



First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

September 22, 2024

PRELUDE - Hani

Sonatina From the Cantata "God's time is best"

J.S. Bach

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WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Beloved, in a world that criticizes women who lead in the workplace and demeans women who stay home to tend their families, God's uncommon wisdom calls to us:

All: Recognize the leadership of women!

Leader: In a world where churches still deny and repress the gifts, graces, and callings of women in ministry, God's uncommon wisdom calls to us:

All: Nurture the leadership of women!

Leader: In boardrooms, family meetings, town councils, pulpits, and church committees, women lead us with their voices, their actions, their wisdom, and their strength. And so, God's uncommon wisdom calls to us:

All: Respect the leadership of women!

Leader: For too long, women who lead among us have been unnamed, underappreciated, and exploited as free labor. May we listen and act, then, as God's uncommon wisdom calls to us:

All: Support the leadership of women! Thanks be to God. Amen.

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)

OPENING HYMN #519 *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

1. Lift every voice and sing,
'til earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty;
let our rejoicing rise
high as the listening skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song
full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song
full of hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun
of our new day begun,
let us march on 'til victory is won.

2. Stony the road we trod,
bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat,
have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come
over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come,
treading our path thru the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past,
'til now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3. God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might
led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet
stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest our hearts
drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand,
may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Lift Every Voice and Sing

James Weldon Johnson | J. Rosamond Johnson
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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 - P.A.L.A.

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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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PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of Love and Mercy, we bring these offerings with grateful hearts, honoring your enduring guidance in our lives. Just as Wisdom works with willing hands and provides for those in need, may these gifts be used to nurture and uplift our community. Inspire us to follow your teachings of kindness and generosity. Transform our contributions into acts of love and justice, spreading your light in the world. May we always give credit to your divine wisdom and grace. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

(Proverbs 31:10-31)

SCRIPTURE Mark 12:41-44 (NRSV)

41 He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. 42 A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. 43 Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. 44 For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

Response

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Anthem - Chancel Choir**Make Me a Channel of Your Peace**

Francis of Assisi | Sebastian Temple; | Arr. Mark Hayes

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SERMON - Rev. Jacob Lee

The Gospel of Mark: The Widow's Offering

CLOSING HYMN #600 Wonderful Words of Life (v. 1, 3)

1. Sing them over again to me,
wonderful words of life;
let me more of their beauty see,
wonderful words of life;
words of life and beauty
teach me faith and duty.

Refrain

Beautiful words, wonderful words,
wonderful words of life. Beautiful words, wonderful words,
wonderful words of life.

3. Sweetly echo the gospel call,
wonderful words of life;
offer pardon and peace to all,
wonderful words of life;
Jesus, only Savior,
sanctify forever.

Refrain

Wonderful Words of Life

Philip Paul Bliss

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - Hani

Battle Hymn of the Republic “Glory Glory Hallelujah”

Arr. William Steffe

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<https://firstumctorrance.org/giving/>.

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