

**Lake Merritt United Methodist Church**

An Inclusive Christian Community of Oakland



**LAKE PARK**

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**IN JOINT FELLOWSHIP**

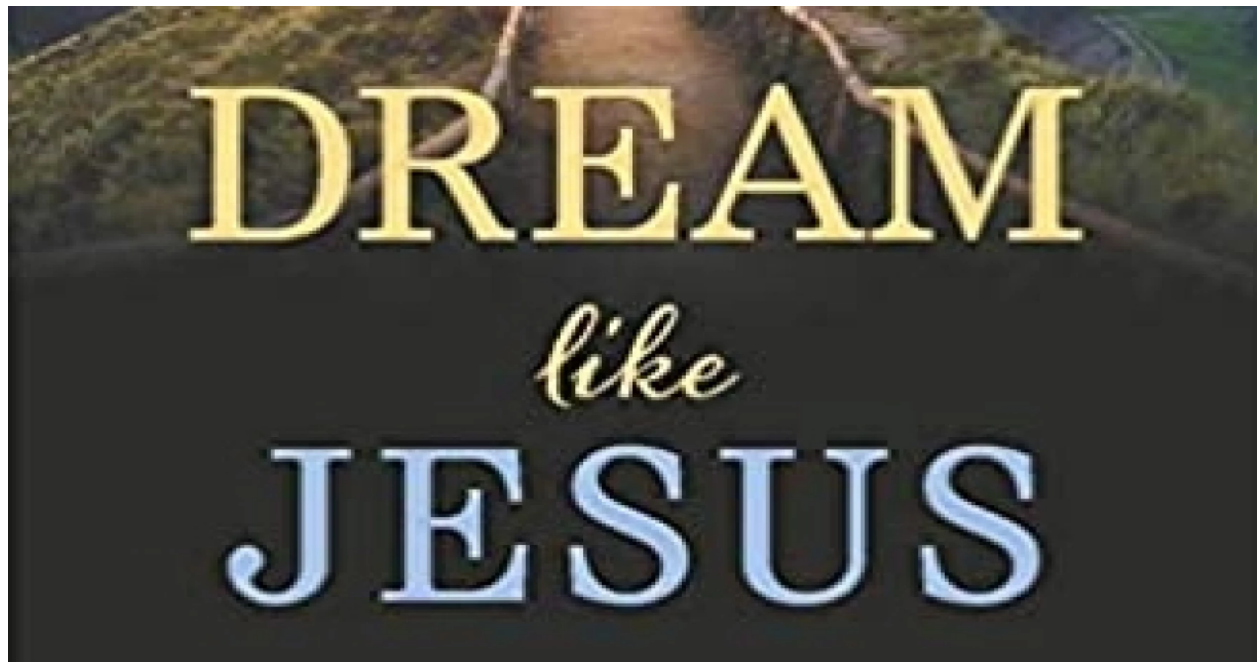
*Sustaining a vibrant and growing congregation through Christian spiritual transformation, making our work and the church relevant and visible.*

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*Daring to Bring Forth  
the Dream of Jesus*

**Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor***

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October 1, 2023  
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
World Communion Sunday  
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

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WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

INTROIT

The Light of the World is Jesus

Philip Bliss

arr. Mark Hayes

OPENING PRAYER [UNISON]

Patty Staggs

**All:** Creator God, we gather in your name to worship you.  
We give thanks that there is a spark of God within each of us.  
Kindle those sparks into flames of love and service. Amen.

*Joan Stott (adapt)*

OPENING SONG

(Please stand if able)

I Have a Dream W&S 3127 vs 1, 2, 3

(Sung to UMH 358)

1. "I have a dream," a man once said,  
"where all is perfect peace:  
where men and women, black and white,  
stand hand in hand, and all unite  
in freedom and in love."
2. But in this world of bitter strife  
the dream can often fade;  
reality seems dark as night,  
we catch but glimpses of the light  
Christ sheds on human kind.
3. Fierce persecution, war, and hate  
are raging everywhere;  
God calls us now to pay the price  
through struggles and through sacrifice  
of standing for the right.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Margaret LeWright

Where can I go from your Spirit?  
Where can I flee from your presence?  
If I go up to the heavens, you are there;  
If I make my bed in the depths, you are there.  
If I rise on the wings of the dawn,  
If I settle on the far side of the sea,  
even there your hand will guide me,  
your right hand will hold me fast.  
If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me  
and the light become night around me,"  
even the darkness will not be dark to you;  
the night will shine like the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.

