



**First United Methodist Church of Orange**

# WALK IN THE LIGHT

A SERIES FROM 1 JOHN

**APRIL 14, 2024 | 10:30 A.M.**



## THE ENTRY

PRELUDE

INTROIT

Sanctuary Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Praise the Lord!

PEOPLE: **Praise the Lord in the heavens, praise the Lord in the heights!**

LEADER: Let the faithful praise the name of the Lord, whose name alone is exalted,

PEOPLE: **whose glory is above the earth. Praise the Lord! Alleluia!**

\*OPENING HYMN

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Hymnal #126

1. Sing praise to God who reigns above,  
the God of all creation,  
the God of power, the God of love,  
the God of our salvation.  
With healing balm my soul is filled  
and every faithless murmur stilled:  
To God all praise and glory.
2. The Lord is never far away,  
but through all grief distressing,  
an ever present help and stay,  
our peace and joy and blessing.  
As with a mother's tender hand,  
God gently leads the chosen band:  
To God all praise and glory.
3. Thus, all my toilsome way along,  
I sing aloud thy praises,  
that earth may hear the grateful song  
my voice unwearied raises.  
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart,  
both soul and body bear your part:  
To God all praise and glory.

4. Let all who name Christ's holy name  
give God all praise and glory;  
let all who own his power proclaim  
aloud the wondrous story!  
Cast each false idol from its throne,  
for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:  
To God all praise and glory.

**\*PRAYER**

Ever-faithful God,  
pour out your Spirit in this hour, that your word of grace  
will make us bold and fearless to share the gospel of peace.

**Open our hearts to the message you would share with us today  
through song, prayer and meditation,  
that we might know your presence, and believe.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to God, the Father. Glory be to God, the Son.  
Glory be to God, the Spirit, Three in One.

As it was in the beginning; as it is and ever shall be;  
now and evermore shall be; world without end, Amen!  
World without end, Amen!

**\*GREETING**

**CELEBRATING GOD'S WORD**

**SCRIPTURE SONG**

Thy Word is a Lamp

Hymnal #601 (refrain)

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,  
and a light unto my path.

**FIRST LESSON**

1 John 2:7-16

*New Revised Standard Version*

7 Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word that you have heard. 8 Yet I am writing you a new commandment that is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. 9 Whoever says, "I am in the light," while hating a brother or sister, is still in the darkness. 10 Whoever loves a brother or sister lives in the

light, and in such a person there is no cause for stumbling. 11 But whoever hates another believer is in the darkness, walks in the darkness, and does not know the way to go, because the darkness has brought on blindness.

12 I am writing to you, little children,  
because your sins are forgiven on account of his name.

13 I am writing to you, fathers,  
because you know him who is from the beginning.  
I am writing to you, young people,  
because you have conquered the evil one.

14 I write to you, children,  
because you know the Father.  
I write to you, fathers,  
because you know him who is from the beginning.  
I write to you, young people,  
because you are strong  
and the word of God abides in you,  
and you have overcome the evil one.

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; 16 for all that is in the world – the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches – comes not from the Father but from the world.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 4

Hymnal #741

LEADER: Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

PEOPLE: **You have given me room when I was in distress.**

**Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.**

LEADER: How long, O people, shall my honor suffer shame?

PEOPLE: **How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?**

LEADER: But know that the Lord has set apart the righteous as God's own;

PEOPLE: **the Lord hears when I call.**

LEADER: Be angry, but do not sin;

PEOPLE: **commune with your own hearts in your beds, and be silent.**

LEADER: Offer right sacrifices,

PEOPLE: **and put your trust in the Lord.**

LEADER: There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!"

PEOPLE: **Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord!"**

LEADER: You have put more joy in my heart

than they have when their grain and wine abound.

PEOPLE: **In peace I will both lie down and sleep;**

**for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.**

36b Jesus himself stood among the disciples and their companions and said to them, "Peace be with you." 37 They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. 38 He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." 40 And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. 41 While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate in their presence.

ANTHEM

Sanctuary Choir

SERMON

In A Word...

Rev. William Johnson

**RESPONSE**

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

CENTERING HYMN

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Hymnal #349

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
look full in his wonderful face,  
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
in the light of his glory and grace.

A PRAYER FOR FRUITFUL MINISTRY

Loving God, we pray that our love for you and for one another  
may abound more and more in the words and actions of our lives.

**Fill us with the fruits of righteousness that come through Jesus Christ.**

**May our knowledge of your will abound in all spiritual wisdom and understanding.**

Lord, help us to lead lives worthy of your sacrifice for us;  
empower us to be fruitful in every good work,  
increasing in your love and strengthened by you with all might,  
according to your glorious power.

**May we abide with all patience and long-suffering in Jesus Christ  
through the strength and power of your Holy Spirit...**

COMMUNITY PRAYER

THE 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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

Hymnal #95

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.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN

Go Forth for God

Hymnal #670

1. Go forth for God, go to the world in peace;  
be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,  
in God's good Spirit daily to increase,  
till in the kingdom we see face to face.  
Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.
2. Go forth for God, go to the world in love;  
strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak;  
help the afflicted; richly from above  
God's love supplies the grace and power we seek.  
Go forth for God, go to the world in love.
3. Go forth for God, go to the world in strength;  
hold fast the good, be urgent for the right;  
render to no one evil; Christ at length  
shall overcome all darkness with his light.  
Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.

4. Go forth for God, go to the world in joy,  
to serve God's people every day and hour,  
and serving Christ, our every gift employ,  
rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power.  
Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.

## SENDING FORTH

\*BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

May the road rise to meet you,  
may the wind blow at your back,  
may the sun shine warmly on your face.

May the rain fall softly on your home  
and until we meet again, until we meet again  
May God hold you in the palm of His hand. Amen.

POSTLUDE



**First United Methodist Church of Orange**  
**161 S. Orange St.**  
**Orange, CA 92866**

### **Office Hours:**

Monday thru Thursday

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Office: (714) 532-6363

Email: [info@fumco.org](mailto:info@fumco.org)

Web: [www.fumco.org](http://www.fumco.org)