



LAKE MERRITT

United Methodist Church

Sustaining a vibrant and growing congregation through Christian spiritual transformation, making our work and the church relevant and visible.

(510) 465-4793 www.lakemerrittumc.org
1255 First Avenue Oakland, CA 94606

The red light in the sanctuary represents the light of peace.

LIVE-STREAM WORSHIP SERVICE

Join us as we worship in spirit through our live-streamed worship celebration via Zoom and Facebook Live. Visit our website for connection instructions.



Joan Miller, Music Director
music@lakemerrittumc.org

Neil Wade, Church Administrator
ext. 305
office@lakemerrittumc.org

Rev. Pamela Kurtz, Pastor
ext. 303
pastor@lakemerrittumc.org

Sunday, May 24, 2020
7th Sunday of Easter
Celebration of Divine Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Pamela Kurtz, Pastor

MOMENT OF SILENCE *Let us prepare our hearts and minds in silence to worship God.*

OPENING PRAYER [*Responsive*]

(Adapted from Psalm 130)
Rose Lynn, Sofia, Nora Abesamis-Bell

ONE: Help, God – the bottom has fallen out of my life!
Master, hear my cry for help!
Listen hard! Open your ears!
Listen to my cries for mercy.

MANY: **Expect a surprise!**

If you, God, kept records on wrongdoings,
Who would stand a chance?
As it turns out, forgiveness is your habit,
And that's why you're worshiped.

Feel the tingling!

I pray to God – my life a prayer-
And wait for what he'll say and do.
My life's on the line before God, my Lord,
Waiting and watching till morning.
Waiting and watching till morning.

Look for joy!

Oh Israel, wait and watch for God –
With God's arrival comes love,
With God's arrival comes generous redemption.
No doubt about it – he'll redeem Israel,
Buy back Israel from captivity to sin.

Experience awe!

– by Margaret LeWright

OPENING SONG

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Joan Miller, Music Director

1. *O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!*

2. *My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.*

3. *Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.*

4. *He breaks the power of canceled sin, he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean; his blood availed for me.*

5. *He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.*

7. *In Christ, your head, you then shall know, shall feel your sins forgiven;
anticipate your heaven below, and own that love is heaven.*

READING OF SCRIPTURE Luke 9:2-6 Rose Lynn Abesamis-Bell

He [Jesus] sent them out to proclaim God's kingdom and to heal the sick. He told them, "Take nothing for the journey—no walking stick, no bag, no bread, no money, not even an extra shirt. Whatever house you enter, remain there until you leave that place. Wherever they don't welcome you, as you leave that city, shake the dust off your feet as a witness against them." They departed and went through the villages proclaiming the good news and healing people everywhere.

HOMILY **"It's Never Re-newal, It's Always New"**
Angel Rivera, UMC Licensed Pastor

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Pam will lift up prayer requests previously sent to her.
When the pastor says "Lord," the people respond: "Hear Our Prayer."

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

INVITATION & PRAYER OVER OFFERINGS

*Please prepare your checks for mailing, or cash for drop off at the church office while our
Music Director leads us in our Thanksgiving Song.*

THANKSGIVING SONG **What A Mighty God We Serve** W&S 3016

*What a mighty God we serve!
What a mighty God we serve!
Angels bow before you,
Heaven and earth adore you!
What a mighty God we serve!
[Repeat]*

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Rev. Pam & Sherri Elinson

Confessing is like walking into a dark cave, seeing nothing, hearing nothing –
We do not know what we will find there.

Maybe we will find the bones of things long dead

**Maybe we will find the living wings of a bat,
or the thousand feet of some worm thing.**

Maybe we will find the silence not at all quiet, but full of unknown rustles.

Maybe we will find ourselves,

And find old hurts or desires that are long dead,

**And find the thousand feet of some urge or temptation that could carry us
away in a heartbeat.**

But it is only in the deepest dark that we can see

**The tiny light that is always present, that sliver that comes from an unknown
place,**

That sliver of light that give us hope,

That sliver of light that looks a bit like grace.

It is only in the stillest silence that we can hear the whisper of mercy.

Let us enter into silence.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends. Sisters, brothers: hear this good news and see the grace of God:

You are forgiven. You are free to go and live in the light of love.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

— from <https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession/>

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Go to your windows now, open them, and with joyful noise proclaim,
“Peace be with you all!” then come back!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & SHARING HOLY COMMUNION

GRATITUDE TIMES *Gratitudes previously sent to Rev. Pam will be shared.*

Margaret LeWright

CLOSING SONG

Every Time I Feel The Spirit

Stanley Huston, Song Leader

Every time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray

Every time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.

Upon the mountain my Lord spoke out God's mouth came fire and smoke
Looked all around me, looks so fine asked my Lord if all was mine.

*Every time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray
Every time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.*

Jordan river runs right cold, chills the body not the soul
Ain't but one train on this track, runs to heaven an' right back.]

*Every time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray
Every time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.*

BENEDICTION

Rev. Pam

All raise hand, palm facing outward and wave goodbye.