John 14:12-14 (CEB)

I assure you that whoever believes in me will do the works that I do.  
They will do even greater works than these because I am going to the Father.  
I will do whatever you ask for in my name, so that the Father can be glorified in the Son.  
When you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it.

## SERMON

*"Dare to Bring Forth the Dream of Jesus"**Rev. Sunae Cho, Pastor*

## RESPONSE

(Please stand if able)

**I Have a Dream** W&S 3127 vs 4, 5

(Sung to UMH 358)

**4. So, dream the dreams and sing the songs,  
but never be content;  
for thoughts and words don't ease the pain;  
unless there's action, all is vain;  
faith proves itself in deeds.**

**5. Lord, give us vision, make us strong,  
help us to do your will;  
don't let us rest until we see  
your love through-out humanity  
uniting us in peace.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Sunae Cho, Dr. Rev. Dale Tremper

# A CELEBRATION OF WORD AND TABLE

## INVITATION

Dr. Rev. Dale Tremper

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,  
Who earnestly repent of their sin  
And seek to live in peace with one another.  
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another

## CONFESSION AND PARDON [Unison Prayer]

Merciful God,  
We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have failed to be an obedient church.  
We have not done your will,  
We have broken your law,  
We have rebelled against your love,  
We have not loved our neighbors,  
And we have not heard the cry of the needy.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Free us for joyful obedience,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## SILENCE IS KEPT FOR PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND HOPE

Pastor: Hear the good news:  
Christ died for us while you were yet sinners;  
That proves God's love toward us.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God. Amen.

## THE PEACE

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Rev. Sunae Cho

Pastor: The Lord be with you.  
All: And also with you.  
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.  
All: We lift them up to the Lord.  
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.  
You have made from one every nation and people  
to live on all the face of the earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*[Please sing along TFWS 2257-b]*

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might**  
**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**  
**Blest is one who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

Pastor:

Dr. Rev. Dale Tremper

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.  
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection  
you gave birth to your Church,  
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.  
He commissioned us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth  
and to make disciples of all nations,  
and today his family in all the world is joining at his holy table.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,  
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

*[Please sing along TFWS 2257-c]*

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!**  
**Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Rev. Sunae Cho

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

Renew our communion with your Church throughout the world,  
and strengthen it in every nation and among every people  
to witness faithfully in your name.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

*[Please sing along TFWS 2257-d]*

**All: Amen, Amen, Amen.**

**Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

### ***SHARING IN THE BREAD AND CUP***

## **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.***

## **LIVING AS THE CHURCH**

## **OFFERING & THANKSGIVING SONG**

### **His Dream Fulfilled**

(Sung to UMH 408, ORGAN)  
*written by Margaret LeWright*

**1. Another road, another place  
Another journey to embrace  
We venture on, God leads today  
He dreams us to, His loving way**

2. God dreams us go, His power to lead  
His kingdom come to all in need  
We long to see, His dream fulfilled  
Awaken us to do His will

## CLOSING SONG

(Please stand if able)

### I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

TFWS 2153

1. I'm gonna live so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.  
I'm gonna live so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.
2. I'm gonna work so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime  
I'm gonna work so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.
3. I'm gonna pray so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime  
I'm gonna pray so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.
4. I'm gonna sing so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime  
I'm gonna sing so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

## CLOSING PRAYER [UNISON]

Patty Staggs

All: O, Heavenly Creator, give us hearts like the heart of Jesus,  
hearts more ready to serve than be served,  
hearts moved by compassion towards the weak and oppressed,  
hearts set upon the coming of your kingdom on earth.  
Send us out this day, daring to bring forth the dreams of Jesus. Amen.

*John Baillie (adapt)*

## POSTLUDE

### Praise His Greatness

Rowland Pritchard

arr. Mark Hayes