



# First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

March 16, 2025

## PRELUDE - Hani

**I Lay My Sins On Jesus**

Arr. Todd Kendall

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## WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Children of God, when you are surrounded on every side by shadows that frighten and voices that deride and confuse, what do you say?

**All: God is our light and our salvation! Whom shall we fear?**

Leader: When threats bombard you from every corner, stealing the security and peace you long for, what do you say?

**All: God is the stronghold of our lives! Of whom shall we be afraid?**

Leader: When anxiety and loneliness overwhelm and you do not know who or what to trust any more, what do you say?

**All: Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!**

Leader: Because God knows our suffering. God makes a home among us, welcoming us to come home to God and one another.

**All: Come! Let us worship God who hides us in the day of trouble and conceals us together under the cover of the tent of Love.**

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

## OPENING HYMN #64 *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty* (v. 1, 2, 4)

1. Holy, holy, holy!  
Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning  
our songs shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy!  
Merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons,  
blessed Trinity!

2. Holy, holy, holy!  
All the saints adore thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns  
around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim  
falling down before thee,  
which wert and art, and  
evermore shalt be.

4. Holy, holy, holy!  
Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name,  
in earth and sky and seas.  
Holy, holy, holy!  
Merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons  
blessed Trinity.

**Holy Holy Holy (Nicaea)**  
John Bacchus Dykes, Reginald Heber  
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## **TIME FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

### **JOYS AND CONCERNS / PASTORAL PRAYER / LORD'S PRAYER**

*Response:* Lord in your mercy, **hear our 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 - Rachele, Ray, Leah**

**Nobody Loves Me Like You**  
Ed Cash | Scott Cash  
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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, our shelter and hope, as we walk through this holy season, we come to you with hearts open to your grace. In our giving, may we reflect the love that sustains us, and may we lift one another up in times of need and vulnerability. Use these offerings to bring comfort to the weary and hope to the brokenhearted, just as you draw near to us in our struggles. Strengthen us to be a source of light and love in this world, reflecting your compassion in all we do. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

*(Luke 13:31-35)*

## SCRIPTURE [John 3:1-3; 4:3-10](#) (NRSV)

3:1 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 2 He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." 3 Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

4:3 he left Judea and started back to Galilee. 4 But he had to go through Samaria. 5 So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

7 A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." 8 (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) 10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

*Response*

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

## **Anthem – Chancel Choir**

### **Lenten Meditation**

Jay Althouse

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## **SERMON – Rev. Jacob Lee**

*Encountering Jesus*

## **CLOSING HYMN #664 *Sent Forth by God’s Blessing* (v. 1)**

1. Sent forth by God’s blessing,  
our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.  
The service is ended,  
O now be extended  
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.  
The seed of the teaching,  
receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
God’s grace did invite us,  
and love shall unite us  
to work for God’s kingdom and answer the call.

### **Sent Forth By God’s Blessing (The Ash Grove)**

Omer Westendorf

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## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE – Hani**

### **Sortie in D Major**

César Franck

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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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