

Lake Merritt United Methodist Church

An Inclusive Christian Community of Oakland



LAKE PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

IN JOINT FELLOWSHIP

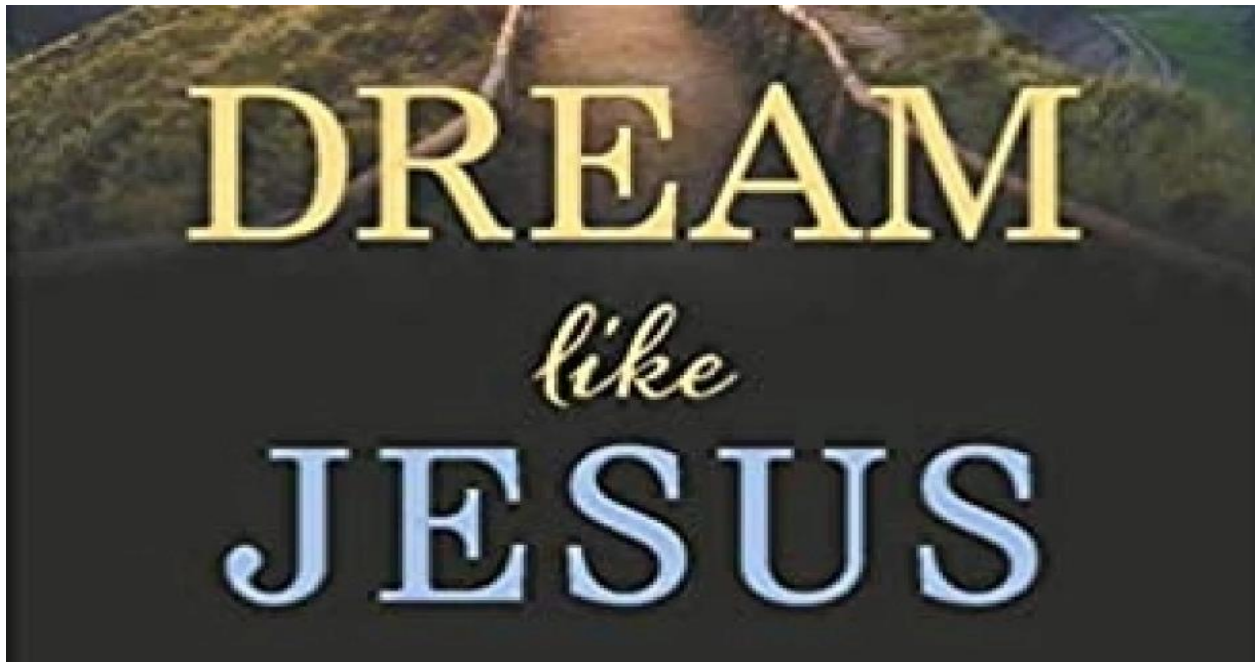
Sustaining a vibrant and growing congregation through Christian spiritual transformation, making our work and the church relevant and visible.

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Expand The Dream

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

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Rev. Dr. Dale Tremper

Lake Park Community Engagement Pastor

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Jim Meredith, *Music Director*

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October 22, 2023
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

INTROIT [organ]

Tocata de 7° tono, Grave

José Elías

OPENING PRAYER (*RESPONSIVE*)

Fran Cooper

Leader: God of small seeds and mighty plants,
you take our meager lives and with your love
cause them to produce acts of loving kindness for you in this world.

**People: You hear our cries and find us
when we are lost and wandering in fear.
You bring us home with you so that we may
be made whole, rejoicing in your goodness.**

Leader: Help us to joyfully serve you all our days,
knowing that you are always watching over us.

**All: Prepare our hearts to receive your word
and our spirits to respond in eagerness to serve you. Amen.**

Nancy C. Townley (adapt)

OPENING SONG

(Please stand if able)

Come, Let Us Dream
W&S 3157

1. Come, let us dream God's dream again.
Come, one and all, let us ascend
the mountain top where those of old
saw God's new day on earth unfold.

2. The lame shall walk, the blind shall see,
the doors swing wide, all prisoners free,
the lowly raised, the proud brought low.
This is God's dream: let justice flow.

3. When hatred ends and war shall cease,
so all may dwell in deepest peace,
then be assured the time is near
when perfect love casts out all fear.

4. But know the cost of claiming sight
of God's new day, of wrongs made right,
for some have paid the highest price,
their lives for us, a sacrifice.

5. Prophets are scorned in their own lands
and martyrs slain by righteous hands;
though dreamers die, the dream will live,
for we have yet our lives to give.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Margaret LeWright

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 13:31-32 (NIV)

Fran Cooper

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches."

Acts 2:42-47 (NIV)

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

SERMON

"EXPAND THE DREAM"

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

RESPONSE

Covenant Prayer

Jay D. Locklear and Adam Seate

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 THE PEACE

LIVING AS THE CHURCH

OFFERING & THANKSGIVING

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)

The Servant Song

TFWS 2222 v. 1-4 (organ)

1. Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey;
we're together on this road.
We are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

CLOSING PRAYER *(RESPONSIVE)*

Fran Cooper

Leader: The call of God has come to us. How shall we respond?

People: We have many choices.

One is to sit and do nothing and see what God has in store.

**Another is to prepare ourselves for the coming of God's mighty kingdom
by changing our lives to be in tune with God.**

Leader: We are called to active faith, to turn our lives around and work for God.

**People: God will be with us, forgiving, encouraging, strengthening us for God's
work.**

All: Lord, help us to be strong and ready to follow you. Amen.

Ministry Matters (adpt)

POSTLUDE [organ]

Tocata de 7° tono, Allegro

José Elías