Monk, 1861
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

Molly Vetter

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Please remain seated.

Tocatta in E Major

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Peter Fennema

PARTICIPATING TODAY

Pastoral Staff

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

Sanctuary Music Leadership

Dr. Andrew Schultz, *Dir. of Sanctuary Music*

Peter Fennema, *Organist*

Chancel Choir Section Leaders

Trinity Del Regno (she/her), *soprano*

Carmen Edano (she/her), *alto*

Georgia Madland (she/her), *choral scholar*

Taylor Jacobs (he/him), *tenor*

Byron Jones (he/him), *bass*

Guest Singers

Natalie Fishman, *alto*

Abram Poliakoff, *tenor*

Liturgists

Stephanie Lange

Jo Schiff

Tonia Symensma-Cohen

Production Team

Leila Jay Bishop (they/them), *sound*

Guillermo Gonzalez (he/him), *videography*

Eli Reynolds (he/him), *videography*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Ongoing Prayer Requests

- Earle Hager
- Jage Schiff
- Anna Lee
- Ruby Simmons
- Tanya Trevisan
- Alex Hodges
- Linda Dannison
- Maggie Fitzgerald
- Coral Moore
- Kenneth Lange
- Eunice
- Nancy Hill
- Paul Rutter
- Pablo Jauregui
- Hapi Veikune & family
- Kelly O'Brien
- Brydon Shirk & Family
- Jim Agee
- Patricia Barlow
- Bette Caldwell
- Amy & Josh Burch
- Bonnie Crouch
- Claudia Zuniga & Family
- The people in the Middle East, Venezuela, Russia, Ukraine, Myanmar, and the Sudan.
- For our country as it continues to face challenges.

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.

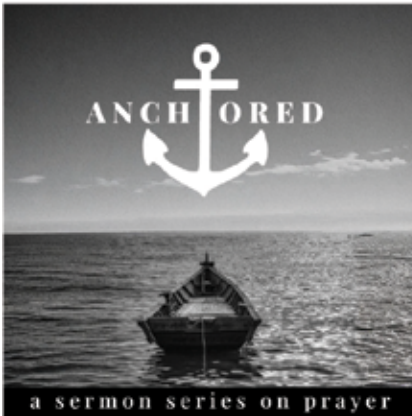
To submit a prayer request, please go to www.westwoodumc.org/care.

WESTWOOD UMC MISSION STATEMENT

Westwood United Methodist Church is an intergenerational Christian community committed to radical inclusivity, justice, compassion, and growing Jesus' beloved community.

In worship and beyond, we invite you to connect with others in our community through our ministries, events, and groups. We are grateful to be a church that includes and celebrates people of all ages and races, abilities, gender identities and sexual orientations.

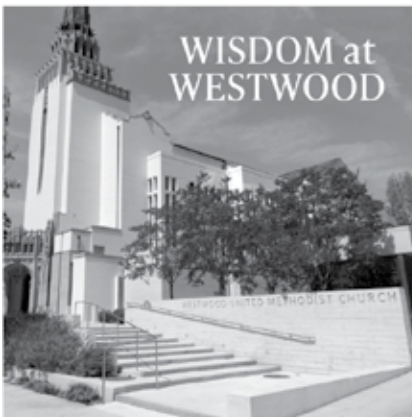
TODAY AT WESTWOOD UMC



THE LOFT

"Why Do We Pray?" - Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter
Today, April 19th (10:30am) Upstairs in The Loft

Last week, I suggested that the purpose of prayer is to deepen our relationship with God so that we are transformed by centering in Divine presence, and that it is not about coercing God or others to do something. This week, we continue our series by exploring why we pray. Why do human beings, even ones who don't identify as people of faith, feel an urge to pray?



WISDOM AT WESTWOOD

"The Power of One" - Jennifer Tran
Today, April 19th (11am) Wesley Room and via Zoom

Dr. Jennifer Tran is a former United States Navy Lieutenant Commander and nurse whose years of military service shaped her deep commitment to caring for those facing complex challenges. As an educator and researcher, she focuses on vulnerable populations, especially homeless female veterans, using Grounded Theory to uncover real patterns of resilience and healing. Through this work, she developed and now teaches "The Power of One," showing how a single moment of compassion, connection, or care can spark lasting transformation.



NEW MEMBER CLASS & LUNCH

Today, April 19th (12noon) Helms Hall

Are you interested in joining our Westwood UMC church community as an official member? We'd love to share more about our community, and learn more about you! Join Pastor Molly and Dr. Carter for a New Member Class and Lunch. Scan the QR code to RSVP.



COMMUNITY ADVOCACY TEAM (CAT)

Today, April 19th (12:15pm) Room 2027

We are dedicated specifically to legislative action and political organizing work, often in partnership with LA Voice, an interfaith organizing cohort in Los Angeles. Join CAT during their monthly meetings to learn more about how you can get involved in working towards lasting change in our city and beyond. This week, we'll be discussing bills that are supportive of families in Los Angeles and California (legislative sessions are occurring now) as well as a worker's strike on May 1st. For more information, contact cat@westwoodumc.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

Today, April 19th (10:30am) Sephardic Temple (10500 Wilshire Blvd, LA)

Sephardic Temple Tifereth Israel invites us to gather for Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, through a free program titled A Journey of Memory and Hope, featuring music, poetry, and storytelling that honor the lives lost and celebrate the resilience of those who endured. All are welcome to attend. Allison and Jeff Arnold will be outside the Warner door on Sunday at 10:15am to walk over to the Temple. We need to know how many people to expect so please email Allison at aca821@gmail.com.



SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVIE CLUB - FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, April 24th (5:30pm) Wesley Room

Everyone is invited to watch WALL-E! Snacks and pizza will be served, and the movie starts at 6pm. If you have any questions, contact Everest Harvey, our Director of Youth Ministry and Social Justice, at everest@westwoodumc.org.



580 CAFE SPRING OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, April 25th (5-7pm) St. Alban's Church (580 Hilgard Ave., LA)

As 580 Cafe turns 16, we celebrate the love that has sustained this ministry from its very beginning. For 16 years, students have found nourishment, belonging, and hope with this community. For generations of students, 580 is their place where they can exhale, be seen, and be reminded of their inherent worth. That love is made visible through every shared meal, every act of compassion, every person who shows up to serve, and the generous donors who make it all possible. We are deeply grateful for the students. We look forward to honoring these last 16 years by continuing to love boldly together.



WESTWOOD WOMEN'S POTLUCK LUNCH

Saturday, May 2nd (11am-1pm) Helms Hall

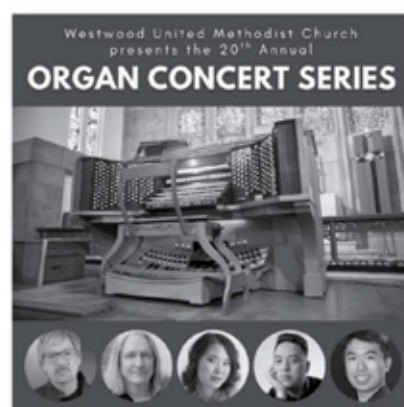
Join us for a potluck luncheon, fellowship, and fun! We will also be taking a voluntary offering in support of one of Westwood's ministries, 580 Cafe. Don't forget to bring a dish to share with the group! If you'll need childcare, please let us know when you RSVP and include the age(s) your child(ren). To RSVP, please contact Sabrina Simmons at sabrina@westwoodumc.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



PRAYERFUL STITCHES MEETING **Sunday, May 3rd (12noon) The Loft**

Come for some great fellowship and crafting! We can teach you to knit or crochet, we have yarn and needles and patterns! Prayerful Stitches is an outreach ministry of the church! The ministry 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. RSVP to Ellen Evans Agee (ebea9999@gmail.com) or Nancy Hill (njhill88@gmail.com).



2026 ORGAN CONCERT SERIES

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 14th (3pm)*

Christoph Bull, Organ with Mezzo-Soprano I-Chin-Lee
Sunday, June 28th (3pm)

Piano/Organ Duo Sean Wang-Tang & Brandon Zhao
Sunday, July 13th (3pm)*

** June 14 and July 13 concerts will be live-streamed and available for later viewing on YouTube.*



SIERRA SERVICE PROJECT 2026

Our Grapple Group is going to Northern Arizona in the Navajo Nation for our Sierra Service Project trip in July 11-19, 2026! There will be an overnight drive on both ends of the trip. Incoming seventh graders and older youth are welcome to come. This summer we are going to an intergenerational week, which means if any college-age or young people are interested in attending they are ALSO WELCOME this year! And, we are looking for older adult chaperones, too--please reach out to Everest if you would like to know more. The cost of participating is \$650, including a \$200 deposit to sign up. Westwood UMC welcomes donations from the congregation to help with covering the cost of vehicles, travel breakfast and dinner, and chaperone participation. You can send in a deposit or make a donation at www.WestwoodUMC.org.Give.



SPONSOR SUNDAY ALTAR FLOWERS

Ever thought about sponsoring the flowers on the altar? It's a wonderful way to honor or remember a loved one, celebrate a special event or milestone, or just make the Sanctuary space more beautiful! Cost is \$95. You can even partner with a friend, committee, or other church group to help defray the cost. For more info or to sign up for a specific Sunday, please contact Sabrina Simmons at sabrina@westwoodumc.org or 310.474.4511.

WESTWOOD CHURCH

Rev. Molly Vetter.....Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter.....Associate Pastor/Pastor of The Loft
Rev. Dr. Diana Holbert.....Minister of Care
Dr. Deanna Edwards.....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
Trinity Del Regno, Carmen Edano, Taylor Jacobs, Byron Jones.....Chancel Choir Section Leaders
Sabrina Simmons.....Office Manager
Pablo Jauregui.....Facilities Manager
Gabrielle Grubbs.....Loft Music and Worship Director
Westley Garcia.....Director of Loft Connections
Uriya Simeon.....Assistant Director of Children and Youth Ministries
Isabel Kilroe.....Director of Children's Arts
Jaime Top.....Facilities Assistant
David Trotter.....Communications
Youth & Children's Ministry Staff: Beverly Bell, Lesley Castillo, Fozieh Karimi, Ashley Kishibay, and Emily Kishibay

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 Deanna Edwards at deanna@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

