



# First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

November 12, 2023

## PRELUDE - Hani

**Open My Eyes**

Arr. Paul Taylor

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## WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

**Leader:** God is great, and greatly to be praised!

**People:** We thank you, God, for families and friends. We thank you for the warmth of kitchens, quilts, and good neighbors.

**Leader:** God, how great is your name throughout the earth!

**People:** We thank you, God, for newborn kittens and faithful dogs, for pine trees and sunlight and crisp, clean air.

**Leader:** Blessed be God, the rock of our salvation!

**People:** We thank you, God, for the sound of laughter and the touch of love, for brand new mornings and for dreams held close.

**Leader:** Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise with songs of praise. Come! Let us worship God.

**People:** Hallelujah!

*(Written by Janice Jean Springer, found in Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship)*

## OPENING HYMN #89 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,  
opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
drive the dark of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day!

2. All thy works with joy surround thee,  
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,  
stars and angels sing around thee,  
center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
call us to rejoice in thee.

3. Thou art giving and forgiving, ever  
blessing, ever blest,  
well-spring of the joy of living,  
ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,  
all who live in love are thine; teach us  
how to love each other,  
lift us to the joy divine.

4. Mortals, join the mighty chorus  
which the morning stars began;  
love divine is reigning o'er us,  
binding all within its span.  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
victors in the midst of strife;  
joyful music leads us sunward,  
in the triumph song of life.

### **Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee**

Edward Hodges | Henry Van Dyke | Ludwig van Beethoven  
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## **PASTOR'S TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

### **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.**

## STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONY - Margie J

### 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

Claire De Lune  
Claude Debussy  
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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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### OFFERTORY PRAYER

**Holy Shepherd of all generations, we bring our gifts this morning with thanksgiving and praise! We present these tithes and offerings not from hearts of obligation or debt, but with the confidence and joy that through your love made incarnate in your son Jesus, you've forever removed our debt. Our joy and gratitude are hard to contain. Use our gifts and our lives to do your work of compassion, mercy, and redemption. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

*(Psalm 100)*

### SCRIPTURE [John 15:1-5 \(NRSV\)](#)

1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. 2 He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 3 You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

*Response*

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

**Anthem - Chancel Choir****We Are Not Alone**

Pepper Choplin

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**SERMON - Rev. Jacob Lee***Grow Together in Christ***CLOSING HYMN #399 *Take My Life and Let It Be***

1. Take my life, and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.  
Take my hands, and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love.  
Take my feet, and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee.

2. Take my voice, and let me sing  
always, only, for my King.  
Take my lips, and let them be  
filled with messages from thee.  
Take my silver and my gold;  
not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect, and use  
every power as thou shalt choose.

3. Take my will, and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.  
Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure-store.  
Take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.

**Take My Life and Let It Be (MESSIAH)**

Frances Ridley Havergal | Louis Joseph Ferdinand Herold | George Kingley  
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## BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE - Hani

**“Under the double eagle” March Op. 159**

Jesef F. Wagner

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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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