

Lake Merritt United Methodist Church

An Inclusive Christian Community of Oakland



LAKE PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

IN JOINT FELLOWSHIP

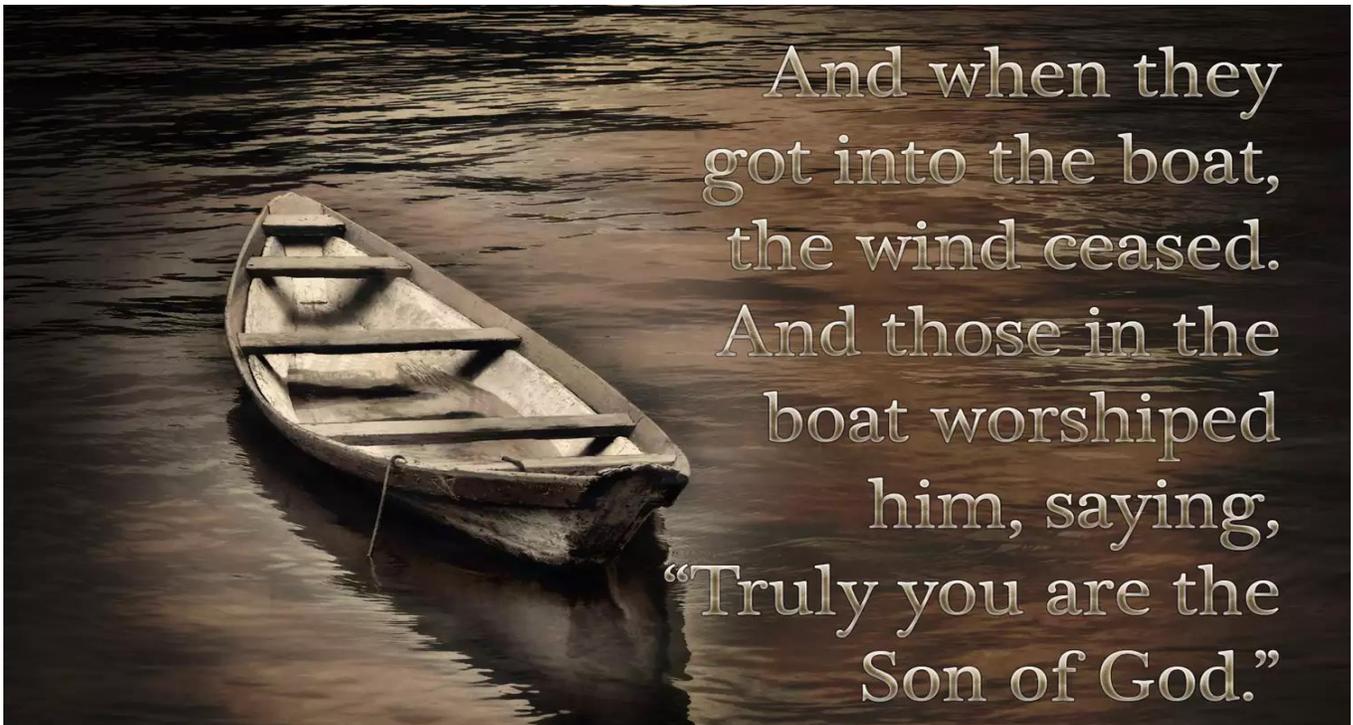
Sustaining a vibrant and growing congregation through Christian spiritual transformation, making our work and the church relevant and visible.

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More Light Than Matter

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January 29, 2023
Fourth Sunday After Epiphany
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

INTROIT

SEASONS OF LIFE

arr. Mark Hayes

OPENING PRAYER (*RESPONSIVE*)

Susannah Wood

Leader: Over the turbulent waves in our lives, Jesus calls us.

People: We get so busy watching the waves, we block out Jesus' call.

Leader: Look again. Jesus is calling to you.

People: Lord, help us hear your voice.

Leader: Come, place your trust in Jesus.

People: Lord, forgive our doubts, receive our lives.

Amen.

MinistryMatters

OPENING SONG

(Please stand if able)

Precious Lord, Take My Hand UMH 474

1. Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
2. When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call,
Hold my hand lest I fall:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
3. When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand
Guide my feet, hold my hand:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Margaret LeWright

Matthew 14:22-33, NIV

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake.

When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

RESPONSE

LOVE LIFTED ME W&S 3101

**1. I was sinking deep in sin, far from the peaceful shore,
Very deeply stained within,
Sinking to rise no more;
But the Master of the sea heard my despairing cry,
From the waters lifted me;
Now safe am I.**

**Love lifted me, Love lifted me,
When nothing else could help,
Love lifted me;
Love lifted me, Love lifted me,
When nothing else could help,
Love lifted me.**

**2. Souls in danger, look above, Jesus completely saves;
He will lift you by His love
Out of the angry waves.
He's the Master of the sea,
Billows His will obey; He your Savior wants to be-
Be saved today.**

**Love lifted me, Love lifted me,
When nothing else could help,
Love lifted me;
Love lifted me, Love lifted me,
When nothing else could help,
Love lifted me.**

SERMON

"More Light Than Matter"

Rev. Mi Chun

RESPONSE

THROUGH IT ALL UMH 507

Through it all, through it all,
I've learned to trust in Jesus,
I've learned to trust in God;
Through it all, through it all,
I've learned to depend upon God's word.

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 OF THE PEACE

LIVING AS THE CHURCH

OFFERING & THANKSGIVING SONG

I'M GONNA LIVE SO GOD CAN USE ME TFWS 2153

I'm gonna live so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna live so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna work so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna work so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna give so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna give so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

Standing on the Promises UMH 374, verses 1, 2, 4

1. Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing,
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

2. Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing,
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

4. Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing,
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

CLOSING PRAYER (UNISON)

Susannah Wood

All: Jesus calls us to step out on to the water with him,
to leave the safety of our boats,
and to walk toward Him in faith,
joining Him in the work He is already doing in our world.
And when the wind and waves get high and threaten to overwhelm us,
we remember His words:
"Don't be afraid. Take courage. I am here."
So let's go with faith,
to follow where Jesus leads,
confident that His love and presence go with us. Amen.

WorshipBlogSpot

POSTLUDE Old Time Religion/Swing Low Sweet Chariot

TRADITIONAL SPIRITUAL
arr. Mark Hayes

