

# Lake Merritt United Methodist Church



An Inclusive Christian Community of Oakland

*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](http://www.lakemerrittumc.org)  
1255 First Avenue      Oakland, CA 94606

## LIVESTREAM WORSHIP SERVICE



**“A Single Life”**

Rev. Pamela Kurtz, *Pastor*  
Joan Miller, *Music Director*  
Neil Wade, *Office Administrator*

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**Sunday, November 1, 2020**  
***All Saints Day***  
***Celebration of Divine Worship***

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WELCOME

MOMENT OF SILENCE

*It Is Well with My Soul*  
Margaret LeWright, *Chimes*

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Remembrance Invocation*

**Barbara Ganitch**  
**Bonnie Church**

Welcome, you who approach this time as a journey toward the horizon, the beginning of the next chapter, seeking all of the insights and opportunities the new day offers.

Welcome, you who live out your values with passion, who have a drive for transforming the world toward gratitude and healing, who are ignited by purpose.

Welcome, you who ride the waves of life with serenity, you who show courage in facing the depths of true emotion, you who create and change and flow with time.

Welcome, you who are here to seek the center, you who wish to be grounded in community, you who call our attention to the present moment.

Welcome all, from every direction, with all of your gifts and your limits, with all that the past week and the past year have given you.

We find ourselves here, on the threshold of a new day, some would say a new year, at a time when the past and the present are stirred together in the cauldron of what we shall become.

Today we remember our beloved dead. Today we give thanks to the people and the forces that helped us to reach this moment.

Today we gather with the saints and sinners and souls who have been, are being, and will be this congregation, as we open up a new path to the future.

**By: Lyn Cox**

OPENING SONG

**For All the Saints**

UMH 711

Joan Miller, *Music Director*

1. *For all the saints, who from their labors rest,  
who thee by faith before the world confessed,  
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
Alleluia, Alleluia!*
2. *Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
thou Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
thou in the darkness drear, their one true light.  
Alleluia, Alleluia!*
3. *O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,  
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,  
and win with them the victor's crown of gold.  
Alleluia, Alleluia!*
4. *O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.  
Alleluia, Alleluia!*
5. *And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,  
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,  
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.  
Alleluia, Alleluia!*
6. *From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:  
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

## READING OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 23; Hebrews 12:1-3 (CEB)

The Lord is my shepherd.

I lack nothing.

He lets me rest in grassy meadows;

he leads me to restful waters;

he keeps my soul alive.

He guides me in proper paths

for the sake of his good name.

Even when I walk through the darkest valley,

I fear no danger because you are with me.

Your rod and your staff—

they protect me.

You set a table for me

right in front of my enemies.

You bathe my head in oil;

my cup is so full it spills over!

Yes, goodness and faithful love

will pursue me all the days of my life,

and I will live in the Lord's house

as long as I live.

So then, with endurance, let's also run the race that is laid out in front of us, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us. Let's throw off any extra baggage, get rid of the sin that trips us up, and fix our eyes on Jesus, faith's pioneer and perfecter. He endured the cross, ignoring the shame, for the sake of the joy that was laid out in front of him, and sat down at the right side of God's throne.

Think about the one who endured such opposition from sinners so that you won't be discouraged and you won't give up.

## MESSAGE

### *"A Single Life"*

Rev. Pamela Kurtz, Pastor

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: "Lord,"

**People:** *"Hear our Prayers."*

## 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**

*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 We Thy People Praise Thee**      **UMH 67**

*We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, God of every nation!  
We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, Lord of Hosts eternal!*

## **❧ WELCOMING A NEW MEMBER ❧**

Rebecca Dean from First UMC, Ann Arbor, MI  
(At the designated time, please respond to Pastor's Question)

Pastor:

Members of the household of God, I commend Rebecca Dean to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase her faith, confirm her hope, and perfect her in love.

Congregational Response:

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you  
and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in  
the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist**

**Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

## **CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION & RESOLVE *[in Unison]:***

**God of our parents in faith, through the ages you called forth people - courageous, faithful, and steadfast. Forgive us when we disregard the witness of those who have gone before us. Our memories are dim. Our faith does not burn with a passion as that of those who offered their entire lives to you. Open us to the past and to the bold testimony to faith in our world today. Connect us to the great cloud of witnesses so we may proclaim Christ's justice and compassion in our own time.**

**- from United Church of Christ**

## **SILENT PRAYER FOR CONFESSION & HOPE**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**Hear this Good News my dear siblings: Through Christ's redemptive work we are forgiven. May Christ, who makes saints of sinners, who has transformed those we remember today, raise and strengthen you, that you too will continue to transform the world.**

**Praise be to God for the forgiveness and love so generously given. 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**

**CLOSING SONG**

***to be announced***

**BENEDICTION**

*All raise hand, palm facing outward and wave goodbye.*