



# First United Methodist Church of Torrance

## Online Church in Worship

December 14, 2025

### PRELUDE - Hani

**Gesu Bambino**

Pietro A. Yon

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### LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

Reader 1: In the midst of our waiting and longing for God to make the world right again, we cling to the truth that God has saved, God is saving, and God will save. So today, we join our voices with the prophet Isaiah, who calls us to live in the joy of the truth of God's salvation.

**Congregation: We choose to believe that the day is coming when "the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" (Isaiah 35:10).**

Reader 2: We light this candle of joy as a sign of the Truth that sets us free to live in joy as we wait and work for the day when all creation will flourish together.

*(Light the third candle(pink) of the Advent wreath.)*

### WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Beloved, we gather to rejoice in God who does wondrous things, who promises that someday all manner of things shall be well.

**All: We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.**

Leader: We worship with joy now, confident that God will not stop until all creation is at peace.

**All: We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.**

Leader: We lift up our voices in song and story, in prayer and praise, as we remember and rejoice in all that God has done and will do among us.

**All: We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.**

Leader: Come! Let us worship God with joy as we work with God toward the day when all of creation lives in everlasting joy.

**All: Come! Let us rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.**

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

**OPENING HYMN #211 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (v. 1, 2, 4)**

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

*Refrain*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

2. O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
and order all things far and nigh;  
to us the path of knowledge show  
and cause us in her ways to go.

*Refrain*

4. O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree,  
an ensign of thy people be;  
before thee rulers silent fall;  
all peoples on thy mercy call.

*Refrain***O Come O Come Emmanuel (Veni Emmanuel)**

Henry Sloane Coffin | Laurence Hull Stookey | Thomas Helmore

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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 – Josh

Emmanuel

Steve Angrisano

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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

**Gracious God of deep joy, even when storms rage and doubts rise, you call us to see with kingdom eyes—to look for healing, hope, and signs of your grace breaking in. In this Advent season of expectation and weariness, we bring these gifts as expressions of joy, rooted not in ease but in trust. May our giving bear witness to your good news: that the blind still see, the lame still walk, and the poor still receive care. Use these offerings and us as signs of your coming reign, lights in the storm, and carriers of joy. In the name of Jesus, our hope and our Redeemer. Amen.**

*(Matthew 11:2–11)*

## SCRIPTURE Isaiah 7:14 / Matthew 1:20–23 (NRSV)

**14** Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

**20** But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. **21** She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” **22** All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

**23** “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”  
which means, “God is with us.”

*Response*

The Word of the Lord:

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem – Chancel Choir****Come To Us Now, Emmanuel**

Nancy Price | Don Besig

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**SERMON – Rev. Jacob Lee***Emmanuel? Emmanuel!***CLOSING HYMN #206 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (v. 1, 3)**

1. I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

*Refrain***I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**

Kathleen Thomerson

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**BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE – Hani****Go, Tell It on the Mountain**

Arr. Marvin Gaspard

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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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