



First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

February 18, 2024

PRELUDE - Hani

Adagio from Clarinet Concert A Major

W. A. Mozart

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WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

(Inspired by Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13)

Leader: Jesus began his ministry to the world, led by the Spirit into the wilderness.

People: **As we begin our Lenten journey, let us be led by the Spirit, even into the uncomfortable places.**

Leader: In those forty days, and in that place, Jesus was faced with hunger, doubt and temptation.

People: **As we seek to follow Jesus, we would be led, even into the uncomfortable choices.**

Leader: Jesus left the wilderness, faithful and obedient to God, rejoicing in the One in whom he trusted.

People: **As we continue on our path to faithfulness, we will be led by our Christ, rejoicing in the Lord our God.**

(Written by Thom Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies)

OPENING HYMN #128 *He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought* (v. 1-3)

1. He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

He leadeth me, he leadeth me,
by his own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.

2. Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
by waters still, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

3. Lord, I would place my hand in thine,
nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see,
since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

*Refrain***He Leadeth Me**

Joseph Henry Gilmore | William Batchelder Bradbury
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PASTOR'S TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**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 - Josh

Funeral March from Sonata, Op. 35 No. 2
Frederic Chopin
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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

Holy God of compassion and mercy; help us enter this holy season with the hearts you desire and with the sacrifices that please you – more than our letting go of bad habits. As we bring our tithes and offerings, may they be given not for the praise of others, but from our hearts to yours. In this season of denial and repentance, help us take on what brings you joy: sharing with the hungry, offering shelter and clothing to the homeless and poor, and showing compassion to all we meet for carrying life's unshared burdens. In doing so, may light arise in the darkness. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

(Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21)

SCRIPTURE Mark 12:28-31 (NRSV)

28 One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" 29 Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 30 you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Response

The Word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

Anthem - Chancel Choir

Lenten Meditation

Jay Althouse

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SERMON - Rev. Jacob Lee

For God's Will

(Based on The Purpose Driven Life/Church)

CLOSING HYMN FWS #2152 *Change My Heart, O God* (sing two times)

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

You are the potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

Change My Heart, O God

Eddie Espinosa

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BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE - Hani****Te Deum**

Marc-Antoine Charpentier

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Online Giving

If you are able, please give your tithes and offerings through our secure portal at
<https://firstumctorrance.org/giving/>.

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