

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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Beatitudes
Blessed Are the Meek

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

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April 30, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Easter
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

INTROIT

Heavenly Sunlight

George Harrison Cook

arr. Mark Hayes

OPENING PRAYER (*RESPONSIVE*)

Dan Strauss

Leader: God calls us to seek justice,

**People: So that Christ's love for the meek and hungry streams out
through the church.**

Leader: God calls us to seek kindness,

People: So that Christ's light can shine in all places of brokenness and despair.

Leader: God calls us to walk humbly in the Spirit,

People: So we can be nourished for the work of the kingdom.

All: Called, blessed and inspired, let us worship our God together. Amen

The Presbyterian Church of Canada

OPENING SONG

(Please stand if able)

Gather Us In TFWS 2236

1. Here in this place, new light is streaming,
now is the darkness, vanished away,
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery,
we are the old, who yearn for your face,
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

3. Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat, the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven light years away,
but here in this space, the new light is shining,
now is the Kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in, and hold us forever;
gather us in, and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Margaret LeWright

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:1-2 NIV

Dan Strauss

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 meek, for they will inherit the earth."

RESPONSE

Make Me a Servant TFWS 2176

Make me a servant, humble and meek,
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the prayer of my heart always be:
Make me a servant,
Make me a servant,
Make me a servant today.

SERMON

"BLESSED ARE THE MEEK"

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

RESPONSE

What Does the Lord Require of You TFWS 2174, 3x

LMUMC Choir & Congregation

What does the Lord require of you? What does the Lord require of you?
Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.
To seek justice and love kindness and walk humbly with your God.

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

We Are Called TFWS 2172

(Please stand if able)

1. Come! live in the light!

Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!

We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God!

We are called to act with justice.

We are called to love tenderly.

We are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.

2. Come! Open your heart!

Show your mercy to all those in fear!

We are called to be hope for the hopeless,
so all hatred and blindness will be no more!

We are called to act with justice.

We are called to love tenderly.

We are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.

3. Sing! Sing a new song!

Sing of that great day when all will be one!

God will reign and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love!

We are called to act with justice.

We are called to love tenderly.

We are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.

CLOSING PRAYER (UNISON)

Dan Strauss

All: We go out from here today to follow the example Christ has given us.

We go out from here to make a difference in whatever small way we can.

But we don't go alone.

God is with us, Christ's example leads us,
and the Spirit walks with and within us.

We go with God. Amen.

beaconunited.org (adapt)

POSTLUDE

They'll Know We Are Christians

Peter Scholtes

arr. Mark Hayes

