



First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

January 14, 2024

PRELUDE - Hani

Adagio from Suite Modale

Flor Peeters

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WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The voice of God calls to us! Are you listening?

People: **Speak, Lord, your servants are listening.**

Leader: The hands of God beckon us! Are you paying attention?

People: **Show us, Lord, your servants are paying attention.**

Leader: The love of God asks us—are you ready to follow?

People: **Guide us, Lord, and we, your servants, will follow.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the God whose tenacious love never stops calling and beckoning and asking us to follow.

People: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)

OPENING HYMN #519 *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

1. Lift every voice and sing,
til earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty;
let our rejoicing rise
high as the listening skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song
full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song
full of hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun
of our new day begun,
let us march on til victory is won.

2. Stony the road we trod,
bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat,
have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come
over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come,
treading our path thru the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past,
til now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3. God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might
led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet
stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest our hearts
drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand,
may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Lift Every Voice and Sing

James Weldon Johnson | J. Rosamond Johnson
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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.

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

The Lord's Prayer

Albert Hay Malotte

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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

God of all wisdom, how often have we been deaf to your voice speaking to our hearts, especially when we move in a world that needs it so desperately? The reading from 1 Samuel brings us the phrase, “The word of the Lord was rare in those days,” which resonates with the relevance of the evening news. As we bring our gifts to be dedicated this morning, we pray that you might open our ears, open our hearts to hear where you call us to respond with obedience, so that we might do what you need to begin healing our world. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

(1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20); John 1:43-51)

SCRIPTURE 2 Corinthians 13:1-10 (NRSV)

1 This is the third time I am coming to you. “Any charge must be sustained by the evidence of two or three witnesses.” 2 I warned those who sinned previously and all the others, and I warn them now while absent, as I did when present on my second visit, that if I come again, I will not be lenient— 3 since you desire proof that Christ is speaking in me. He is not weak in dealing with you, but is powerful in you. 4 For he was crucified in weakness, but lives by the power of God. For we are weak in him, a but in dealing with you we will live with him by the power of God.

5 Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not realize that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless, indeed, you fail to meet the test! 6 I hope you will find out that we have not failed. 7 But we pray to God that you may not do anything wrong—not that we may appear to have met the test, but that you may do what is right, though we may seem to have failed. 8 For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. 9 For we rejoice when we are weak and you are strong. This is what we pray for, that you may become perfect. 10 So I write these things while I am away from you, so that when I come, I may not have to be severe in using the authority that the Lord has given me for building up and not for tearing down.

Response

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Anthem - Chancel Choir

I Want To Walk as a Child of the Light

Kathleen Thomerson | Arr. Benjamin Harlan

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SERMON - Rev. Jacob Lee

Examine Yourselves to See Whether You Are Living in the Faith

CLOSING HYMN #467 Trust and Obey (v. 1, 4)

1. When we walk with the Lord
in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will,
he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain

Trust and obey,
for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus,
but to trust and obey.

4. Then in fellowship sweet
we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do,
where he sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey.

Refrain

When We Walk With The Lord (Trust And Obey)

Daniel Brink Towner | John Henry Sammis

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - Hani

Psalm 19

Benedetto Marcello

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Online Giving

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