

Lake Merritt United Methodist Church

An Inclusive Christian Community of Oakland



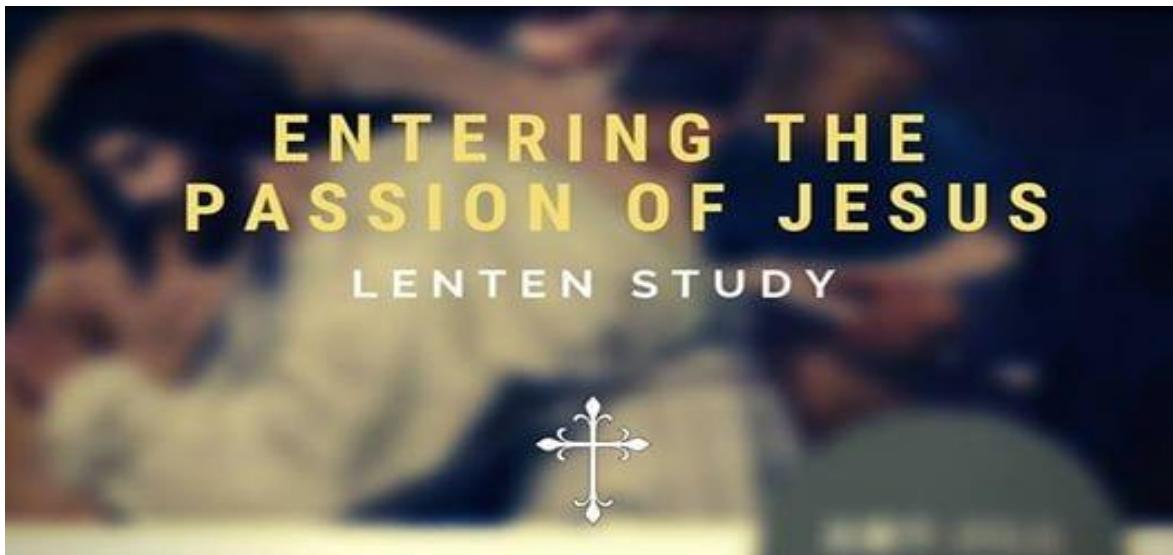
LAKE PARK

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



Entering the Passion of Jesus
Jerusalem: Risking Reputation

Rev. Sunae Cho, Pastor

pastor@lakemerrittumc.org

Jim Meredith, Music Director

jimmeredith@mac.com

Randi Hoy, Church Administrator

office@lakemerrittumc.org

February 26, 2023
First Sunday in Lent
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

INTROIT

What Wondrous Love Is This

Southern Harmony
arr. John Carter

OPENING PRAYER (*RESPONSIVE*)

Stanley Huston

Leader: Gathering for worship today,

we are like the crowd that lined the streets,
witnessing Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.
Some of us gather here, full of enthusiasm.
Some of us gather wearied by what life has thrown at us.
Some of us have come out of curiosity.
Some of us out of habit.
Some of us gather with great expectation.
Some of us with no particular hopes.

People: It is here, O God, that you meet us

and greet us and, if we will allow,
it is here that you surprise us
with your love and your grace.
So open our heavy eyes, and tired minds,
steal into our closed hearts
and surprise us today with joy.

Let us worship God.

Amen.

Rev. E. Crumlish (adapt)

OPENING SONG

(Please stand if able)

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus UMH 277

1. Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;
things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:
scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,
stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

2. First let me hear how the children stood round his knee,
and I shall fancy his blessing resting on me;
words full of kindness, deeds full of grace,
all in the lovelight of Jesus' face.

3. Into the city I'd follow the children's band,
waving a branch of the palm tree high in my hand;
one of his heralds, yes, I would sing
loudest hosannas, "Jesus is King!"

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Margaret LeWright

SCRIPTURE

Stanley Huston

Matthew 21:1-11 CEB

When they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus gave two disciples a task. He said to them, “Go into the village over there. As soon as you enter, you will find a donkey tied up and a colt with it. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that their master needs them.” He sent them off right away. Now this happened to fulfill what the prophet said, Say to the Daughter of Zion, “Look, your king is coming to you, humble and riding on a donkey, and on a colt the donkey’s offspring.” The disciples went and did just as Jesus had ordered them. They brought the donkey and the colt and laid their clothes on them. Then he sat on them.

Now a large crowd spread their clothes on the road. Others cut palm branches off the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds in front of him and behind him shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” And when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up. “Who is this?” they asked. The crowds answered, “It’s the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

RESPONSE *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* UMH 158, verse 1 (ORGAN)

1. Come, Christians, join to sing
Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King;
Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice,
Before his throne rejoice;
Praise is his gracious choice.
Alleluia! Amen!

SERMON “JERUSALEM: RISKING REPUTATION” Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

RESPONSE

Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel

Spiritual

arr. Greg Gilpin
LMUMC Choir

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

Christ for the World We Sing UMH 568, verses 1, 3

1. Christ for the world we sing,
the world to Christ we bring,
 with loving zeal;
the poor, and them that mourn,
 the faint and overborne,
sin-sick and sorrow-worn,
 whom Christ doth heal.

3. Christ for the world we sing,
the world to Christ we bring,
 with one accord;
with us the work to share,
with us reproach to dare,
with us the cross to bear,
 for Christ our Lord.

CLOSING SONG

(Please stand if able)

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna UMH 278 (ORGAN)

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna,
the little children sang,
through pillared court and temple
 the lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them
 close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises,
 the simplest and the best.

2. From Olivet they followed
 mid an exultant crowd,
the victor palm branch waving,
 and chanting clear and loud.
The Lord of earth and heaven
 rode on in lowly state,
nor scorned that little children
 should on his bidding wait.

3. "Hosanna in the highest!"
that ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer,
the Lord of heaven our King.
O may we ever praise him
with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence
eternally rejoice!

CLOSING PRAYER (*RESPONSIVE*)

Stanley Huston

Leader: This is a vision of the way it can be, the way it should be.

Shouts of welcome, a joyful procession,
a community celebrating together.

People: The same vision is offered to us today:

We can welcome Christ into our lives,
We can celebrate his transforming power.

Leader: How swiftly things changed back then,

How swiftly we, too, can be distracted.

People: May we hold fast to his vision of goodness:

Peace from the practice of justice,
equality from the practice of respect.

Leader: As this season of Lent unfolds,

All: We will let ourselves be overtaken by God's love

We will pour it back out into the world.

Amen.

Jeanye Slettom (adapt)

POSTLUDE

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

arr. Mark Hayes