



IN JOINT FELLOWSHIP

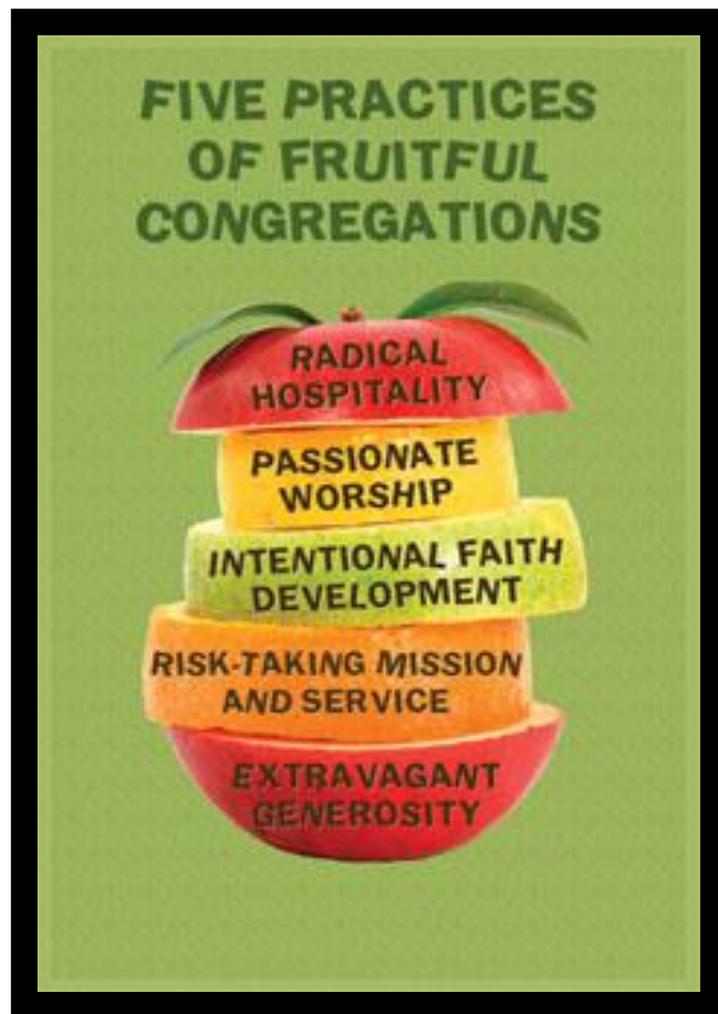
Sustaining a vibrant and growing congregation through Christian spiritual transformation, making our work and the church relevant and visible.

(510) 465-4793

www.lakemerrittumc.org

1255 First Avenue

Oakland, CA 94606



"Passionate Worship"

Rev. Sunae Frances Cho, *Pastor*

pastor@lakemerrittumc.org

Jim Meredith, *Music Director*

jimmeredith@mac.com

Neil Wade, *Office Administrator*

office@lakemerrittumc.org

July 31, 2022
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
CELEBRATION OF DIVINE WORSHIP

TODAY'S READERS:

JANE SLIHEET & LINDA WEINGARTEN

WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

INTROIT

Sing to the Lord

Jim Meredith, *Music Director*

by: Robert Sterling; arr. Mark Hayes

OPENING PRAYER[RESPONSIVE]

Holy God, we gather together to worship in your blessed presence, within the peace and security of your sanctuary.

We join with all creation in worshiping our Glorious God.

As we gather, we acknowledge that this beloved sanctuary is only a sign and symbol of your eternally abiding presence.

We give thanks that these signs and symbols speak to us of the priority we are called to give to spiritual and Godly values.

We praise and give thanks to God that, as we worship before our God, we are strengthened and enabled to live in God's world.

As we come to worship our God, we accept that our path in life has not always been trouble-free; but we give thanks, that in

God's presence, we find our true home and blessed peace. Amen.

