



The Sanctuary

May 24, 2026

PRELUDE

Arabesque No. 1
Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

Alin Melik-Adamyian

WELCOME

Everest Harvey

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

HYMN

O Spirit of the Living God

**UM Hymnal
No. 539**

Please stand as you are able.



1. O Spir - it of the liv - ing God, thou light and fire di -
2. Blow, wind of God! With wis - dom blow un - til our minds are
3. Teach us to ut - ter liv - ing words of truth which all may



vine, de - scend up - on thy church once more, and
free from mists of er - ror, clouds of doubt, which
here, the lan - guage all may un - der - stand when



make it tru - ly thine. Fill it with love and
blind our eyes to thee. Burn, wing - ed fire! In -
love speaks loud and clear; till ev - ery age and



joy and power, with righ - teous - ness and peace; till
spire our lips with flam - ing love and zeal, to
race and clime shall blend their creeds in one, and



Christ shall dwell in hu - man hearts, and sin and sor - row cease.
preach to all thy great good news, God's glo - rious com - mon - weal.
earth shall form one fam - i - ly by whom thy will is done.

MORNING PRAYER

Christopher Lange

Please be seated.

Lord our god, Illuminated one,
 we come this day knowing Jesus has died,
 yet his eternal Torchlight spirit lives on in our hearts,
 warming our souls, and giving refuge to the outcast,
 protection to the exploited, and guidance to the misguided.
 Let us be a proxy for his radiant tongues and guide those aforementioned.
 In your name we pray, Amen

-Christopher Lange & William Read

CHILDREN'S TIME

Jonah Parker & Merrick Shiflett

CHILDREN'S MOVEMENT

Westwood Kids and Grapple Dance Crews
 Chancel Choir, Taylor Jacobs, soloist

Prayer of St. Francis

Allen Pote (b. 1945)

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.
 Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
 Where there is injury, thy pardon, Lord.
 Where there is doubt, let there be faith.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
 to be consoled, as to console.
 To be understood, as to understand,
 to be loved, as to love.

Oh Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.
 Where there is despair, let me bring hope.
 Where there is darkness, let there be light.
 Where there is sadness, let there be joy.

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.
 Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
 For it is in giving that we receive,
 and it is in pardoning that we are pardoned.

And it's in dying that we are born
 to eternal life, to eternal life.
 Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.
 Amen.

THE COMMUNITY INTERACTS WITH THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING

Ezekiel 36:23-28

Emma Pang-Le

I will sanctify my great name, which has been profaned among the nations and which you have profaned among them, and the nations shall know that I am the Lord, says the Lord God, when through you I display my holiness before their eyes. I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you, and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

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

Thanks be to God.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one flat) and 2/2 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 2/2 time signature. The lyrics are: "I. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;". The second staff continues: "wean it from earth; through all its puls - es move;". The third staff continues: "stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,". The fourth staff concludes: "and make me love thee as I ought to love." The music ends with a double bar line.

I. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
wean it from earth; through all its puls - es move;
stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:1-21

Elliot Miller &
Sydney Weatherford

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

*'In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.
Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.
And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.
Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'*

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Spirit of God, descend Upon My Heart

**UM Hymnal
No. 500**

4. Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh;
 teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear.
 To check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh,
 teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:14-17

Emery Salyer

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

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

HYMN

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

**UM Hymnal
No. 500**

5. Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;
 the kin - dling of the heaven - de - scend - ed Dove,
 my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

SERMON

**The Second Covenant: Pentecost, Confirmation,
and What it Means to Choose Your Faith**

**Nathan Salyer &
Quinn Weatherford**



THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AND
RITUAL OF CONFIRMATION**

**Molly Vetter
Everest Harvey**

Celebrating Confirmation of:

