

# We're so glad you're here today!

Is this your first time here? Welcome! Stop by the Info Spot before or after the service. We'd love to meet you, answer any questions you have, and give you some helpful information. For kids and students, we offer great programs specially tailored to their ages. The Westwood Kids team is happy to help you get them connected. For more info on the great things happening here, check out [westwoodcc.org](http://westwoodcc.org).

## RSVP for Christmas

Let us know which Christmas service you plan to attend with a quick and easy RSVP. It helps us make sure we have room for everyone who wants to attend. Head to our website for all the details on services at our campuses and to RSVP or volunteer.

## Volunteer for Christmas

We need volunteers to help make our Christmas events meaningful and welcoming. It's easy to serve at one service and attend another and you can serve as a family too! We need ushers, greeters and hosts at all of our services and Kids Ministry volunteers for select services. Go online to sign up to help!

## CALLED TO BE A SERVANT

December 2, 2018 | Joel K. Johnson

Listen to me, you islands;  
hear this, you distant nations:  
Before I was born the LORD called me;  
from my mother's womb he has spoken my name.  
<sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharpened sword,  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me into a polished arrow  
and concealed me in his quiver.  
<sup>3</sup>He said to me, "You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will display my splendor."  
<sup>4</sup>But I said, "I have labored in vain;  
I have spent my strength for nothing at all.  
Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand,  
and my reward is with my God."  
<sup>5</sup>And now the LORD says—  
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant  
to bring Jacob back to him  
and gather Israel to himself,  
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD  
and my God has been my strength—  
<sup>6</sup>he says:  
"It is too small a thing for you to be my servant  
to restore the tribes of Jacob  
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.  
I will also make you a light for the Gentiles,  
that my salvation may reach to the ends of  
the earth."  
<sup>7</sup>This is what the LORD says—  
the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel—  
to him who was despised and abhorred by  
the nation,  
to the servant of rulers:  
"Kings will see you and stand up,  
princes will see and bow down,  
because of the LORD, who is faithful,  
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.

Isaiah 49:1-7

**Message:** I am a servant of the Lord

What is the goal of your life?

The Servant experiences  
discouragement – and so do you.

How to deal with discouragement:

- The Servant knows He is called,  
named and formed by God –  
and so are you.

- The Servant lives as an instrument  
of God – and so do you.

# Bible Reading Plan

Join us in reading the Bible together. The Bible Reading Plan is a way to incorporate reading the Bible into your week. These verses are chosen by our staff and designed to complement the Sunday message.

You can find it on our app or at [westwoodcc.org/readingplan](http://westwoodcc.org/readingplan)

- Isaiah 49:1-4
- Matthew 5:14-16
- Isaiah 49:5-6
- John 13:1-17
- Isaiah 49:7-9

## Considering a year-end gift?

### Cash or Check:

To be recorded as a 2018 contribution, gifts of cash or check must be received at Westwood Community Church by 5:00pm on December 31, 2018. Contributions also qualify as a 2018 gift if postmarked on or before December 31, 2018, or are made online through Westwood's website by 11:59pm on December 31, 2018.

### Stock or Mutual Funds:

If you are considering a year-end gift of stock or mutual funds to support the ministries of Westwood, please note that these transactions can take more than 30 days to process. You will find helpful instructions at [westwoodcc.org/give](http://westwoodcc.org/give). If you have any questions contact our Accounting Manager, Liz Hetherington, at 952.224.7374

### 2018 Giving Statements:

Year to date giving history is available electronically on Westwood Life, our church management software. If you have not yet created a login to Westwood Life, go to [westwoodcc.ccbchurch.com](http://westwoodcc.ccbchurch.com), set up your account and follow the instructions to view and print your giving statement. If you need help accessing your giving records, please email [accounting@westwoodcc.org](mailto:accounting@westwoodcc.org) or call Liz Hetherington at 952.224.7374.

# PRELUDE

songs for a savior

Prelude #2  
*Called to be a Servant*  
Text: Isaiah 49:1-7  
December 2, 2018

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. What does success mean to you? What do we usually set goals around in our lives or as a country?
2. Read Isaiah 49:1-7 to review the Servant Song in this Isaiah passage. Remember, the words of Isaiah speak to the present vulnerable state of Israel as a state taken over by the Babylonians. The Southern Kingdom which includes Judah and Jerusalem are at risk of the same take over. Isaiah is warning them, but on the other hand he is painting the picture of future hope in the Messiah to come -- who He is, how He comes and what he is called to do.
3. Have any of you set as a goal for your life becoming a servant? That is, what you are targeting for success is servanthood? Why is this kind of language not on our radar? Jesus declares it is his identity and his ministry? He intends it to be ours as well – so what does it look like to have a goal that states – “I am a servant of the Lord” in the midst of our vocations and relationships?
4. Read vs.4. Does it surprise you that The Servant (Jesus) experiences discouragement? When do we see his discouragement played out during his earthly life? Why does that matter to us when we find ourselves discouraged?
5. The Servant does two things to deal with his discouragement in this passage.
  - a. The Servant (Jesus) knows He is called, named and formed by God. Where do you see this in Isaiah 49:1-6? How does this help Jesus fulfill the will of his Father in the face of great discouragement? The same statement applies to us – we are called, named and formed by God (Ephesians 1:4-5) How does this truth help us navigate our own personal times of discouragement?
  - b. The Servant (Jesus) lives as an instrument of God. What is revealed about his mission and purpose in these passages? What does it mean to know that we are instruments of God’s even in times of challenge and discouragement? How does this help you keep hope alive?
6. What can you do to reinforce the message “I am a servant of the Lord” as an every day rhythm to life?