Joan Stott

OPENING SONG (Please take a posture to support your singing aloud and stand if comfortable)

Come, Now is the Time to Worship W&S 3176

Come, now is the time to worship

Come, now is the time to give your heart

Come, just as you are to worship

Come, just as you are before your God

Come

One day every tongue will confess You are God

One day every knee will bow

Still the greatest treasure remains for those

Who gladly choose You now

Come, now is the time to worship

Come, now is the time to give your heart

Come, just as you are to worship

Come, just as you are before your God

Come

One day every tongue will confess You are God

One day every knee will bow

Still the greatest treasure remains for those

Who gladly choose You now

Come, come, come

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 84:1-10 CEB

How lovely is your dwelling place,
Lord of heavenly forces!
My very being longs, even yearns,
for the Lord's courtyards.
My heart and my body
will rejoice out loud to the living God!
Yes, the sparrow too has found a home there;
the swallow has found herself a nest
where she can lay her young beside your altars,
Lord of heavenly forces, my king, my God!
Those who live in your house are truly happy;
they praise you constantly. *Selah*
Those who put their strength in you are truly happy;
pilgrimage is in their hearts.
As they pass through the Baca Valley,
they make it a spring of water.
Yes, the early rain covers it with blessings.
They go from strength to strength,
until they see the supreme God in Zion.
Lord God of heavenly forces,
hear my prayer;
listen closely, Jacob's God! *Selah*
Look at our shield, God;
pay close attention to the face of your anointed one!
Better is a single day in your courtyards
than a thousand days anywhere else!
I would prefer to stand outside the entrance of my God's house
than live comfortably in the tents of the wicked!

John 15:5 NIV

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

RESPONSE [VIDEO]

Louder

By: Matt Redman

SERMON

"Passionate Worship"

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

RESPONSE [UNISON]

Holy One beyond our imagination, Mighty One beyond our grasping, we lift to you our heartfelt expression of praise and gratitude. In you, O God, our lives find meaning. In you, O God, we find unconditional love and strength for the journey. When we meditate upon your being, we are filled with wonder that you who are so great care for us who are so humble. And our only adequate response is passionate worship. So with hearts overflowing, we say thank you. Thank you for loving us. Thank you for redeeming us. Thank you for guiding us. Thank you for loving us. Thank you for redeeming us. Thank you for guiding us. Thank you for sustaining us. Thank you. Thank you! In Christ's name, Amen.

SONG

Blessed Assurance UMH 369

1. *Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine;
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.*

*This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.*

2. *Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.*

*This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.*

3. *Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.*

*This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.*

PRAYERS & GRATITUDES

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.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Let us offer one another signs of peace and love.

LIVING AS THE CHURCH

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. (2x)*

CLOSING SONG (Please take a posture to support your singing aloud and stand if comfortable)

Father, We Have Heard You Calling W&S 3150

1. *Father, we have heard you calling to your church in every age;
for a sign of true devotion
for a sacrifice of praise.*

*In this place where you have brought us,
may we always seek to be
one in love and one in worship
-- children of eternity.*

2. *Jesus Christ, our faith's perfecter, priest and advocate above.*

*We would reach our broken nation
with the truth of your great love.*

*So transform our feeble witness,
may we always live to be
one in love and one in worship
-- children of eternity.*

3. *Holy Spirit, fire of heaven, fall upon us here today.*

*Bring release, bring tears, bring passion,
then transform your church, we pray*

*As you pour your grace upon us,
may we always thirst to be
one in love and one in worship
-- children of eternity.*

4. *Praise we bring to God the Father,*

Praise we bring to God the Son,

Praise to God the Holy Spirit,

Praise to you, the three in one.

Trinity of love inspire us,

*may we always strive to be
one in love and one in worship
-- children of eternity.*

CLOSING PRAYER [UNISON]

When I think of God's presence in the world, I am grateful:

Grateful for the presence of hope; grateful for the gift of life.

And when I think of God's presence in my life, I am humbled:

Humbled by the gift of grace; humbled by the invitation to begin again.

And when I think of God's presence in this community, I am glad:

Glad to be surrounded by holy people worshipping our Holy God.

Thank you all; thank you, God. Amen

Beth Merrill Neel

POSTLUDE Praise His Greatness: Hyfrydol / Great Is the Lord

Richard H. Pritchard

Debbie and Michael Smith

arr. Mark Hayes