

Lake Merritt United Methodist Church

An Inclusive Christian Community of Oakland



LAKE PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

IN JOINT FELLOWSHIP

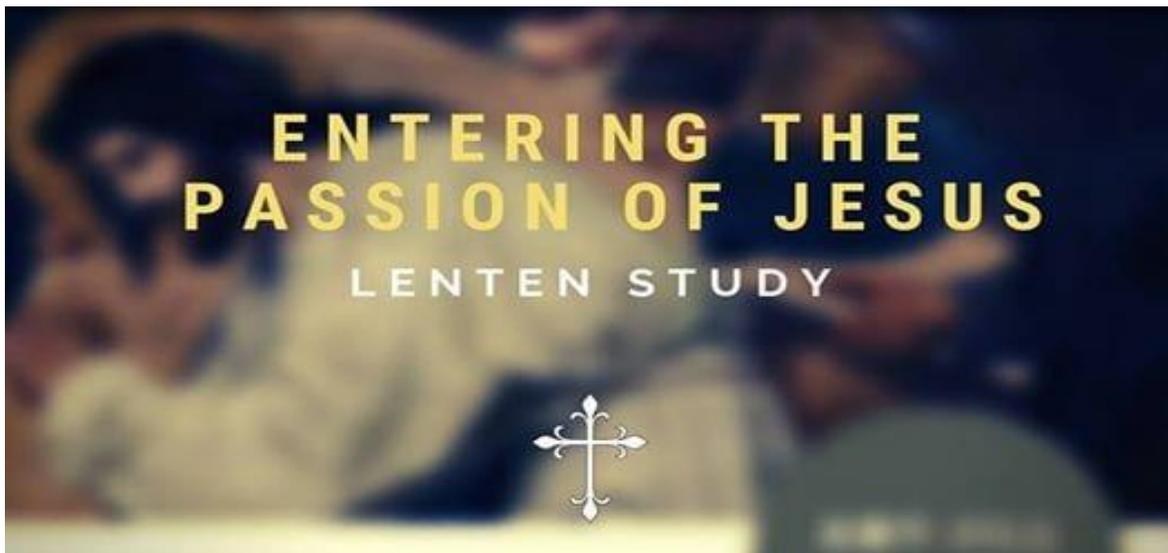
Sustaining a vibrant and growing congregation through Christian spiritual transformation, making our work and the church relevant and visible.

(510) 465-4793

www.lakemerrittumc.org

1255 First Avenue

Oakland, CA 94606



Entering the Passion of Jesus
Teachings: Risking Challenge

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

pastor@lakemerrittumc.org

Jim Meredith, *Music Director*

jimmeredith@mac.com

Randi Hoy, *Church Administrator*

office@lakemerrittumc.org

March 12, 2023
Third Sunday in Lent
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

INTROIT

Abide with Me

William Monk
arr. Mark Hayes

OPENING PRAYER (*RESPONSIVE*)

Lisa Radspinner

Leader: Though there are rulers, presidents, kings, queens,
God is the Lord of all life.

People: In God we live and move and have our being.

Leader: God requires our faithfulness and our service.

**People: We reach out to others with the same kind of love
with which God has touched our lives.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord who is always with us.

People: Let us praise God who walks daily by our side. Amen.

Ministry Matters

OPENING SONG

(Please stand if able)

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing UMH 400

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.

2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3. O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Margaret LeWright

SCRIPTURE

Lisa Radspinner

Matthew 22:15-22 CEB

Then the Pharisees met together to find a way to trap Jesus in his words. They sent their disciples, along with the supporters of Herod, to him. "Teacher," they said, "we know that you are genuine and that you teach God's way as it really is. We know that you are not swayed by people's opinions, because you don't show favoritism. So tell us what you think: Does the Law allow people to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

Knowing their evil motives, Jesus replied, "Why do you test me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used to pay the tax." And they brought him a denarion. "Whose image and inscription is this?" he asked. "Caesar's," they replied. Then he said, "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." When they heard this they were astonished, and they departed.

RESPONSE

Nearer, My God, to Thee UMH 528, verse 1, 4

**1. Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,
Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to thee;
Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!**

**4. Then, with my waking thoughts bright with thy praise,
Out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;
So by my woes to be nearer, my God, to thee;
Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!**

SERMON

"TEACHINGS: RISKING CHALLENGE" Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

RESPONSE

What Wondrous Love Is This

Southern Harmony
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)

To God Be the Glory UMH 98 (ORGAN)

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

CLOSING PRAYER (*RESPONSIVE*)

Lisa Radspinner

Leader: It is time to leave one form of worship and begin another.
That what you do at home may be as sacred as that done here,
The Lord blesses you.

People: Amen!

Leader: That your work and your leisure be a liturgy,
and your listening and caring be a form of praise,
The Lord blesses you.

People: Amen!

Leader: That you may sense God in the smile of those who love you,
and find Christ in the pain of those who depend upon you,
The Lord blesses you.

People: Amen!

All: May the Lord bless you and keep you.

**May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.**

Bruce Prewar (adapt)

POSTLUDE

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Traditional Spiritual
arr. Mark Hayes