

The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light.
Isaiah 9:2

Welcome to Christmas Worship at Westwood

December 24, 2024 - Christmas Eve 8:00 PM & 9:30 PM

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

PRELUDE

Two Traditional English Carols setting by Marshall Ocker

"Greensleeves"

"The Holly and The Ivy"

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

CAROL

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" Hymn 283, ADESTE FIDELES (Stanzas 1, 3, 4)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, **you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light.**

Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

CAROL

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" Hymn 270 MENDELSSOHN (Stanzas 1 and 3)

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

CHORUS

"For Unto Us a Child is Born" from *Messiah* George Frideric Handel

THE CHRISTMAS GOSPEL – PART I

The gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 2:1-7

CAROL

"Away in a Manger" Hymn 277, Traditional English Carol

Stanza 1: All | Stanza 2: Choir | Stanza 3: All

THE CHRISTMAS GOSPEL – PART II

Luke 2:8-14

CHORUS

"Glory to God" from *Messiah* George Frideric Handel

THE CHRISTMAS GOSPEL – PART III

Luke 2:15-20

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CAROL

"Angels We Have Heard On High" ELW 289 GLORIA

Stanza 1: All | Stanza 2: Choir | Stanza 3: All



SERMON Pastor Jason Van Hunnik

OFFERING

(8:00) "Christmas Joy" Michael Helman presented by Westwood Ringers

(9:30) "Pat-a-Pan" setting by Nicholas Palmer

OFFERTORY

"Come Rejoicing, Come with Singing" W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY, traditional Polish carol

**Come rejoicing, come with singing, on this wondrous Christmas night.
Praise the God of our salvation! Join with angels in delight.
Christ is born, His gift bestowing favors us beyond our knowing.
Come rejoicing in his light. Come rejoicing Christ is born.**

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

CANDLELIGHTING

CAROL "Silent Night, Holy Night" Hymn 281 STILLE NACHT

CHRISTMAS BENEDICTION

Now may God bless you with the wonder of Mary, the good courage of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds and the peace of the Christ Child... this Christmas and always.

In the name of God the Creator + Christ, Emmanuel, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

**○ 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.**

SENDING HYMN

"Joy to the World" Hymn 267 ANTIOCH (Stanzas 1, 2, 4)

DISMISSAL

Christ is born! **Glory to God in the highest!**

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE "Il Est Né" Traditional, French Carol Loring String Quartet