



First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

February 25, 2024

PRELUDE - Hani

Lenten Prayer

Edward Broughton

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WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Lenten travelers, who is this Jesus that we follow?

People: **He is the Messiah.**

Leader: What kind of Messiah is Jesus?

People: **He is the Messiah who teaches that he will lose his life and who calls us to lose our lives in order to save our lives.**

Leader: How does it feel to follow a Messiah whose teachings and call are so hard and uncomfortable?

People: **Some feel fear and anger, while others feel uncertain and anxious, and still others feel resolute and ready to follow.**

Leader: Lenten travelers, we are not alone in our feelings about following Jesus as our Messiah. It is a hard road. The blessing is that we do not travel it alone.

People: **Thanks be to God that we share this journey with Jesus and one another as we lose our lives for the sake of the gospel to save our lives through Jesus, our Messiah. Amen.**

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)

OPENING HYMN #67 *We, Thy People, Praise Thee*

We, Thy people, praise Thee,
Praise Thee, God of every nation!
We, Thy people, praise Thee,
Praise Thee, Lord of Hosts eternal!

1. Days of wonder, days of beauty, days of rapture filled with light
tell thy goodness, tell thy mercies, Tell Thy glorious might.

We, Thy people, praise Thee,
Praise Thee, praise Thee evermore!

We, Thy people, praise Thee,
Praise Thee, God of every nation!
We, Thy people, praise Thee,
Praise Thee, Lord of Hosts eternal!

2. For thy blessings, for thy bounty, joyful songs to thee we sing,
songs of glory, songs of triumph to our God and King.
We, Thy people, praise Thee,
Praise Thee, praise Thee evermore!

We, Thy People, Praise Thee

Kate Sterns Page

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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 - P.A.L.A.

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

God of Boundless Goodness: We have come to this place this day to worship you with our songs, with our words, with our gifts, and with our whole hearts. We are reminded that our discipleship decision involves more than what we bring this day to the altar; it calls us to a place where a cross that is ours alone must be picked up and carried. This, more than anything else, is why we need the community of your church. Strengthen us, we pray, not just to carry our own cross, but to help sisters and brothers carry their crosses as well. In the name of the one who bore his cross for us. Amen.

(Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9)

SCRIPTURE Romans 12:9-16 (NRSV)

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; 10 love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

Response

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Anthem - Chancel Choir

How Can I Keep from Singing?

Robert Lowry | Arr. Craig Courtney

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SERMON - Rev. Jacob Lee

Formed for God's Family

(Based on The Purpose Driven Life/Church)

CLOSING HYMN #672 *God Be with You till We Meet Again* (v. 1-3)

1. God be with you till we meet again;
by his counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

2. God be with you till we meet again;
neath his wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

3. God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put his arms unfailing round you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

God Be with You till We Meet Again

Jeremiah Eames Rankin | William Gould Tomer
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - Hani

Grand Toccata

Gerald Peterson

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Online Giving

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