



First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

April 19, 2026

PRELUDE - Hani

“Domine Deus” from Gloria
Antonio Vivaldi
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WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Easter people, we gather today as people who spent the week inundated with news reports, social media posts, and reels that inundated us with information, worry, and stress.

All: Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we carry the weight of being overwhelmed and anxious, wondering who we can believe.

Leader: We gather as people who long for peace, for God to break through and bring us clarity and hope once again.

All: Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we don't always recognize when the Risen One comes alongside us, showing us the way where there seems to be no way.

Leader: We gather as people hoping to catch a glimmer of Resurrection, ready for our hearts to burn with the truth of the resurrected Christ.

All: Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we open our hearts to the possibility that God's Resurrection life is closer than we think.

Leader: Easter people, God knows the burdens we carry, and God is faithful to meet us where we are with good news.

All: May the good news of the Resurrection astound us today as we come to worship God! Amen.

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)

OPENING HYMN #454 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

1. Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.

Refrain

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!

2. Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.

Refrain

3. Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.

Refrain

Open My Eyes That I May See (Open My Eyes)
Clara H. Fiske Scott
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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

Bread of Angels
Thomas Aquinas | Arr. Curtis Stephan
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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

Public Domain

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Compassionate and faithful God, you meet us behind locked doors and in the doubts we dare not speak Astounding God of the road and the table, you walk with us even when we don't recognize you. You speak, and our hearts burn within us. You break the bread, and our eyes are opened. Today, we bring these offerings as signs of our gratitude and hope. May our giving reflect the joy of being found, the wonder of Resurrection, and the call to share good news. Use these gifts to kindle faith, feed the hungry, and proclaim your presence in every Emmaus moment. We give because we've seen you—alive, loving, and leading us still. In Jesus' name, Amen.

(Luke 24:13-35)

SCRIPTURE Luke 24:13-35 (NRSV)

13 Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14 and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15 While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, 16 but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. 18 Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" 19 He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. 21 But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. 22 Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, 23 and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. 24 Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." 25 Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! 26 Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" 27 Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 29 But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. 30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31 Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. 32 They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while

he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” 33 That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. 34 They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” 35 Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Response

The Word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

Anthem – Chancel Choir

Standing on the Promises

Gordon Young

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SERMON – Bill

The Emmaus Walking Society

CLOSING HYMN #318 *Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing* (v. 1, 3)

1. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
His love in death shall never die.

3. Not throned afar, remotely high,
untouched, unmoved by human pains,
but daily, in the midst of life,
our Savior in the Godhead reigns.

Christ Is Alive

Brian Wren

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE – Hani

Tuba Tune on Lourdes Hymn

Luigi Mengoni

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