



POWER OF PARADOX



Welcome to 9am Worship at Westwood

February 1, 2026 – 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Westwood is an open, affirming and inclusive church, welcoming all who seek God.

Welcome to worship!

Westwood is a
Reconciling in Christ
("RIC") church.

Sunday Worship
9&11 AM
(+ livestream option)
westwood.church

PRELUDE selection by Richard Clarke

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In baptism God claims us and names us Beloved.
In baptism Christ joins us to himself and to one another.
In baptism the Spirit is poured out upon us.
Remember your baptism and be thankful!
Thanks be to God!

CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

You and I are now the ones who step forth out of the safe waters of baptism to bring hope, to share a word of grace, to carry healing into the brokenness of the lives around us.
Let us confess how we still struggle to follow in faith wherever Jesus leads us.

Timeless God,

You cast light into sin's dark places and call us your Beloved.

Forgive us when we still linger in the shadows and treat others in hurtful ways.

Forgive us when we put ourselves ahead of Jesus and fail to see him in the needs of our world.

Forgive us when we fail to welcome the stranger and refuse to forgive as we should.

Forgive us when we sin and don't even know it.

Touched by the waters of life, fed at the feast of grace and hope, embraced in the warmth of God's love and hopes—this is the good news.

In the name of ☧ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Blessed by baptism's tears, called to servanthood by the Beloved, filled with the peace of the Spirit, we are indeed God's people—redeemed, restored, refreshed to serve.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

↑ OPENING HYMN "Let Streams of Living Justice" ELW 710 THAXTED

↑ GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

↑ EPIPHANY KYRIE (tune of *I want to Walk as a Child of the Light*)

↑ CANTICLE OF PRAISE "This Is the Feast" S149

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

God who sees our truest selves: **help us to have the courage to be your people in every way, even when it means facing ourselves honestly. As we do so, help us to be transformed in every way—in heart and mind, as well as deed—so the world might be aligned with your purpose and promise of wholeness of life for all. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

ACCLAMATION "Build a Longer Table" NOËL NOUVELET

Build a longer table, not a higher wall, feeding those who hunger, making room for all.

Feasting together, stranger turns to friend, Christ breaks walls to pieces; false divisions end.

**Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence. Love protects all people, sparing no expense.
When we embrace compassion more than fear, Christ tears down our fences:
all are welcome here.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN (No Message today)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Micah 6:6-8 (MSG)

ANTHEM "What Does the Lord Require of You?" Albert Bayly

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 5:1-12 (NRSV)

SERMON Pastor Sarah

MOMENT FOR QUIET REFLECTION

RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS

↑ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

↑ SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OFFERING "Blessing" Susan Bernes

↑ OFFERTORY sung to the tune of "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"
Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son,
Glory to the Holy Spirit, glory to the Three-in-One.
Here we offer to you gladly all the gifts that you impart,
as we glory in your presence, giving from a grateful heart.

↑ OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God, **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us,**
our selves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for
the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

↑ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

↑ LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC "Amen Siakudumisa" Trad, S. Africa, arr. C. Moklebust

↑ BLESSING & BENEDICTION AARON

↑ SENDING HYMN "Light Dawns on a Weary World" ELW 726 TEMPLE OF PEACE

↑ PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

O God, **you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths**
as yet unfrodden, through joys and perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage,
not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

↑ DISMISSAL

Go with Christ. Be God's light in the world. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE selection by Richard Clarke