



First United Methodist Church of Torrance

Online Church in Worship

July 28, 2024

PRELUDE - Hani

Cantabile in G
Filippo Capocci
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WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Children of God, you are welcome here. All of who you are—even your regrets and failings—is welcome here.

People: **We come to tell the truth about who we are in relationship with God.**

Leader: Many of us find it easy to recognize our goodness and difficult to notice our sins.

People: **We come to tell the truth about who we are in relationship with God.**

Leader: Others of us live under a shroud of guilt and shame, believing we can never be good enough to receive the fullness of God's love.

People: **We come to tell the truth about who we are in relationship with God.**

Leader: However you enter this place, know this: you are loved, accepted, and called. May God's love draw us to honest confession; God's acceptance assures us of the work of grace in our lives, and God's call compels us to live in grace.

People: **We come to tell the truth about who we are in relationship with God who Loves us, accepts us, and calls us. Amen.**

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)

OPENING HYMN #140 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness,
Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Thomas Obediah Chisholm | William Marion Runyan
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PASTOR'S TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

Baptismal Covenant II - UMH p. 40

Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your
commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons
now before you in your care?

**With God's help we will proclaim the good news
and live according to the example of Christ.**

**We will surround these persons
with a community of love and forgiveness,
that they may grow in their service to others.**

**We will pray for them.
that they may be true disciples
who walk in the way that leads to life.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
[who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.]**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
[the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.]**

Members of the household of God,
I commend these persons to your love and care.
Do all in your power to increase their faith,
confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you
and we welcome you in Christian love.
As members together with you
in the body of Christ
and in this congregation
of The United Methodist Church,
we renew our covenant
faithfully to participate
in the ministries of the church
by our prayers, our presence,
our gifts, and our service,
that in everything God may be glorified
through Jesus Christ.**

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

Ave Maria
Franz Schubert
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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

Loving God, in this sacred moment of offering, we come before you with humble hearts, recognizing your unwavering mercy and boundless compassion. As we present our gifts, may we also lay bare our shortcomings and seek your forgiveness and guidance. Grant us the courage to confront our humanity and the strength to strive for righteousness in all our endeavors. Amen.

(2 Samuel 11:1-15)

SCRIPTURE [Mark 2:18-22 \(NRSV\)](#)

18 Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people came and said to him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" 19 Jesus said to them, "The wedding guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. 20 The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day.

21 “No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. 22 And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins.”

Response

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Anthem – Chancel Choir

This Is the Day

Jay Althouse

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SERMON – Rev. Jacob Lee

The Gospel of Mark: The Question

CLOSING HYMN #377 *It Is Well with My Soul* (v. 1, 4)

1. When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

4. And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
even so, it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It Is Well With My Soul

Horatio Gates Spafford | Philip Paul Bliss

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - Hani

Recessional

F. W. Asper

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