

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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1255 First Avenue

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Climate Justice *What's at Stake?*

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

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July 30, 2023
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

INTROIT

Improvisation on "Aka tonbo"
(ORGAN)

Kosaku Yamada
arr. Joyce Jones

OPENING PRAYER (*RESPONSIVE*)

Lisa Radspinner

Leader: Our Creator made all that is, and proclaimed that 'it is good.'

**People: Creator, help us to discover in all You have made in Nature,
the good wisdom about the interconnectedness of all things,
about balance and about living in harmony.**

Leader: We are not above nature, we are part of Creation;
we live by the same laws as all of nature
and need to learn from what our Creator has made.

**People: Creator, help us discover the power that lies
in the wisdom and understanding of our role in the
Great Mystery, and in honoring every living thing as a teacher.**

**All: Creator God, may our spirits be in harmony with Yours
as we gather in Your worship. Amen.**

Rev. Jeff Ramsland (adapt)

OPENING SONG

(Please stand if able)

God the Sculptor of the Mountains TFWS 2060

1. God the sculptor of the mountains,
God the miller of the sand,
God the jeweler of the heavens,
God the potter of the land:
You are womb of all creation,
We are formless; shape us now.
2. God the nuisance to the Pharaoh,
God the cleaver of the sea,
God the pillar of the darkness,
God the beacon of the free:
You are fount of all deliv'rance,
We are sightless; lead us now.
3. God the dresser of the vineyard,
God the planter of the wheat,
God the reaper of the harvest,
God the source of all we eat:
You are host at every table,
We are hungry; feed us now.

SCRIPTURE

Lisa Radspinner

Matthew 16:2-3 MSG

"You have a saying that goes, 'Red sky at night, sailor's delight; red sky at morning, sailors take warning.' You find it easy enough to forecast the weather – why can't you read the signs of the times?"

Ephesians 4:14-15 CEB

As a result, we aren't supposed to be infants any longer who can be tossed and blown around by every wind that comes from teaching with deceitful scheming and the tricks people play to deliberately mislead others.

Instead, by speaking the truth with love, let's grow in every way into Christ.

SERMON

"WHAT'S AT STAKE?"

Rev. Sharon Delgado

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

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95 (ORGAN)

Second verse written by Margaret LeWright

- 1. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**
- 2. Praise God's creation on the Earth;
All creatures are of sacred worth;
Given to humanity to share,
With loving kindness, we must care. Amen.**

God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale UMH 122

1. God of the sparrow
God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise
2. God of the earthquake
God of the storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe
How does the creature cry Save
3. God of the rainbow
God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks
4. God of the hungry
God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life
5. God of the neighbor
God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace
6. God of the ages
God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

CLOSING PRAYER (*UNISON*)

Lisa Radspinner

All: God of all life, we give thanks for the earth,
our common home, and ask for forgiveness for all
the unreasonable demands we have made on it.

Our earth, with its many peoples, its oceans,
wildlife and ecosystems, is struggling to survive.

Help us to change our ways and guide us to live a life
which is not centered on ourselves, but on all you have created. **Amen.**

Citizens for Public Justice

POSTLUDE

Chaconne
(ORGAN)

Louis Couperin