

Lake Merritt United Methodist Church

An Inclusive Christian Community of Oakland



LAKE PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

IN JOINT FELLOWSHIP

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

Bread, Bath and Beyond
Pentecost Series



*"Sharing the Bread of Life:
An Act of Resistance"*

Rev. Pamela Kurtz, Pastor
pastor@lakemerrittumc.org

Jim Meredith, Music Director
jimmeredith@mac.com

Neil Wade, Office Administrator
office@lakemerrittumc.org

June 12, 2022
Trinity Sunday
CELEBRATION OF DIVINE WORSHIP

WELCOME

Rev. Pamela Kurtz, *Pastor*

INTROIT

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

arr. Mark Hayes

OPENING PRAYER (*responsive*)

"Where is bread?"

the great crowd murmured--
Thousands strong, yet all in need.

"Where is bread?"

your people wondered,
Faced with such a crowd to feed.
Who, Lord Jesus, could have guessed it?
One small boy brought food to share.
Taking what he gave, you blessed it;
All were fed, with much to spare.

"Where is bread?"

We know their yearning;
Every day, we wish for more.
God, in time, we're slowly learning:
All we own can make us poor.
Our possessions can possess us,
Leaving hunger deep inside.
Christ our Bread, come now and bless us;
At your feast, we're satisfied.

"Where is bread?"

the call is rising;
Millions cry who must be fed.
God, your answer seems surprising:
"You, my Church, you give them bread."
Bread to fill each hungry spirit,
Bread for hungry stomachs, too!

Give us bread and help us share it.

Richly blest, may we serve you.

*Copyright © 2000 by Carolyn Winfrey
Gillette. All rights reserved. www.carolynshynms.com*

OPENING SONG

All Who Hunger TFWS 2126

***1. All who hunger gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wand'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.***

***2. All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here in joy we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.***

*3. All who hunger, sing together, Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing. Here in peace we have been fed.
Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.*

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 26:26 (NRSV)

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."

RESPONSE

We thank you, Lord, for flour:

flour made from wheat or other grain,
grown in the mystery of the earth,
ripened in the warmth of the sun;
ripened, then cut down at the harvest by the farmer's skill,
ground by the miller,
sold by the shop assistant,
placed in the bowl...
we thank you, Lord, for flour.

We thank you, Lord, for salt:

Jesus told us we were to be salt of the earth,
and we must never lose our flavour.
The salt, which adds flavour to our food,
is also antiseptic to our wounds,
reminding us of the challenge to our faith
and the healing power of Jesus ...
We thank you, Lord, for salt.

We thank you, Lord, for yeast:

that small yet living organism
that enables the bread to rise,
that reminds us of the fact that even small works done in Jesus' name
can enable the kingdom to grow ...
we thank you, Lord, for yeast.

We thank you, Lord, for water:

water, without which none of us could live,
water, which forms the other elements of our bread into dough,
which, having risen, and been formed and drawn into shape by human
hands, is baked to give us the staff of life;
water, which cleanses and renews us,
refreshes and revives us,
the water of baptism, which commits us to our faith ...
we thank you, Lord, for water...

We thank you, Lord, for bread:

Bread, the basis of the food we eat,
bread for toast, for sandwiches, for bread and jam,
bread for bread pudding and bread for buns -
and bread that is broken and shared in communion with one another,

in remembrance -
remembrance of that night when Jesus sat with his friends at supper,
and broke the bread and gave it to them,
saying, "This is my body broken for you."
We thank you, Lord, for bread

~ posted on the Diocese of Bath and Wells
website <http://www.bathandwells.org.uk/>

SERMON "Sharing the Bread of Life: An Act of Resistance"

Rev. Pamela Kurtz, *Pastor*

RESPONSE Break with the Hungry Your Own Bread Global Praise 10

F.C. Barth; comp. Peter Janssens

1. *Break with the hungry your own bread.
Speak with the speechless a kind word.
Sing with the sorrowful a song.
Share with the lonely your own house.*
2. *Seek with the hopeless a new goal.
Break with the hungry your own bread.
Speak with the speechless a kind word.
Sing with the sorrowful a song.*
3. *Share with the lonely your own house.
Seek with the hopeless a new goal.
Break with the hungry your own bread.
Speak with the speechless a kind word.*
4. *Sing with the sorrowful a song.
Share with the lonely your own house.
Seek with the hopeless a new goal.
Break with the hungry your own bread.*
5. *Speak with the speechless a kind word.
Sing with the sorrowful a song.
Share with the lonely your own house.
Seek with the hopeless a new goal.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Ecumenical Version (UMH 894)

* Please feel free to use the name of your choice for God that speaks to your soul.

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & RESOLVE *(responsive)*

Out of the depths we cry to you, O God:

*We hunger for the bread of Jesus, the bread of life,
and we thirst for you, O God.*

O God, hear our voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of our supplications!

*We hunger for the bread of Jesus, the bread of life,
and we thirst for you, O God.*

There is forgiveness with you
and we wait for you, O God.

Our souls wait for You.

*We hunger for the bread of Jesus, the bread of life,
and we thirst for you, O God.*

In your words, we hope. Our souls wait for you, God,
more than those who watch for the morning:

*We hunger for the bread of Jesus, the bread of life,
and we thirst for you, O God.*

*(adapt.) from Spiritual Hunger and Thirst for God,
written by the Rev. Bonnie Tarwater. Posted on the United Church of Christ website. <http://ucfiles.com>*

TIME OF SILENCE FOR PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND HOPE

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Hear the Good News my dear siblings:

God has heard our cry and feels our hunger for lifegiving bread. In our repentance God renews us in body, mind and spirit. Know you are forgiven.

We are forgiven indeed. Alleluia. Amen!

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*As forgiven people living in the season of Pentecost,
let us share peace with our siblings in the world!*

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP OF CHRIST

LIVING AS THE CHURCH

GRATITUDE TIMES

OFFERING

THANKSGIVING SONG

We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise TFWS 2031

We bring the sacrifice of praise, into the house of the Lord.

We bring the sacrifice of praise, into the house of the Lord.

And we offer up to you the sacrifices of thanksgiving.

And we offer up to you the sacrifices of joy.

CLOSING SONG This is a Day of New Beginnings UMH 383

1. *This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on,
Time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.*

2. *For by the life and death of Jesus, God's mighty Spirit, now as then,
Can make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again.*

3. *Then let us, with the Spirit's daring, step from the past and leave behind
Our disappointment, guilt and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find.*
4. *Christ is alive, and goes before us, to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new.*
5. *In faith we'll gather round the table, to taste and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new.*

CLOSING PRAYER

*Holy and Gracious God
We give you thanks for the gift of life
for the gift of your Son
for the gift of the Holy Spirit*

*Lead us through the trials
the suffering and sorrow
the challenges and struggles
the tired times and dark places*

*Be with those who weep
or cannot sleep
who have no peace
who seek release*

*Lead us
with grace
with love
with peace*

*Fill us
with hope
with patience
with stamina*

*Transform us
in your image
in your Son
in your Name*

*Transform us
to grow
to understand
to see*

*Transform us
that we
can be
made whole*

*And in wholeness
may we
be the hands and heart of Christ.
Amen.*

- written by Terri (2009) and posted on the RevGalBlogPals website.

POSTLUDE

Sing Your Praise to the Lord

By: Richard Mullins; adapt. From J.S. Bach; arr. Mark Hayes

Readers: Domo Olali & David Betts