



WESTWOOD
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ORDER *of* WORSHIP

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2026

“Do not be daunted by the enormity
of the world’s grief.

Do justly, now.

Love mercy, now.

Walk humbly, now.

You are not obligated to complete the work.

But neither are you free to abandon it.”

—attributed to the Talmud

WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

July 26, 2026

9th Sunday after Pentecost

WORSHIP NOTES: Your cooperation in silencing cell phones will be greatly appreciated. Worshipers are invited to speak/sing bold worship elements.

*All who are able may stand.

PRELUDE

Elizabeth Hedman, violin
Ginger Murphy, cello

INVENTION NO. 4 IN D MINOR (BWV 775)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Christine Chakoian

INTROIT

Devon Davidson, soprano
Emily Kerrigan, alto
Laurel Sanders, organ

Lift Your Gaze

Dan Redfeld (b. 1970)
Lyrics: Christina Harding (b. 1977) and
John Gabriel Koladziej (b. 1980)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Marin Miller, Director of Children & Family Ministries

The Psalmist writes: "I was glad when they said
to me,

let us go to the house of the Lord!"

Come, let us come together in praise to God;

let us celebrate God's love that
welcomes us all.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN 301

Verses 1, 3, 4, & 5

Let Us Build a House

[TWO OAKS]

*CONFESSIONS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST—

ADAPTED FROM *BETH MERRILL NEEL*

Holy God, you have welcomed us into your house and called each one of us home. Yet we confess that we fear what is different. In our deeply divided world, it is easier to lock the doors of our community than to receive those who don't look like we look, love like we love, or vote like we vote. We trust in your mercy, O God. Turn us around to be as inclusive as you are. Give us the courage to change. Give us the energy, intelligence, imagination, and love to be your people in all we say and do. Amen.

*SILENT INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Let us extend God's peace to one another with these ancient words:

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Today we celebrate the baptism of Isabelle Catherine Needham, born on April 11, 2026. Isabelle is the daughter of Shane Patrick Needham & Kristyn Ashley Humphreys Needham and the sister of William Samuel Humphreys Needham.

QUESTIONS TO THE PARENTS

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Tracy Cluss-Harmeyer, Elder

Jesus commanded us to teach those who are baptized.

Do you, the people of this church, promise to guide and nurture Isabelle, by word and deed, with love and prayer?

We do.

Will you encourage her to know and follow Christ, and be a faithful member of her church?

We will.

PRAYER AND SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

WELCOME BY THE CONGREGATION

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church. We are all members of the household of God, and family through Jesus Christ.

Let us sing together, "*Jesus Loves Me!*" symbolizing the inclusive love of Christ.

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tell me so! Little ones to Him belong: they are weak, but He is strong!

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus love me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tell me so.*

Jesus loves me! This I know, as He loved so long ago, taking children on His knee, saying, "Let them come to me."

Yes, Jesus loves me!...

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Youth remain in the Service / Children are dismissed to Sunday School

ANTHEM

Raewynn Davidson &
Devon Davidson, sopranos
Dan Redfeld, piano

Kindle My Heart

Music & Lyrics: Patrick Doyle (b. 1953)
Arr. Dan Redfeld (b. 1970)

Kindle My Heart is from the 1995's "A Little Princess". The words are based on an Old English poem about bringing one closer to another loved one but also to God. The piece also includes the Sanskrit word "namaste" which literally translates into "I see you" or "I see your inner light." This arrangement is dedicated to Raewynn & Devon Davidson.

FIRST LESSON

Lisa Goalen

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15; O.T., page 581

*HYMN 686

God of Our Life
[TRENTHAM]

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Paula Mann

God of all time and space, we turn to you with thanks and praise.

You have blessed us with your presence every day of our lives, every step on our journey.

Loving God, pour out your mercy on each of your beloved, broken people.

Heal the sick, comfort the grieving, and bring your peace on earth.

*petitions are added

LORD'S 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

Both Sides Now

Music & Lyrics: Joni Mitchell (b. 1943)
Arr. Dan Redfeld (b. 1970)

Joni Mitchell was inspired by a passage in Saul Bellow's "Henderson the Rain King" and wrote this song staring out a window on a plane. The lyric is often thought of as a love song when in fact it's a rumination on love (both human & spiritual) and life - how we gain wisdom through each day. And true illumination comes from realizing that we know nothing in comparison to the cosmos.

MEDITATION

LITANY OF BLESSING

HONORING OUR SHARED MINISTRY

COVENANT OF DEPARTURE

Do you, members and friends of Westwood Presbyterian Church, release Pastor Chris from service as your pastor? Do you offer encouragement for her new calling in this season of retirement?

We do, with God's help.

Do you, Pastor Chris, recognize and accept the completion of your pastoral relationship with this congregation? Do you offer your encouragement for the church's ministry as it unfolds?

I do, with God's help.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

Eternal God, through all the years of our lives your love protects and guides us. By your Spirit, you call each one of us to offer our gifts in service to your vision. We praise you for the gifts you have shared through Pastor Chris: for her proclamation of your word, her pastoral care, and her leadership of our church. Grant to her now refreshment and rest, reflection and rejoicing, and the fullness of your peace. Through your Holy Spirit bless each of us that we may continue to seek to fulfill your will: to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, united in the love of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 749

Come! Live in the Light!
[WE ARE CALLED]

*BENEDICTION

RESPONSE

*based on Numbers 6:24-26
& Romans 15:13*

His Holy Spirit Shines Through You
Dan Redfeld (b. 1970)
Koi Howard

POSTLUDE

III. Rondo from Duet
No. 2 (Three Duets, woO 27)
Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)



The congregation gratefully acknowledges the contributions of:

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The gift of Kitty Sankey in honor of Rev. Dr. Christine Chakoian & John Shustitzky and their service to WPC!

FAREWELL RECEPTION

Please join us for a farewell reception in honor of Pastor Chris & John in Hoffman Hall after worship.

GREETER

Katie Mahler

USHERS

Anne Cioffi, Drew Aylor, and Breen Frazier

ELDER HOST

Dale Larson

DEACON HOST

Connie Price

AV TEAM

Vincent Purcell and Dakota Hodge