**Westworth United Church**

an Affirming Ministry located on the lands of

Treaty One Territory

and the homeland of the Red River Métis Nation

April 6, 2025

Lent 5 - Everything In Between – Righteousness & Mercy

**We Gather to Worship**

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Introit**

**Call to Worship**

We come to worship because we long for mercy.

  **We long for community.**

 **We long for God.**

We come to worship because we need a good word

 **We need connection.**

 **We need moral reminders.**

We come to worship because we are in between;

 **Hope and grief,**

 **Faith and doubt,**

 **Joy and longing,**

 **Curiosity and conviction**

So we come to worship and God meets us here.

 **Surely, we are not alone.**

 **Thanks be to God for meeting us in the middle!**

 **Amen**

**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 12 Come Touch Our Hearts G. Light, A. Donaldson

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession:**

**Merciful God, when we fail to be righteous,**

**show us mercy.**

**When we fail to be merciful,**

**Show us what is right.**

**Again and again, bring us closer to you.**

**Again and again, show us the way.**

-silent prayer-

**Tenebrae Candles**

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

**Words of forgiveness**

Family of faith, hear and believe this good news:

When we fail to be righteous,

  **God is merciful.**

When we fail to be merciful,

  **God invites us to try again.**

Again and again,

  **God moves closer to us.**

Again and again,

 **God shows us the way.**

Thanks be to God for this unending love.

**Sung Response** MV 85 Take, O Take Me as I Am J.L. Bell, G. Maule

**The Peace of Christ**

**Sharing the Story**

**Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism**

**Hymn** VU 454 May God Who Creates You L. Skibsted

**We Hear the Word**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture:** Luke 19: 1-10

 This is the good news of the Gospel

 **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

**Reflection**

**Hymn** MV 127 I Saw the Rich Ones P. Mayberry, M. Stubington

**We Respond to the Word**

**Offering Invitation**

**Hymn** TUNE MV 173

 *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**

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

**Hymn** VU 567 Will You Come and Follow Me? KELVINGROVE

**Benediction**

**Sung Amen** VU 971 Amen

**Postlude**