



First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

January 12, 2025

PRELUDE - Hani

O For The Wings A Dove from "Here My Prayer"

F. Mendelssohn

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WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: When we pass through the cleansing waters of baptism and the troubled waters of our lives, God declares:

All: I will be with you.

Leader: When we go through the fires that refine us and the fires that threaten our livelihoods, God declares:

All: I will be with you.

Leader: Even when we travel to the far corners of the earth or down into the depths of our souls, God declares:

All: I will be with you.

Leader: So come, let us worship God whose love never fails, whose presence never leaves, whose mercies never end.

All: Praise be to God who, in the form of Jesus, waded into the waters of baptism to prove God's solidarity with us! Amen.

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)

OPENING HYMN #158 *Come, Christian, Join to Sing*

1. Come, Christians, join to sing:

Alleluia! Amen!

loud praise to Christ our King:

Alleluia! Amen!

Let all, with heart and voice,

before his throne rejoice;

praise is his gracious choice.

Alleluia! Amen!

2. Come, lift your hearts on high:

Alleluia! Amen!

Let praises fill the sky:

Alleluia! Amen!

He is our guide and friend;

to us he'll condescend;

his love shall never end:

Alleluia! Amen!

3. Praise yet the Lord again:

Alleluia! Amen!

Life shall not end the strain:

Alleluia! Amen!

On heaven's blissful shore

his goodness we'll adore,

singing forevermore:

Alleluia! Amen!

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Christian Henry Bateman | Stan Pethel

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THANKSGIVING FOR LAY MINISTRIES IN WORSHIP

LAY LEADER: We extend our deepest gratitude to the dedicated members of our lay ministry teams and all the volunteers who work tirelessly to bring our worship services to life each Sunday, week after week. Your faithful service enriches our worship and strengthens our church family in countless ways.

As I name each area of service, I kindly ask all the volunteers involved to stand so we can honor and recognize you:

Acolytes: Bringing light and reverence to our gatherings.

Greeters and Ushers: Welcoming us with warmth and hospitality.

Lay Readers: Brining the Word of God through scripture and leading us in prayer and service.

Musicians and Choir: Inspiring hearts through the gift of music and song.

Media Team: Ensuring our worship is seamless and accessible to all.

Communion Stewards and Helpers: Serving at the Lord's Table with care and reverence

Proofreaders: Guaranteeing clear and accurate information in the Sunday bulletin.

Caretakers of Banners and Paraments: Preserving the beauty and symbolism of our worship space.

Coordinators: Organizing and managing the details to ensure smooth worship services.

Facility Caretakers: Maintaining our church space with diligence and care.

Your dedication transforms our worship into a time of connection, inspiration, and joy. In every act of service, you reflect the love and grace of Christ, touching the lives of many.

PASTOR: Worship is the heartbeat of our faith, a sacred time to meet with God and with one another. It is not the work of one, but the offering of many—lay and clergy together—joined as the body of Christ. Today, we honor and recognize the dedicated people who participate in and support our worship services.

CONGREGATION: We give thanks for each of you who serves so faithfully in our worship ministry. Your dedication, love, and hard work enrich our worship and strengthen our bond as a church family.

PASTOR: From welcoming us with warmth and proclaiming God's Word, to inspiring us through music and serving at the Lord's Table, your contributions make each worship service meaningful and uplifting.

CONGREGATION: To those behind the scenes—managing the media, caring for banners and paraments, proofreading, coordinating, and maintaining our facilities—your efforts ensure that every detail comes together beautifully.

PASTOR: Through your service, we witness the love and grace of Christ in action.

CONGREGATION: Thank you for giving your time and talents to glorify God and bless our church. May God richly reward you for all that you do.

TOGETHER: Thanks be to God!

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 - Josh

Trois Gymnopedies #1 Lent et douloureux
Erik Satie
Public Domain

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, who guides us with your everlasting presence, we offer these gifts with grateful hearts. As Jesus stood with us in the waters of baptism, may these offerings stand as a testament to your love and grace. Use them to bring hope, healing, and transformation to our world. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

(Luke 3:15-17, 21-22)

SCRIPTURE John 21:2-7, 15-17 (NRSV)

2 Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, a Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. 3 Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

4 Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. 5 Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They

answered him, “No.” 6 He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. 7 That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea.

15 When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” 16 A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” 17 He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.

Response

The Word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

Anthem – Chancel Choir

Deo Gracias

Natalie Sleeth

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SERMON – Rev. Jacob Lee

Piecing Together the Puzzle of Faith

CLOSING HYMN #584 Lord, You Give the Great Commission (v. 1, 4)

1. Lord, you give the great commission:
“Heal the sick and preach the word.”
Lest the church neglect its mission,
and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity.

Refrain

With the Spirit’s gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

4. Lord, you show us love's true measure:
"Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us
to a just society.

Refrain

Lord You Give The Great Commission (Abbot's Leigh)

Cyril Vincent Taylor | Jeffery Rowthorn

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - Hani

His Truth is Marching On (Battle Hymn)

Arr. Alfred V. Fedak

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Online Giving

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