



# First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

April 6, 2025

## PRELUDE - Hani

Andante Religioso from Sonata No.4  
F. Mendelssohn  
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## WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We come to worship, remembering God's goodness that has carried us and sustained us to this present moment.

**All: We remember the days when God covered us in love and filled us with joy.**

Leader: We come to worship, weary from stress, heavy with grief, and wondering when relief will come.

**All: We long for the days God covered us in love and filled us with joy.**

Leader: We come to worship to remember and remind one another that God's love has never left us, and God's joy cannot be extinguished.

**All: God, restore us that we know your love and your joy once again.**

Leader: We come to worship to remember and become the Body of Christ, a community called to restore the world around us.

**All: God, empower us to be your restoration people who fill the world with love, laughter, and abundant life. Amen.**

*(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)*

## OPENING HYMN #77 *How Great Thou Art* (v. 1, 2)

1. O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

### *Refrain*

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
How great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
How great thou art, how great thou art!

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

Refrain

**How Great Thou Art**

Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

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**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All:** Like Judas, God of new things, we like to complain about your generous ways, rather than living in your grace. The poor are always with us, we believe, which justifies our ignoring them. In our memories, we focus on a perceived golden past, and so we ignore the new things you do in our midst. We are so enamored with our achievements that we are not willing to throw them away in order to follow Jesus. Forgive us, Restoring God, and help us to notice the kingdom springing forth in our midst. By your grace, may our fears turn to faith, our seeds of grief produce a bumper crop of joy, and our tears turn into torrents of tenderness as we journey with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to Jerusalem.

*(Silence is kept.)*

*(Assurance of Pardon)*

Leader: Making a way through all the foolishness and mistakes of our lives, God leads us into new life, where we are restored to grace, to hope, and to peace.

**All:** Do we notice what God has done for us, what God is doing in us? This is good news for everyone. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

*(Adapted from Thom Shuman, posted at <https://pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au/?p=2008>)*

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 NO. 77**    *How Great Thou Art*    (v. 3, 4)

3. And when I think that God, his son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin;

*Refrain*

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
How great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
How great thou art, how great thou art!

4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
and there proclaim, my God how great thou art!

*Refrain*

### **How Great Thou Art**

Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

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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 - Hani**

**The Old Rugged Cross**

George Bennard | Arr. Jenifer Cook

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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

Loving God, source of all joy, we come before you with hearts full of gratitude. As Mary poured out her love for Jesus with costly perfume, so we pour out our gifts before you, seeking to honor you with all that we have. During this reflective Lenten period, may our offerings remind us of the abundance you've poured into our lives. Help us to give extravagantly, not out of duty, but from hearts filled with joy and gratitude. Bless these gifts and use them to bring your hope to the world. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

*(Psalm 126, John 12:1-8)*

## SCRIPTURE Luke 10:38-42 (NRSV)

38 Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. 39 She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. 40 But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." 41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; 42 there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

### Response

The Word of the Lord:  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Anthem - Chancel Choir

### Title

Composer

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## SERMON - Rev. Jacob Lee

*Martha's Hands and Mary's Heart!*

## CLOSING HYMN #569 *We've a Story to Tell to the Nation* (v. 1, 4)

1. We've a story to tell to the nations,  
that shall turn their hearts to the right,  
a story of truth and mercy,  
a story of peace and light,  
a story of peace and light.

*Refrain*

For the darkness shall turn to dawning,  
and the dawning to noon day bright;  
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth,  
the kingdom of love and light.

4. We've a Savior to show to the nations,  
who the path of sorrow hath trod,  
that all of the world's great peoples  
might come to the truth of God,  
might come to the truth of God.

*Refrain***We've A Story To Tell To The Nations (Message)**

Henry Ernest Nichol  
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**BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE - Hani**

**Hornpipe**  
G. F. Handel  
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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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