**Henry Gipson
Simon Gipson
Christopher Lange
Ford Miller**

**William Read
Emery Salyer
Merrick Shiflett
Lydian Witt**

**And the Baptism and Confirmation of:
Grace Worrel
Dax Worth**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you
and we welcome you in Christian love.
As members together with you in the body of Christ
and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church,
we renew our covenant faithfully to participate
in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence,
our gifts, our service, and our witness
that in everything God may be glorified
through Jesus Christ.**

CALL TO PRAYER

**“Hymn to the Eternal Flame”
from *To Be Certain of the Dawn*
Stephen Paulus (1949-2014)**

**Sanctuary Singers
Savanna Cohen, soloist**

*Ev'ry face is in you, ev'ry voice, ev'ry sorrow in you,
Ev'ry pity, ev'ry love, ev'ry mem'ry, woven into fire.
Ev'ry breath is in you, ev'ry cry, ev'ry longing in you,
Ev'ry singing, ev'ry hope, ev'ry healing, woven into fire.
Ev'ry heart is in you, ev'ry tongue, ev'ry trembling in you,
Ev'ry blessing, ev'ry soul, ev'ry shining, woven into fire.*

-Text by Michael Dennis Browne (1940-2026)

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS AND THE WORLD

Chloe Sun

When indicated, please respond with:

Lord, hear our 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

Ford Miller

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

I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing
 arr. Howard Helvey (b. 1968)

Chancel Choir
Carmen Edano, soloist
Alin Melik-Adamyan & Peter Fennema, piano

*I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says sing,
 And obey the spirit of the Lord.*

*I'm gonna pray when the Spirit says pray,
 And obey the spirit of the Lord.*

*I'm gonna preach when the Spirit says preach,
 And obey the spirit of the Lord.*

*I'm gonna shout when the Spirit says shout,
 And obey the spirit of the Lord.*

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Voices Raised to You

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship
 No. 845**

Please stand as you are able.

5. How can an - y praise we of - fer mea - sure all the thanks we owe?
 Take our hearts and hands and voic - es — gifts of love we can be - stow.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to you we sing!

Words: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., b. 1923, © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc.
 Music: SONG OF PRAISE, Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936, © 1996 Carolyn Jennings
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PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Molly Vetter

THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH GOES OUT TO SERVE

HYMN

When in Our Music God is Glorified

**UM Hymnal
No. 68**

Please stand as you are able.

1. When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied, and ad - o -
3. So has the church in lit - ur - gy and song, in faith and
5. Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise! Let all re -

ra - tion leaves no room for pride, it is as
love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong, borne wit - ness
joice who have a voice to raise! And may God

though the whole cre - a - tion cried
to the truth in ev - ery tongue, Al - le - lu - ia!
give us faith to sing al - ways

Words: Fred Pratt Green © 1972 Hope Publishing Co.
Music: ENGELBERG, Charles Villiers Stanford, 1904
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Molly Vetter

Please be seated.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Chorale Prelude on "Come, Holy Ghost" (hymn 651)

Peter Fennema

Please remain seated.

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

PARTICIPATING TODAY

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Molly Vetter (she/her), *Senior Pastor*
Everest Harvey (they/them), *Dir., Youth & Social Justice Ministries*

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*
Taylor Jacobs (he/him), *tenor*
Byron Jones (he/him), *bass*
Georgia Madland (she/her), *choral scholar*

Guest Musicians

Madeline Braun, *soprano*
Alin Melik-Adamyman, *pianist*

Acolytes & Liturgists

Members of the Grapple Group

Production Team

Leila Jay Bishop (they/them), *sound engineer*
Guillermo Gonzalez (he/him), *videography*
Eli Reynolds (he/him), *videography*

Altar Flowers

1) Given by **Elizabeth Bawden** “in honor of my 50th birthday May 22nd, and in celebration of many friends, including Pastor Molly (September), who are also celebrating their 50th’s this year.”

