



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

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.

3-week Worship Series: The Legacy of Persistent Faith and Justice

PRIDE



*Remembering:
Marsha P. Johnson*

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Rev. Pamela Kurtz, Pastor
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Sunday, September 6, 2020
14th Sunday after Pentecost
Celebration of Divine Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Pamela Kurtz, Pastor

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

SPECIAL MUSIC *Walk With Me*

CALL TO WORSHIP [Responsive]: **REMEMBERING WHERE WE COME**

read by: Bob Cox, Melem Demel & Neil Wade

We pause now for moments of memory for those who came before us:

*The ones who personally stood up and were counted
and who thus made a difference for all of us today*

We remember you

Whether by combating an ugly word against another
Or through the personal act of coming out

*Whether by challenging the system
or by changing it from within*

We remember you

Whether by actively sharing your ideas with broad audiences
or by quietly affecting individuals one at a time

*Whether by looking outward to help others understand us
or by looking within to help make ours a better community*

We remember you

Through all of these courageous actions
and so many more, every time

You brought us forward

*Even under the pressures
of physical pain and torture
of economic devastation or political failure
of social estrangement or worse*

You braved it all

Each of you adding in your essence
Your talented endeavors
and elegant movements

*Your clever words
And dignified existence*

*Your dedicated heart
and focused mind*

*Your infectious smile
Your quirky ways*

In all, your persevering spirit brought others forward behind you
And moved us all a little closer
to a world that more fully celebrates love

*Your contributions are remembered.
You are remembered.*

And your memory is a blessing.

<http://www.reformjudaism.org/practice/prayers-blessings/remembering-where-we-come-prayer-lgbt-community>
Credit to Rabbi Heather Miller with her wife, Melissa de la Rama.

OPENING SONG

Goodness is Stronger Than Evil

TFWS 2219

***Goodness is stronger than evil;
love is stronger than hate;
light is stronger than darkness;
life is stronger than death;
victory is ours through God who loves us.***

[Repeat]

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 139:13-18; Galatians 3:26-29 (CEB)
Neil Wade

You are the one who created my innermost parts;
you knit me together while I was still in my mother's womb.
I give thanks to you that I was marvelously set apart.
Your works are wonderful—I know that very well.

My bones weren't hidden from you
when I was being put together in a secret place,
when I was being woven together in the deep parts of the earth.
Your eyes saw my embryo,
and on your scroll every day was written that was being formed for me,
before any one of them had yet happened.
God, your plans are incomprehensible to me!
Their total number is countless!
If I tried to count them—they outnumber grains of sand!
If I came to the very end—I'd still be with you.
You are all God's children through faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who
were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is
neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; nor is there male and
female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Now if you belong to Christ,
then indeed you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to the
promise.

MESSAGE **“PRIDE: The Legacy of Persistent Faith and Justice”**
 Remembering Marsha P. Johnson
 Rev. Pamela Kurtz, *Pastor*

SPECIAL MUSIC **Brave** *by: Sara Barielles* Melem Demel

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.**”*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**We invite you to use any other name to refer to the Divine with which you are comfortable ~ God, Father, Mother, Creator, etc.*

***Our *Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.***

Amen.

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

On Eagle's Wings

UMH 143

*And God will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of God's hand.*

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & RESOLVE

A Prayer to Change our Hearts
Franciscan (adapt.)

May God bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that we may live deep within our hearts.

May God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people, so that we may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war, so that we may reach out our hands to comfort them and turn their pain to joy.

And may God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION & HOPE

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news: God's gift of grace in Jesus the Christ forgives us and sets us free to live full human lives in community. We may go forth confident of the grace to see with new eyes beyond gender prejudice; to

imagine with renewed fervor justice and mercy for all, and to create with a new will a community where all are given access to God's abundant life.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

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.*

CLOSING SONG

This Little Light of Mine

**This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine**

**Everywhere I go
I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go
I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine**

**These big dreams of mine
I'm gonna let 'em shine
These big dreams of mine
I'm gonna let 'em shine**

**These big dreams of mine
I'm gonna let 'em shine
Let 'em shine, let 'em shine, let 'em shine**

**All over the world
I'm gonna let it shine
All over the world
I'm gonna let it shine
All over the world
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine**

BENEDICTION

Rev. Pam

All raise hand, palm facing outward and wave goodbye.