

An Inclusive Christian Community of Oakland

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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Beatitudes Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit

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April 16, 2023 Second Sunday of Easter CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

WELCOME Rev. Sunae Cho, Pastor

INTROIT

Christ is Risen UMH 307

LMUMC Bell Choir

OPENING PRAYER (RESPONSIVE)

Anita Smith Christopher

(Please stand if able)

Leader: We try so hard to be self-sufficient, to be "rich in spirit." **People: But ultimately our efforts to rely on ourselves fail.**

Leader: By your grace, we realize just how much we need you.

People: So we come to worship you, not full of riches or full of ourselves, but empty, needy, truly poor in spirit. Amen.

Theologyofwork.com

OPENING SONG

Woke Up This Morning TFWS 2082

- Oh, I woke up this morning with my mind, and it was stayed on Jesus,
 Woke up this morning with my mind, and it was stayed on Jesus,
 Woke up this morning with my mind, and it was stayed on Jesus,
 Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.
- 2. Oh, you can't hate your neighbor in your mind, if you keep it stayed on Jesus,
 Can't hate your neighbor in your mind, if you keep it stayed on Jesus,
 Can't hate your neighbor in your mind, if you keep it stayed on Jesus,
 Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.
- 3. Makes you love everybody with your mind, when you keep it stayed on Jesus,
 Love everybody with your mind, when you keep it stayed on Jesus,
 Love everybody with your mind, when you keep it stayed on Jesus,
 Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.
 - 4. Oh, the devil can't catch you in your mind, if you keep it stayed on Jesus,
 Devil can't catch you in your mind, if you keep it stayed on Jesus,
 Devil can't catch you in your mind, if you keep it stayed on Jesus.

 Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.
- 5. Oh, yes, Jesus is the captain in your mind, when you keep it stayed on Jesus, Jesus is the captain in your mind, when you keep it stayed on Jesus, Jesus is the captain in your mind, when you keep it stayed on Jesus.

 Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.

Rev. Sunae Cho, Pastor

Matthew 5:1-3 NIV

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

He said: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

RESPONSE

SERMON

Christ is Risen UMH 307, verse 2 (ORGAN)

2. Christ is risen!
Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning.
See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection,
Not a servant, but a friend;
Jesus is our strong companion.

Joy and peace shall never end.

"BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT"

RESPONSE I'm Goin'a Sing When the Spirit Says Sing UMH 333

- 1. I'm goin'a sing when the Spirit says sing, I'm goin'a sing when the Spirit says sing, I'm goin'a sing when the Spirit says sing, and obey the Spirit of the Lord.
- 2. I'm goin'a pray when the Spirit says pray, I'm goin'a pray when the Spirit says pray, I'm goin'a pray when the Spirit says pray, and obey the Spirit of the Lord.
- 3. I'm goin'a moan when the Spirit says moan, I'm goin'a moan when the Spirit says moan, I'm goin'a moan when the Spirit says moan, and obey the Spirit of the Lord.
- 4. I'm goin'a shout when the Spirit says shout, I'm goin'a shout when the Spirit says shout, I'm goin'a shout when the Spirit says shout, and obey the Spirit of the Lord.

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

Surely the Presence of the Lord UMH 328, 2x (ORGAN)

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

CLOSING SONG

(Please stand if able)

Where the Spirit of the Lord |s TFWS 2119 Second verse by Margaret LeWright

- 1. Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is peace;
 Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is love.
 There is comfort in life's darkest hour;
 There is light and life,
 There is help and power
 In the Spirit, in the Spirit of the Lord.
- 2. Now the Spirit of Lord Jesus, reigns in heaven; through the Spirit of Lord Jesus, hope is given.

 There is comfort knowing he is risen; there is hope and life in his resurrection, there is comfort in the Spirit of the Lord.

CLOSING PRAYER (RESPONSIVE)

Anita Smith Christopher

Leader: Merciful God, enable us to accept that we are spiritually bankrupt without you.

People: Deep in our hearts, we refuse to believe that "apart from you, we can do nothing."

Leader: Forgive us and free us from self-sufficiency.

People: Allow us to embrace our neediness as both normal and necessary as citizens in the Kingdom of God.

Leader: We rejoice that you have not left us to ourselves in our poverty, but you have made us rich in Christ.

People: Create in us true humility, genuine repentance, bold brokenness, and ruthless dependence so that your Kingdom comes through us to earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Lmpc.org (adapt)

POSTLUDE

Lift High the Cross

Sydney Nicholson

arr. Larry Shackley