2) Given **anonymously** in celebration of our 2026 *Confirmands!*

STAFF OUT TODAY

Natalie Fishman, *alto choral scholar*

PARTICIPATING TODAY

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

New Requests/Updates

- The Family of Nancy Karrenbrock

Ongoing Prayer Requests

- Paul Rutter
- Ish-Shan Sun
- Bukola Gbadamosi
- Subie Green
- Judy Wessling
- Jage Schiff
- Anna Lee
- Alex Hodges
- Linda Dannison
- Maggie Fitzgerald
- Coral Moore
- Kenneth Lange
- Eunice
- Nancy Hill
- Pablo Jauregui
- Hapi Veikune & family
- Kelly O’Brien
- Jim Agee
- Patricia Barlow
- Bette Caldwell
- Amy & Josh Burch
- Bonnie Crouch
- 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'S GUEST MUSICIAN



GUEST PIANIST: Alin Melik-Adamyian is a prize-winning pianist recognized for her expressive artistry, refined musicianship, and versatility across the concert stage and recording studio. Praised for her "sensitivity unique in the piano world," she is a First Prize winner of the Los Angeles Liszt International Competition and has performed as both soloist and chamber musician in leading venues and concert series throughout the United States. A sought-after collaborator, Dr. Melik-Adamyian performs regularly on the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Chamber Music Series at Walt Disney Concert Hall and the Da Camera Society of Los Angeles. A native of Los Angeles, Dr. Melik-Adamyian holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Piano Performance, along with a Doctor of Musical Arts in Keyboard Collaborative Arts from the USC Thornton School of Music.

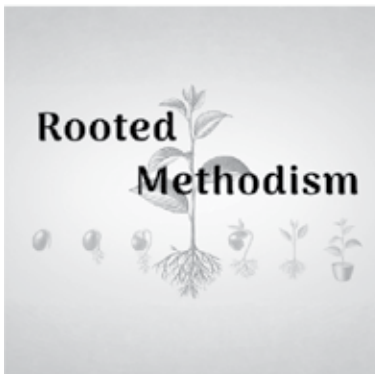
TODAY AT WESTWOOD UMC



THE LOFT

"Growing In Christlikeness" - Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter
Today, May 24th (10:30am) Upstairs in The Loft

What does it mean for us to grow in Christlikeness? It is Pentecost Sunday, and we will end our series on the Holy Spirit by examining the third function of the Spirit - inspiring us to develop the mind of Christ. This Sunday, we are also celebrating Youth Sunday and Confirmation in The Loft! We will celebrate all of our young people who went through the confirmation process, and after worship, we will celebrate with a taco lunch just like the early Christians did.



WISDOM AT WESTWOOD

"Rooted Methodism - Voting: The Pulpit and the Polls"
Today, May 24th (11am) Wesley Room and via Zoom

With the California Primary upon us, it is important to reflect on how our faith impacts our citizenship. Janet Hoskins will lead a presentation and discussion of how our beliefs inform our choices, and consideration of issues affecting not only California but our fellow citizens.



ALL CHURCH TACO PARTY

Sunday, May 24th (12noon) The Loft

Come and enjoy delicious homemade tacos and Mexican food made by Paul Freese to support the Wisdom at Westwood Speaker Series. There will be carne asada, ground beef, chicken, and vegetarian tacos available. While this special event is free and open to all, we hope that you will consider a voluntary donation of \$15/person. Your generous contributions will help us continue offering meaningful and thought-provoking experiences and supports the inspiring guest speakers who enrich our Wisdom at Westwood classes on Sunday mornings. Make a donation at www.WestwoodUMC.org/Give or put it in the Sunday offering plate. Questions? Contact Sabrina Simmons at sabrina@westwoodumc.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

70th ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S ORDINATION IN THE METHODIST TRADITION

a celebration of clergywomen at Westwood UMC

Sunday, May 31st

9:30am - The Sanctuary
10:30am - The Loft

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S ORDINATION

On Sunday, May 31st, Westwood UMC will celebrate the 70 years of women's ordination in the Methodist tradition. During worship in both The Sanctuary and The Loft, we will include and honor clergywomen who have been connected to our congregation. Special guests will include: Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank, Bishop Mary Ann Swenson, Rev. Dr. Sharon Rhodes-Wickett, Rev. Jane Voigts, Rev. Kathy Cannon, Rev. Dr. Natalie Houghtby-Haddon and Rev. Blair Stowe.



