



First United Methodist Church of Torrance

Online Church in Worship

January 25, 2026

PRELUDE – Hani

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Arr. Dale Wood

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WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: With holy reverence, we remember irreplaceable women, O God. We honor those who nurtured us and taught us to honor and love you, O God.

All: May their example of Christian faith help transform us into your image.

Leader: We honor women who feed the hungry, clothe the unclothed, befriend the lonely, and comfort the comfortless. We bless them for unselfishly loving your people as you love us.

All: May you continue to meet their needs as they minister to others.

Leader: We honor women grieving the loss of loved ones.

All: May you, O God, continue to comfort them with your Word, spoken and blessed. May we learn to encourage them as they have encouraged us.

Leader: We honor women pregnant with your unborn sons and daughters, O God.

All: May You shelter them and the children they bear under the shadow of your almighty Presence.

Leader: We honor our sisters throughout the world who need your spiritual, economic, and physical healing.

All: May you meet their needs, Holy One, according to your riches in glory, we pray.

Leader: We honor all the women who have gone before us, named and unnamed.

All: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: We bless those who wept for us, rejoiced with us, wiped our tears, prayed for us, and laughed with us.

All: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: We bless those who undauntedly sacrificed for us.

All: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: We honor all those who stand alongside and for these women. We bless those who encourage them to dream, who bring out the best in them, who help them bear their burdens, and who love them rightly, O God.

All: May you watch over and keep all your people, these women and all who love them, with your care, gracious God. Consecrate this day for your glory. In the name of the Triune God, the one who parents us and creates us, who redeems us, and empowers us forever. Amen.

(by Rev. Stacey Cole Wilson, a member of the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference)

OPENING HYMN #431 *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

Let there be peace on earth,
and let it begin with me;
let there be peace on earth,
the peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator,
children all are we.
Let us walk with each other
in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me;
let this be the moment now.
With every step I take,
let this be my solemn vow:
to take each moment and live each moment
in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
and let it begin with me.

Let There Be Peace On Earth

Jill Jackson | Sy Miller

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UWF - CELEBRATING MINISTRY AND RECOGNITION**AWARD PRESENTATION****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 - Members of UMW**Amazing Grace**

Edwin Othello Excell | John Newton
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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 Light of our salvation, in a world that trembles with uncertainty and teaches us to fear, you shine with unwavering hope. You call us to seek your face and trust in your presence more than in our own strength. Receive these gifts, given not out of fear but in joyful confidence that your love casts out fear and your grace makes us bold. Use our offerings to build a world where your light leads, your justice reigns, and your people - unafraid - become living testimonies of your goodness. In the name of Christ, our rock and redeemer, we pray. Amen.

(Psalm 27:1, 4-9)

SCRIPTURE Esther 4:10–17 (NRSV)

10 Then Esther spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai, saying, 11 “All the king’s servants and the people of the king’s provinces know that if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law—all alike are to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden scepter to someone, may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in to the king for thirty days.” 12 When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, 13 Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, “Do not think that in the king’s palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. 14 For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father’s family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.” 15 Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, 16 “Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law; and if I perish, I perish.” 17 Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

Response

The Word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

Anthem - Chancel Choir

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Thomas Dorsey

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SERMON - Rev. Jacob Lee

*People in Anxious Times;
Women in Faith*

CLOSING HYMN #593 *Here I Am, Lord* (v. 1, 3)

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I Am, Lord

Dan Schutte | Carlton Young

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BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE - Hani****Sonata Gavotta K.64**

Domenico Scarlatti

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