



First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

March 1, 2026

PRELUDE - Hani

Lenten Prayer

Edward Broughton
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CROSS-PROCESSIONAL HYMN #159 *Lift High The Cross* (v. 2)

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

Each new born servant of the Crucified
bears on the brow the seal of him who died.

Refrain

Lift High The Cross (Crucifer)

George William Kitchin | Michael Robert Newbolt | Sydney Hugo Nicholson

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WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Children of God, in Lent we remember that our salvation is an unearned gift,
that new life is a matter of faith, not of works.

All: We gather to lay down the burden of trying to earn our salvation.

Leader: Like Nicodemus, who met Jesus in the dark of night, we struggle to accept
that new life is not just possible but given as a free gift of grace.

**All: We gather to bring our struggles into the light and embrace God's grace with
open arms.**

Leader: Like Paul writing to the Romans, we remember God's promise of new life has
always rested on grace.

All: We gather to receive the promise of salvation by grace through faith.

Leader: Like the many who have followed, questioned, and grown in the faith, we
submit ourselves to be formed by grace as we work out our salvation day by
day.

**All: We gather as people guided by the promise of new life, a promise fulfilled by
Christ, whose path we follow.**

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)

OPENING HYMN #98 *To God Be the Glory* (v. 1-3)

1. To God be the glory,
great things he hath done!
So loved he the world
that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life
an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate
that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father
thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory,
great things he hath done!

2. O perfect redemption,
the purchase of blood,
to every believer
the promise of God;
the vilest offender
who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus
a pardon receives.

Refrain

3. Great things he hath taught us,
great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing
thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher,
and greater will be
our wonder, our transport,
when Jesus we see.

*Refrain***To God Be The Glory**

Fanny Jane Crosby | William Howard Doane
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HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...The pastor concludes:

And so,
with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

...The pastor concludes:

And so,
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

The pastor concludes:

All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.
now and for ever.

Amen.

HYMN #99 *My Tribute*

To God be the glory,
to God be the glory,
to God be the glory
for the things he has done.
With his blood he has saved me;
with his power he has raised me;
to God be the glory
for the things he has done.

My Tribute

Andraé Crouch

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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**Lord, I Need You**

Matt Maher

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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

Faithful God of New Beginnings, you call us—as you called Abraham—to trust in what we cannot yet see, to follow where you lead, even when the road is unclear. In the shadows of our questions and the uncertainty of our understanding, you meet us with grace, not condemnation. As Nicodemus discovered, your love is not earned but freely given. Receive now these gifts we offer—not as payment or proof, but as signs of our belief, our hope, and our gratitude. Use them to share your transforming love with a world still searching in the dark. In the name of your Son, given in love, we pray. Amen.

(Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, John 3:1-17)

SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 12:12–27 (NRSV)

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

14 Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many members, yet one body. 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” 22 On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; 24 whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, 25 that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Response

The Word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

Anthem – Chancel Choir

Be Thou My Vision

Arr. Mark Hayes

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SERMON – Rev. Jacob Lee

From Isolation to Belonging

CLOSING HYMN #569 We've a Story to Tell to the Nation (v. 1, 4)

1. We've a story to tell to the nations,
that shall turn their hearts to the right,
a story of truth and mercy,
a story of peace and light,
a story of peace and light.

Refrain

For the darkness shall turn to dawning,
and the dawning to noon day bright;
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth,
the kingdom of love and light.

4. We've a Savior to show to the nations,
who the path of sorrow hath trod,
that all of the world's great peoples
might come to the truth of God,
might come to the truth of God.

Refrain

We've A Story To Tell To The Nations (Message)

Henry Ernest Nichol

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE – Hani

Final-Allegro marziale from XII Miniatures

Henry M. Higgs

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