



First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

March 22, 2026

PRELUDE - Hani

Sarabande in D Minor
G.F. Handel
Public Domain

CROSS-PROCESSIONAL HYMN #159 *Lift High The Cross* (v. 1)

Refrain

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

1. Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sign.
The hosts of God in unity combine.

Refrain

Lift High The Cross (Crucifer)

George William Kitchin | Michael Robert Newbolt | Sydney Hugo Nicholson
© 1974 Hope Publishing Company
Used with Permission. CCLI License # 656051

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Some of us come to worship today, weary and worn, heavy with all the circumstances that are too much to bear alone.

All: We gather to travel God's redemption road together.

Leader: Some of us come to worship today, dry and thirsty, longing for relief and peace from the troubles that surround us.

All: We gather to travel God's redemption road together.

Leader: Some of us come to worship today with stories to tell of little resurrections, moments of new life that sprang up when we least expected them.

All: We gather to travel God's redemption road together.

Leader: Beloved, whatever we bring with us to worship today, God welcomes us and calls us to work together as we travel God's redemption road together.

All: We gather to be truth-tellers and life-bringers as we travel God's redemption road together. Amen.

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)

OPENING HYMN #393 *Spirit of the Loving 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.

Repeat

Spirit Of The Living God

Daniel Iverson

© 1935. Renewed 1963 Birdwing Music

Used with Permission. CCLI License # 656051

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

When The Love Falls

Yiruma

© 2020, 2024 Epiary

This music is not covered by copyright licensing and cannot be streamed.

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

Life-Giving Spirit, you breathe hope into our valleys of despair and call forth life where we saw only dry bones. We come today not out of habit, but out of longing to be part of your work that restores, renews, and redeems. Take these gifts and use them to roll away the stones that keep your people bound. Let them be signs of trust, symbols of resurrection, and tools of transformation in a weary world. May our offering, like our living, lean into your Spirit and testify that life—abundant, eternal, and holy—is possible in you. In Christ, who calls us out of the grave and into your grace, we pray. Amen.

(Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 130, Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45)

SCRIPTURE Ezekiel 37:1-14 (NRSV)

1 The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. 2 He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. 3 He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” 4 Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. 5 Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. 6 I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

7 So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 8 I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. 9 Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” 10 I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

11 Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ 12 Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. 13 And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. 14 I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act,” says the LORD.

Response

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Anthem - Chancel Choir

You Die For Me

Patrick M. Liebergen

Public Domain

SERMON - Rev. Jacob Lee

A Church That Chooses Hope

CLOSING HYMN #420 *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* (v. 1, 2, 4)

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

2. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.

4. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Edwin Hatch | Robert Jackson

Public Domain

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - Hani

All Creatures of Our God and King

Arr. Pierce Dickens

© 1997 Lillenas Publishing Company

Used with Permission. ONE LICENSE # A-401420

Online Giving

If you are able, please give your tithes and offerings through our secure portal at
<https://firstumctorrance.org/giving/>.

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from

- ONE LICENSE with license # A-401420, and from
- CCLI with license # CSPL052773.

The Scripture quotations contained herein are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible (NRSV), © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, and are used by permission.

All rights reserved.