

Lake Merritt United Methodist Church

An Inclusive Christian Community of Oakland



LAKE PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

IN JOINT FELLOWSHIP

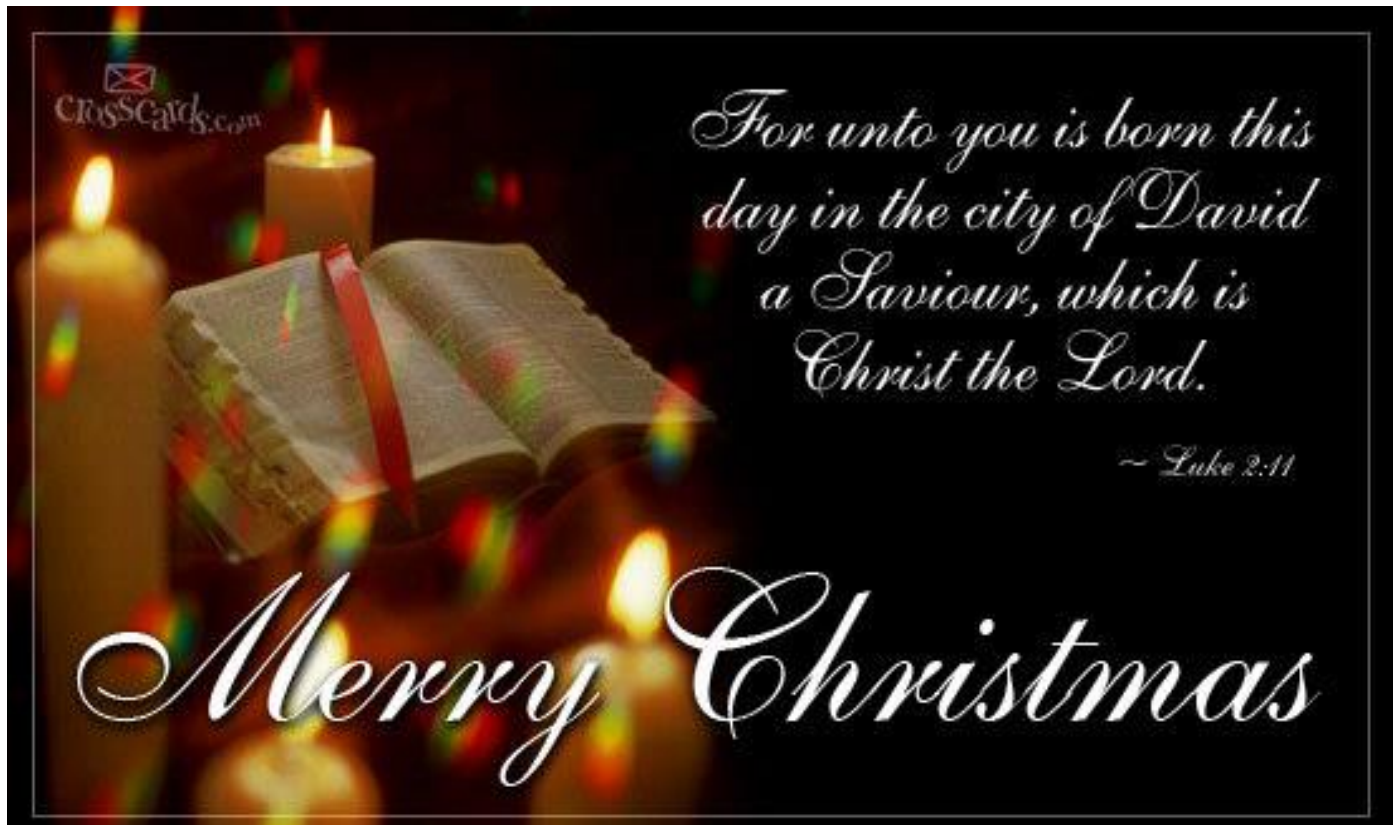
Sustaining a vibrant and growing congregation through Christian spiritual transformation, making our work and the church relevant and visible.

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1255 First Avenue

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Christmas Day

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

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Jim Meredith, *Music Director*

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Randi Hoy, *Church Administrator*

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December 25, 2022
CHRISTMAS DAY

WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

INTROIT **IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER/AWAY IN A MANGER**

William Kirkpatrick/Gustav Holst, arr. Phil Perkins

OPENING PRAYER (*UNISON*)

Jane Sliheet

All: We waited.

And imagined a savior.

We imagined power.

One like the world but stronger and on our side.

We imagined a king on a white horse wielding a sword.

We got a baby born in a stable among the livestock.

**We imagined the work done for us
through the destruction of our enemies.**

**We received a baby who will teach us our calling
to seek reconciliation and to love expansively.**

Praise be to God for the unexpected babe of Bethlehem.

Praise to the wisdom of love. Amen!

written by Tim Graves

OPENING SONG

AWAY IN THE MANGER UMH 217 (ORGAN)

**1. Away in a manger
No crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus
Laid down His sweet head
The stars in the sky
Looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus
Asleep on the hay.**

**2. The cattle are lowing
The Baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus
No crying He makes
I love thee, Lord Jesus
Look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle
Till morning is nigh.**

**3. Be near me, Lord Jesus
I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever
And love me I pray
Bless all the dear children
In Your tender care
And fit us for heaven
To live with thee there.**

SCRIPTURE

Margaret LeWright

Isaiah 9:2 (NIV)

The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Created & Directed by Susannah Wood
Video Compilation by David Tavernier

SCRIPTURE

Margaret LeWright

Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)

For unto us a child is born,
unto us a son is given,
and the government shall be on his shoulders.
And his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

CLOSING SONG

Joy to the World UMH 246, verses 1, 2, 4

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come
Let Earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing
2. Joy to the Earth, the Savior reigns
Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy
3. He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders, of His love

CLOSING PRAYER (*UNISON*)

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

**The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in deepest night, are lit up with a brilliant sight.
Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given.
The spread of his influence and of his peace will never end.
Therefore, go out into the world with great joy,
and the grace of Bethlehem's matchless Child,
the love of the God who never ceases to amaze,
and the fellowship of the Spirit who never wearies,
will be with you this holy day and evermore.
Thanks be to God! Amen!**

Written by Bruce Prewer

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World (*ORGAN*)

arr. David Cherwin