



WESTWOOD
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Westwood is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) church.



JOURNEY INWARD *to* JOURNEY OUTWARD

Welcome to 9 am Worship at Westwood

April 21, 2024 – Third Sunday of Easter

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

PRELUDE "In Thee is Gladness" setting by Paul Manz

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brief moment of silence.

↑ OPENING LITANY

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! **Christ is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation.

O Lord our God, we give you thanks for the gift of baptism.

O Lord our God, we give you thanks for the new life you raise up in us.

Empower us to be living signs of your new heaven and new earth as we join your work in the world.

↑ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, who calls us Beloved ✝ Jesus who bears the cross, and the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and acknowledge our brokenness in the presence of God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.

We are overwhelmed

by the world's violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.

For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away

from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you

and set us on the path to join your work in the world;

in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God's compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In ✝ Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**

↑ OPENING HYMN "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!" ELW 385 GELOBT SEI GOTT

Stanzas 1 & 3: Choir | Stanzas 2 & 4: Assembly

↑ 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.**

CANTICLE OF WELCOME "Welcome" Mark Miller

Cantor: Let's walk together for a while and ask where we begin to build a world where love can grow and hope can enter in, to be the hands of healing and to plant the seeds of peace.

All: Singing welcome. Welcome to this place.

You're invited to come and know God's grace.

All are welcome. The love of God to share,

'cause all of us are welcome here. All are welcome in this place.

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters.

Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may hear your call and follow the path of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

ACCLAMATION "Celtic Alleluia" ELW 174 (*Children are invited forward*)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM "Sicut Cervus" Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, sung by Magnum Chorum

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 27: 1-3, 13-14

GOSPEL LESSON John 20:19-31

SERMON Pastor Sarah Scherschligt

EASTER P.A.U.S.E. (Pay Attention Until the Spirit Emerges): Examen Prayer

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

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (*Children return to worship.*)

OFFERING "The Lord is the Everlasting God" Mvt. II Kenneth Jennings, Magnum Chorum

↑ OFFERTORY "All Creatures, Worship God Most High! ELW 835 LASST UNS ERFREUEN

All creatures, worship God most high! Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia!

All creatures, bless Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One: Alleluia!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Risen One, **you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

↑ OPENING SENTENCES | WORDS OF INSTITUTION | LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC "Ubi Caritas" Ola Gjielo, sung by Magnum Chorum

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN "On What Has Now Been Sown" ELW 550 DARWALL'S 148th

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

O God, **you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through 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 in peace to join God's work in the world. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" setting by Mark Sedio