



First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

August 4, 2024

PRELUDE - Hani

Aria in F Major

G. F. Handel

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WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Family of God, what is our story?

People: **We are part of God's good creation, created and sustained by the Triune God.**

Leader: Family of God, what is our story?

People: **Though created by our loving God, we have sinned and harmed ourselves, one another, and creation.**

Leader: Family of God, what is our story?

People: **While we were yet sinners, God sent Jesus to show us how to turn away from sin and toward the love of God.**

Leader: Family of God, what is our story?

People: **We carry the weight of the Word in our hearts, our hands, and our voices, proclaiming with our lives the good news of God's love and the mercy of God's grace.**

Leader: Family of God, this is our story and our song!

People: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)

OPENING HYMN #357 *Just as I Am, Without One Plea* (v. 1-3)

1. Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

2. Just as I am, and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot,
to thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3. Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just As I Am

Charlotte Elliott | William Batchelder Bradbury
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HOLY COMMUNION, The United Methodist Hymnal, page 15

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...The pastor concludes:

And so,
with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

...The pastor concludes:

And so,
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

The pastor concludes:

All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.
now and for ever.

Amen.

HYMN #357 *Just as I Am, Without One Plea* (v. 4-6)

4. Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5. Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6. Just as I am, thy love unknown
hath broken every barrier down;
now, to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just As I Am

Charlotte Elliott | William Batchelder Bradbury
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TIME FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

JOYS AND CONCERNS / PASTORAL PRAYER / 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING

For those who are called and able, gifts and tithes can still be made through [online giving](#), by mailing them in, and by dropping them off to the church office through the secure mail slot to the left of the double door entry to the church hallway.

OFFERTORY MUSIC – Presenter

In the Meadow

Heinrich Lichner

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DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow (Old 100th)

Louis Bourgeois | Thomas Ken

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God, in this time of offering, we come before you, acknowledging your steadfast grace and boundless love. As we present our gifts, may we also offer our contrite hearts, recognizing the depth of our humanity and the need for your healing touch. Grant us the courage to confront our failings and the wisdom to seek reconciliation and renewal in your divine presence. Amen.

(2 Samuel 11:26 – 12:13a)

SCRIPTURE Mark 4:10–20 (NRSV)

10 When he was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables. 11 And he said to them, “To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables; 12 in order that ‘they may indeed look, but not perceive, and may indeed listen, but not understand; so that they may not turn again and be forgiven.’”

13 And he said to them, “Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables? 14 The sower sows the word. 15 These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. 16 And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: when they hear the word, they immediately receive it with joy. 17 But they have no root, and endure only for a while; then, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away.^a 18 And others are those sown among the thorns: these are the ones who hear the word, 19 but the cares of the world, and the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing. 20 And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.”

Response

The Word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

Congregational Anthem - HYMN #191 *Jesus Loves Me*

1. Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain

Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

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

Refrain

3. Jesus loves me still today,
walking with me on my way,
wanting as a friend to give
light and love to all who live.

*Refrain***Jesus Loves Me**

Anna Bartlett Warner | William Batchelder Bradbury
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SERMON - Rev. Jacob Lee

The Gospel of Mark: The Purpose

CLOSING HYMN #369 *Blessed Assurance* (v. 1, 3)

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

*Refrain***Blessed Assurance**

Fanny Jane Crosby | Phoebe Palmer Knapp
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BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE - Hani****Processional on Psalm 150**

Alice Jordan

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