**Westworth United Church**

an Affirming Ministry located on the lands of

Treaty One Territory

and the homeland of the Red River Métis Nation

March 9, 2025

Lent 1 – Everything In Between – Stranger & Neighbour

**We Gather to Worship**

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Introit**

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Call to Worship**

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

**Who is my neighbour?**

**How can I help?**

**What do I have to learn?**

**Where is God in it all?**

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

**So may we listen. May we learn.**

**May we stay curious, and may we look for God.**

This is our invitation to lean in. Let us worship God.

**Opening Prayer**

God meets us in the night –

**Before the sun rises,**

**Before the wound heals,**

**Before there are answers,**

**Before there is closure.**

God meets us in the light –

**Where joy is effervescent,**

**Where laughter is contagious,**

**Where flowers bloom from cracks in the sidewalk,**

**Where people gather around tables.**

God meets us in between –

**At the edge of the water,**

**At the beginning of the wilderness,**

**At the start of something new,**

**On the edge of faith.**

And if God meets us in all those places

**Then surely God meets us everywhere –**

**At the water’s edge, at the start of something new,**

**After the baptism, and before the call.**

We are not alone. God is all around.

**Let us worship the God of everything.**

**Hymn** MV 150 Spirit God be Our Breath B Harding

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God,**

**you have told us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we get tripped up on logistics.**

**We want to know:**

**Who is our neighbour?**

**DO we have to love the stranger?**

**Must we have compassion for our enemy?**

**Forgive our human tendency to**

**create exceptions in the face of love.**

**Rewire our hearts so that we might see**

**the face of a neighbour in every stranger we pass.**

**With hope we pray.**

-silent prayer-

**Tenebrae Candles**

**Sung Response** VU 400 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

CHILDREN PRAYING

**Words of Forgiveness**

Family of faith,

When we set limits on love,

**God loves extravagantly**

When we forget that we are neighbours,

**God claims us as God’s own.**

When we judge, hold back or harm,

**God surrounds us with grace,**

There is nothing we can do or leave undone

That could separate us from the love of God.

**This is the good news of the gospel.**

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**The Peace of Christ**

**Sharing the Story**

**We Hear the Word**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture:** Luke 9: 51-62

**Scripture:** Luke 10: 25-37

This is the good news of the Gospel

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

**Reflection**

**Hymn** VU 563 Jesus You Have Come to the LakeshorePESCADOR DE HOMBRES

**We Respond to the Word**

**Offering Invitation**

**Hymn** Tune MV 173

**Offering Dedication**

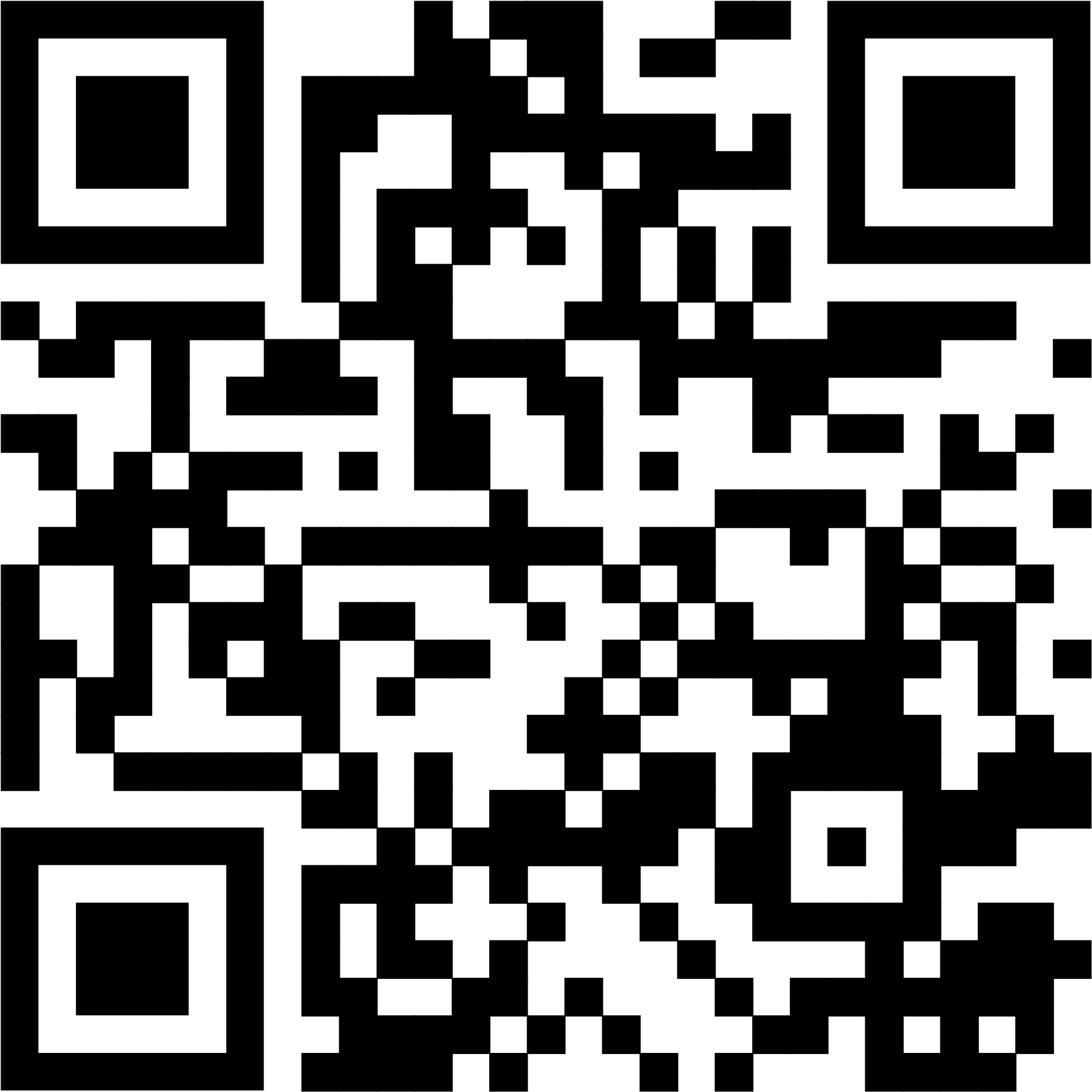
**Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer** (VU921)

**Hymn** MV 92 Like a Rock K.K. Wehlander

**Benediction**

**Sung Amen** VU 971 Amen

**Postlude**

Pianist: Megan Dufrat

Director of Music: Valdine Anderson

Coordinator of Children, Youth & Families: Katie Anderson

Minister: Tricia Gerhard

QR Code for Westworth donations

