**Hymn:** TUNE MV173

 *In peace we place our offering here*

 *Our hope and prayers and compassion.*

 *May you, O God, bless all we share,*

 *Bring healing to Your Creation.*

**Offering Dedication**

**You, God,**

**are with us in the highs, lows and in-betweens of this life.**

**For this we are thankful.**

**May Your Generous Spirit fall upon**

**what we have offered here**

**so that in a world where divisions feel so wide**

**and suffering so overwhelming**

**we might do our part by taking our place**

**within the unfolding story of our faith.**

**Amen.**

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

**Hymn** MV 174 Soil of God, You and I J. Hannah, DS. Melhorn-Boe

**Benediction**

As we leave this place, may we find God in every messy

middle.

 **May we know that the world is bigger than two sides.**

May we trust that we are made in the image of God,

And therefore, we contain multitudes.

 **May we move through this world with an open heart,**

 **A curious mind,**

 **And with the confidence that we do not go alone.**

God is with us in the mountains, in the valleys, and everywhere in between.

 **May we believe that good news and go in peace.**

**Sung Amen:** VU 971 Amen

**Postlude**Adoration Florence Price

Reader: Shirley Watts

Pianist: Megan Dufrat

Director of Music: Valdine Anderson

Coordinator of Children, Youth & Families: Katie Anderson

Minister: Tricia Gerhard

 QR Code for Westworth donations

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**Westworth United Church**

an Affirming Ministry located on the lands of

Treaty One Territory

and the homeland of the Red River Métis Nation

March 23, 2025

Lent 3 – Everything In Between – Rest & Growth

**We Gather to Worship**

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Introit** Come Unto UsKaren Marrolli

**Call to Worship**

Worship is a place to rest.

 **We breathe deeply here.**

 **We still our aching bones.**

 **We sit in the peace and quiet.**

 **We surround ourselves with music.**

Worship is a place to grow

 **We listen for God’s word here.**

 **We invite it to challenge us.**

 **We lean in with curiosity.**

 **We ask questions and listen for wisdom.**

Worship is a place to rest and it is a place to grow.

So come with all you are and sit in this in-between space.

 **We will come to rest and to grow here.**

 **For where two or more are gathered,**

 **God is there in between everything.**

**Opening Prayer**

**We believe that You are a God**

**who loves and tends to us like a gardener.**

**We believe that like trees,**

**Some seasons are for growth**

**And some are for rest.**

**Some days require pruning**

**And some require planting.**

**We believe that You see where we are**

**And what we need**

**And we trust that You always cultivate**

**The sweetest fruit from our hearts.**

**In this time of prayer and worship,**

**May we plant our roots deeply**

**In our faith and Your love**

**Even as we reach for the sky.**

**May we grow where we can,**

**And rest when we need to,**

**Trusting that there is holiness in both the pruning**

**And in the planting.
Amen.**

**Hymn:** VU 381 Spirit of Life

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession:**

**Holy God,**

**There are days when we fail to rest.**

**We stretch ourselves too thin.**

**We say ‘yes’ to every request.**

**We run a million miles a minute.**

**We ignore Your command to honour the sabbath,**

**To keep it holy,**

**By filling our days until they burst.**

**There are also days when we fail to act.**

**We wait for someone else to move.**

**We take the easy road.**

**We find excuses and justify our inaction.**

**God, forgive our imbalance.**

**Remind us that birds rest**

**And they also fly.**

**Show us how to do the same.**

**Tenebrae Candles**

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

**Words of forgiveness**

 Family of faith, I have good news! Our God does not keep score. Our

 God does not hold grudges. Our God does not assume the worst about us. No, our God offers grace, endless second chances, and boundless love. So join me in proclaiming the good news of the gospel:

 **God’s grace is deeper than the ocean.**

 **God’s love is wider than the sky.**

 **We are seen. We are claimed. We are forgiven.**

 **May this realization change and inspire us.**

 **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**The Peace of Christ**

**Sharing the Story**

**Hymn** MV 30 It’s a Song of Praise to the Maker R. Duck, R. Klusmeier

**We Hear the Word**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture:** Luke 13:6-9

 This is the good news of the Gospel

 **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:** Lord, Whose Love in Humble ServiceRichard Wienhorst

**Reflection**

**Hymn** VU 703 In the Bulb There is a Flower PROMISE

**We Respond to the Word**

**Offering Invitation**