



First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

March 9, 2025

PRELUDE - Hani

Sarabande (Suite XI, HDV 437)

G.F. Handel

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WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: On this first Sunday in Lent, we join Jesus in the wilderness, a place of wild and dangerous things, of testing and temptation away from the security of home.

All: God, rescue us in the wilderness!

Leader: Once again, we watch and listen as Satan throws out temptation upon temptation, and we find our security in Jesus, who does not waver from the truth.

All: God, rescue us within the wilderness!

Leader: Once again, we face our own frailty and realize that the wilderness is not nearly as dangerous as our choices to prioritize selfish gain and hoarding of power.

All: God, rescue us through the wilderness!

Leader: Once again, we call upon God in the wildernesses of our lives, and we trust God's faithful reply:

All: Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue them and honor them. Thanks be to God! Amen.

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)

OPENING HYMN #405 *Seek Ye First*

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and his righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia!

2. Ask and it shall be given unto you;
seek and ye shall find;
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia!

Seek Ye First

Karen Lafferty

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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 - Pastor Jacob

Psalm 23

Unyung La

*Unknown copyright***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

Faithful God, who journeys with us through the wilderness of our lives, as we offer these gifts, we remember your sustaining presence. In this period of spiritual renewal, strengthen us to resist temptation and guide us to live in community with love and grace. May these offerings be signs of hope and acts of compassion that reflect the love you have shown us in Christ. Empower us to rise together, supporting one another on this journey of faith and transformation. In the name of Jesus, our Redeemer, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Luke 12:13-21 (NRSV)

13 Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” 14 But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” 15 And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” 16 Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. 17 And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ 18 Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ 20 But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ 21 So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

Response

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Anthem - Chancel Choir**Ascribe to the Lord**

Rosephanye Powell

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SERMON - Rev. Jacob Lee

Building A Barn

CLOSING HYMN #130 *God Will Take Care of You* (v. 1, 4)

1. Be not dismayed whate'er betide,
God will take care of you;
beneath his wings of love abide,
God will take care of you.

Refrain

God will take care of you,
through every day, o'er all the way;
he will take care of you,
God will take care of you.

4. No matter what may be the test,
God will take care of you;
lean, weary one, upon his breast,
God will take care of you.

Refrain

God Will Take Care of You

Civilla Durfee Martin | Walter Stillman Martin
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - Hani

Marche in G Major

Louis-James Alfred Lefébure-Wély
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Online Giving

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

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