



First United Methodist Church of Torrance

Online Church in Worship

September 14, 2025

PRELUDE - Hani

Open My Eyes

Arr. Paul Taylor

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WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We come seeking refuge in a world where goodness and good news can feel far away.

All: God is our hope and our refuge.

Leader: We come searching for safety in a world that often calls foolishness wisdom and wisdom foolishness.

All: God is our hope and our refuge.

Leader: We come longing for rest in a world that bombards us with all the ways people work against the abundant life and flourishing of their neighbors.

All: God is our hope and our refuge.

Leader: Come, children of God, to find refuge and hope in God who delivers and restores us.

All: May God teach us and guide us to find refuge and be refuge with and for our neighbors today and every day.

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)

OPENING HYMN #110 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* (v. 1, 2, 4)

1. A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper he amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his name,
from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

4. That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours,
thru him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill;
God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Frederick Henry Hedge | Martin Luther
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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

O Filii et Filiae

Arr. Paul A Tate

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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

Steadfast and sheltering God, you are our refuge in every age, our hope when foolishness abounds and justice seems far off. Even when the world disappoints, you call us to faithfulness, to community, to generosity that reflects your own heart. Receive these offerings as signs of our trust in you and our desire to live differently, to live redemptively, and to live hopefully. Use them and us for the good that ripples outward, for the healing of hearts and the strengthening of your people. We give not because all is well but because you are good. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Acts 2:1-13 (NRSV)

1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

5 Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." 12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13 But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

Response

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Anthem – Chancel Choir**Look at the World**

John Rutter

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*Copyright license does not allow for streaming***SERMON – Rev. Jacob Lee***Alive in Christ: Becoming a Real Church**(2): A Church Filled with the Spirit***CLOSING HYMN #393 Spirit of the Living God (Sing 2 times)**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit Of The Living God

Daniel Iverson

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BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE – Hani****Psalms 19 (The Heavens Declare)**

Benedetto Marcello

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