



First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

April 7, 2024

PRELUDE - Hani

Pastorale

Franz J. Haydn
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WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP *(Adapted from Psalm 16 NRSVue)*

Leader: Protect us, O God, for in you we take refuge;

People: Let us say to God, "You are our Lord; we have no good apart from you."

Leader: Today, we come to worship God in truth and turn away from worshipping the idols all around us.

People: God delights in our sincere worship, but sorrow visits those who give their worship to idols.

Leader: We bless the Lord who gives counsel, who instructs our hearts in the secret of the night.

People: We keep the Lord always before us so that we shall not be moved from God's ways.

Leader: Our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice, and our bodies rest secure,

People: Because God keeps us from destruction in this life and the next.

Leader: God shows us the path of life,

People: And in God's presence is the fullness of joy forevermore.

Leader: And so, we say to God,

People: "You are our Lord; we have no good apart from you." Amen.

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)

OPENING HYMN #57 *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing (v. 1-3)*

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

2. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.

3. Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing
Carl Gottlieb Glaser | Charles Wesley
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HOLY COMMUNION - *The United Methodist Hymnal*, p. 15

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...The pastor concludes:

And so,
with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

...The pastor concludes:

And so,
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

The pastor concludes:

All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.
now and for ever.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN #57 *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* (v. 4, 5, 7)

4. He breaks the power of canceled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.

5. He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

7. In Christ, your head, you then shall know,
shall feel your sins forgiven;
anticipate your heaven below,
and own that love is heaven.

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing
Carl Gotthelf Glaser | Charles Wesley
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PASTOR'S TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

JOYS AND CONCERNS / PASTORAL PRAYER / PRAYER FOR THE DAY / LORD'S PRAYER - (Adapted from "An Easter Prayer" written by Fr. Larry Snyder)

Good and gracious God, our most glorious Creator, as we greet the signs in nature around us: of Spring once again regaling us in bloom, in the songs of returning birds and fields soon to be planted, we give you praise for an even greater sign of new life: the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, that we especially celebrate at this time. The sadness and despair of his death has given way to the bright promise of immortality.

For the Resurrection is our guarantee that justice will triumph over treason, light will overcome darkness, and love will conquer death. As we celebrate, we also dare to ask for your grace that we may live the promise given to us, by imitating the life of Jesus in reaching out to the poor, the marginalized, the least among us as we strive to be neighbor to all those we meet. We praise you in this Easter season. Change our lives, change our hearts to be messengers of Easter joy and hope.

We make our prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray: 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 - Hani

Christ Arose

Arr. Greg Howlett

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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

Generous God, as we gather to offer our tithes and offerings, we are reminded of the words of the apostle John about the Word of life. Just as your Word brings light into our lives, may our giving be an act of generosity, a reflection of the abundance of your grace and love. We thank you for the forgiveness and grace offered through your Son, Jesus Christ, and as we give, may we also steward these gifts wisely for the betterment of your kingdom. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

(1 John 1:1-2:2)

SCRIPTURE John 20:24-29 (NRSV)

24 But Thomas (who was called the Twina), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." 28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Response

The Word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

Anthem – Chancel Choir**Let Us Break Bread Together**

American Folk Melody; arr. by Craig Courtney

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SERMON – Rev. Jacob Lee

The Time for Us to Do Our Part

CLOSING HYMN #569 *We've a Story to Tell to the Nations* (v. 1, 4)

1. We've a story to tell to the nations,
that shall turn their hearts to the right,
a story of truth and mercy,
a story of peace and light,
a story of peace and light.

Refrain

For the darkness shall turn to dawning,
and the dawning to noon day bright;
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth,
the kingdom of love and light.

4. We've a Savior to show to the nations,
who the path of sorrow hath trod,
that all of the world's great peoples
might come to the truth of God,
might come to the truth of God.

Refrain

We've A Story To Tell To The Nations (Message)

Henry Ernest Nichol

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - Hani

Victory Through Christ

Lani Smith

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Online Giving

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

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