

Merry  
Christmas!

## Welcome to Worship at Westwood

December 25, 2024 – Christmas Day

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

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### PRELUDE

Bring a Torch" Jeannette, Isabella setting by Nicholas Palmer

"I Saw Three Ships" setting by Marshall Ocker

- Loring String Quartet

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ **OPENING HYMN** "Love Has Come" ELW 292 UN FLAMBEAU

### ↑ 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.**

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

### ↑ CHRISTMAS CANTICLE OF PRAISE

"The First Noel" Hymn 300 THE FIRST NOWELL (Stanza 1)

### ↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy Christ Child, **you are the light that shines into our darkness. You are the voice that welcomes us home. You are the hope that gives us a new future. Come into my heart, Lord Jesus, on this Christmas Day. Amen.**

↑ **GOSPEL READING** John 1:1-14

The gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** Pastor Sarah Scherschligt

### ↑ HYMN OF THE DAY

"The First Noel" Hymn 300 THE FIRST NOWELL (Stanza 3)

### ↑ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

### ↑ SHARING THE PEACE

**OFFERING** "O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion" from *Messiah* George Frideric Handel  
- A Cappella Choir and Loring String Quartet

### ↑ OFFERTORY HYMN

"What Child Is This" Hymn 296 GREENSLEEVES (Stanza 3)

### ↑ OFFERTORY PRAYER

Holy God, **your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love, warm us to extend your care to all in need. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**



**HOLY COMMUNION**

↑ **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

↑ **LORD'S PRAYER**

**DISTRIBUTION MUSIC**

"The People That Walked in Darkness" from *Messiah* George Frideric Handel

↑ **BLESSING AND BENEDICTION**

↑ **CLOSING HYMN**

"Go Tell It on the Mountain" Hymn 290 GO TELL IT, traditional Negro Spiritual

↑ **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**

Christ is born! Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere. **Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE (sung)**

"Go Tell It on the Mountain" Hymn 290 (reprise)