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE WEDDING OF EVEREST & URIYA Saturday, June 6th (11:30am) Westwood UMC Sanctuary

Everest and Uriya are delighted to invite the congregation to join them at their wedding! A tea party reception will be held in the courtyard afterward. For more information, scan the QR code to check out their wedding website.



PROMOTION SUNDAY

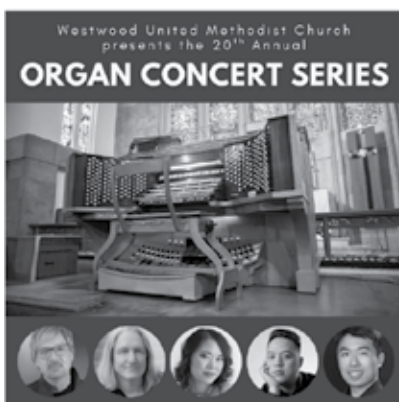
On Sunday, June 7th, we will celebrate Promotion Sunday, when our young people officially move up to their new grade. We will present Bibles to our new 4th graders, and celebrate people who are graduating at all levels. If you or someone in your family is graduating this year, please send information (their name, the school, and level/degree/program they are completing) to Sabrina Simmons at sabrina@westwoodumc.org by June 2nd.



SIERRA SERVICE PROJECT - DONATIONS WELCOME

Our Grapple Group is going to Northern Arizona in the Navajo Nation for our Sierra Service Project trip in 2026! We will be traveling from July 11-19, staying in Teec Nos Pos, Arizona. This summer we are going to an intergenerational week, and our group of 25 will include 19 youth, and 1 college-age student. Westwood UMC welcomes donations from the congregation to help with covering the cost of vehicles, travel breakfast and dinner, and chaperone participation. You can make a donation to support the trip by mail, offering plate, or online at www.WestwoodUMC.org.Give.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



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-Tange & Brandon Zhao

Sunday, July 12th (3pm)*

* June 14 and July 12 concerts will be live-streamed and available for later viewing on YouTube.



MEMORY GARDEN PAVERS

Just east of the Sanctuary, our Memory Garden is an ongoing, permanent garden installation to honor or commemorate a loved one or special event or in gratitude for the Westwood UMC family. We are pleased to offer a new invitation to those who would want to sponsor pavers. Rectangular in shape, the garden pavers are approximately 14 x 8 inches, and allow for three lines of engraving, twenty characters per line; a space counts as a character. A sponsorship for a Memory Garden Paver is \$2,250. We are inviting sponsors now, for an engraving session after Easter. If you are interested in sponsoring a paver, contact Sabrina Simmons at sabrina@westwoodumc.org or 310.474.4511.



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.



CONNECT WITH OUR MINISTRIES

Join a Small Group: We have neighborhood groups in Westwood and Culver City, and groups for Young Adults, Men, Queer Folks, and People of Color. Contact Westley Garcia at westley@theloft.org for details.

Join a Social Justice Group: Contact Everest at everest@westwoodumc.org to join our Social Justice Team, our Community Advocacy Team, or our Social Justice Movie Club.

Join Care Ministries: Contact Pastor Diana Holbert at diana@westwoodumc.org to connect with any of our care ministry teams, including meal trains, visitation volunteers, and more.

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 exploring God's world using multiple teaching approaches. Join us in The Sanctuary at 9:30am, including a children's time, followed by our own morning together in our children's area until 12noon. 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

