



# First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

February 23, 2025

## PRELUDE - Hani

### Meditation on "Vernon"

Arr. Steven Scott

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## WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus teaches us, "Do to others as you would have them do to you." But who are the others?

**All: Our enemies and friends, family and strangers.**

Leader: Jesus teaches us, "Be merciful as your Father is merciful." But what is mercy?

**All: To act with compassion, to help without expecting anything in return.**

Leader: Jesus teaches us, "Forgive, and you will be forgiven." But how do we forgive?

**All: By recognizing enemies, friends, family, strangers, and ourselves as people in need of compassion.**

Leader: Let us worship God, who loves us and empowers us to love one another with mercy and compassion.

**All: Come, let us worship! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

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

## OPENING HYMN #172 *My Jesus, I Love Thee*

1. My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;  
for thee all the follies of sin I resign.  
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;  
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

2. I love thee because thou hast first loved me,  
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;  
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;  
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

3. In mansions of glory and endless delight,  
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;  
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow;  
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

**My Jesus, I Love Thee**

Adoniram Judson Gordon | William Ralph Featherstone  
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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.****Heaven Came Down**

John W. Peterson

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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**

Merciful God, who calls us to love beyond measure, we offer these gifts as a sign of our commitment to your teachings. Help us love our enemies, do good to those who hate us, and bless those who curse us. May our offerings bring healing and hope, reflecting your boundless grace in our community. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*(Luke 6:27-38)*

**SCRIPTURE** Luke 6:27-38 (NRSV)

27 “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. 29 If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. 30 Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. 31 Do to others as you would have them do to you.

32 “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. 33 If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 34 If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. 35 But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

37 “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; 38 give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

*Response*

The Word of the Lord:

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem - Chancel Choir****The King of Love**

Traditional Irish

Henry W. Baker | Arr. K. Lee Scott

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**SERMON - Rev. Jacob Lee**

*Uneasy Gospel*

**CLOSING HYMN #572 *Pass It On* (v. 1, 3)**

1. It only takes a spark  
to get a fire going,  
And soon all those around,  
can warm up in its glowing.  
That's how it is with God's love,  
once you've experienced it,  
You spread his love  
to everyone,  
you want to pass it on.

3. I wish for you my friend,  
this happiness that I've found,  
You can depend on him,  
it matters not where you're bound.  
I'll shout it from the mountain top,  
I want my world to know,  
The Lord of Love has come to me,  
I want to pass it on.

**Pass It On**

Kurt Kaiser

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**BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE - Hani****The Awakening**

Edward Broughton

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**Online Giving**

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