

**Lake Merritt United Methodist Church**

An Inclusive Christian Community of Oakland



**LAKE PARK**

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

IN JOINT FELLOWSHIP

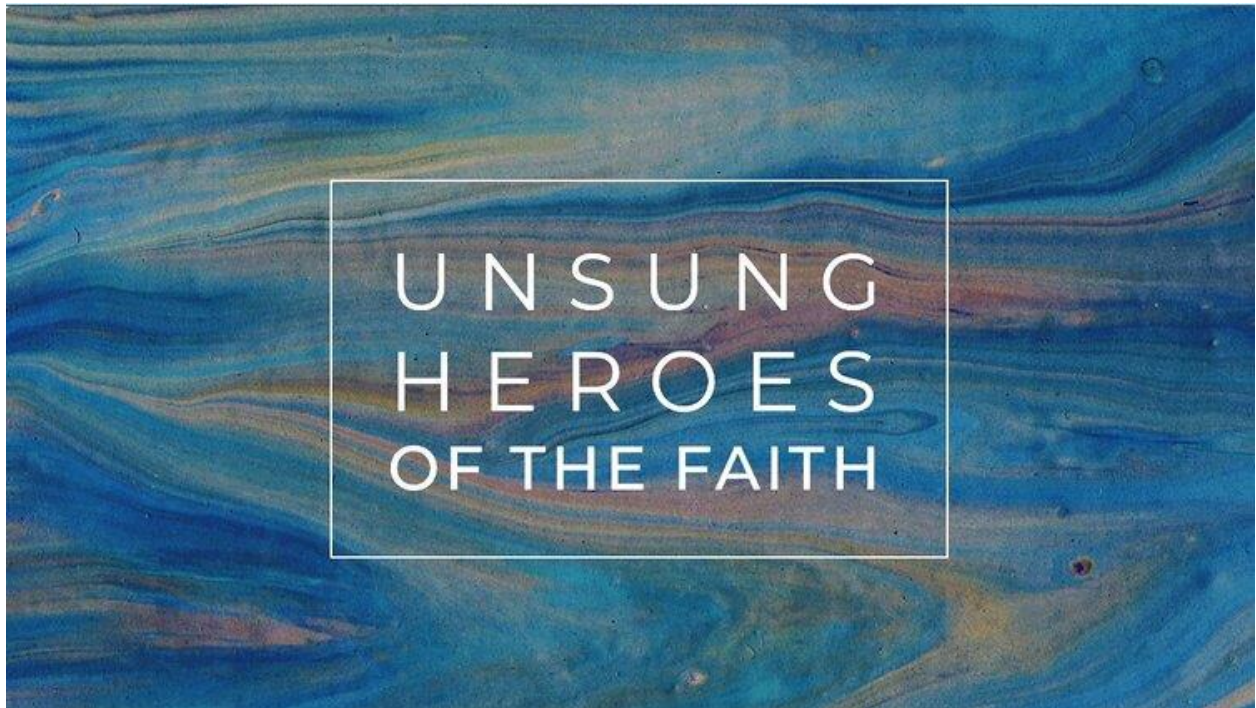
*Sustaining a vibrant and growing congregation through Christian spiritual transformation, making our work and the church relevant and visible.*

(510) 465-4793

[www.lakemerrittumc.org](http://www.lakemerrittumc.org)

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Oakland, CA 94606



## *"Bezalel and Oholiab"*

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

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November 12, 2023  
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

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WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

INTROIT

Be Thou My Vision

Trad. Irish Tune

arr. Kevin Holsinger/Michèle Sharik  
Michèle Sharik, handbells

OPENING PRAYER (*RESPONSIVE*)

Naomi Martin

Leader: You have called us to this place, O Lord.

**People: Each one of us is unique, with differing gifts and talents.**

Leader: Yet each talent represented here is valuable in God's realm.

**People: Lord, help us find ways in which to use our talents for healing and hope.**

Leader: Come, let us praise the Lord who has called us here.

**All: Let us open our hearts and spirits to God's word for us. Amen.**

Ministry Matters

OPENING SONG

(Please stand if able)

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

UMH 430 v. 1,3,4 [organ]

1. O Master, let me walk with thee  
in lowly paths of service free;  
tell me thy secret; help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.

3. Teach me thy patience; still with thee  
in closer, dearer company,  
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,  
in trust that triumphs over wrong;

4. In hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broadening way,  
in peace that only thou canst give,  
with thee, O Master, let me live.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Margaret LeWright

# CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

ROSIE TAHARKA  
RENEE TAHARKA

## *To the parents or sponsors:*

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

**I do.**

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

**I do.**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

**I do.**

Will you nurture **Rosie & Renee** in Christ's holy church, that by your teaching and example, they may be guided to accept God's grace for themselves, to profess their faith openly and to lead a Christian life?

**I will.**

## *To the congregation:*

Do you, as Christ's body, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

**We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include **Rosie & Renee** now before you in your care?

**With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround them with a community of love and forgiveness that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them that they may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.**

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

### *To ALL:*

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

## THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

*Pastor:* The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*Pastor:* Eternal Father, when nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

**All: Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.**

*Pastor:* In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

**All: Declare Christ's works to the nations, his glory among all the people.**

*Pastor:* Pour out your Holy Spirit,<sup>[L]</sup> to bless this gift of water and those who receive it, to wash away their sin and clothe them in righteousness throughout their lives,<sup>[SEP]</sup> that, dying and being raised with Christ, they may share in his final victory.

**All: All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns for ever. Amen.**

## BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

*Pastoral Blessing:*

The Holy Spirit work within you,  
that being born through water and the Spirit,  
you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ.

**All: Amen.**

*Presentation of Baptism certificates & candles*

## HYMN

## Jesus Loves Me

UMH 191, verse 1 (2x)

Jesus loves me!  
This I know,  
for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong;  
they are weak, but he is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.

*We welcome Rosie & Renee to our congregation.*

*Congregation:*

**Through baptism  
you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit  
into God's new creation  
and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood.  
We are all one in Christ Jesus.  
With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you  
as members of the family of Christ.**

## SCRIPTURE

Exodus 31:1-11 (NIV)

Naomi Martin

Then the Lord said to Moses, "See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills — to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of crafts. Moreover, I have appointed Oholiab son of Ahisamak, of the tribe of Dan, to help him. Also I have given ability to all the skilled workers to make everything I have commanded you: the tent of meeting, the ark of the covenant law with the atonement cover on it, and all the other furnishings of the tent — the table and its articles, the pure gold lampstand and all its accessories, the altar of incense, the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils, the basin with its stand — and also the woven garments, both the sacred garments for Aaron the priest and the garments for his sons when they serve as priests, and the anointing oil and fragrant incense for the Holy Place. They are to make them just as I commanded you."

## RESPONSE

All Good Gifts

Natalie Sleeth  
LMUMC Choir

SERMON

"BEZALEL AND OHOLIAB"

Rev. Sunae Cho, Pastor

RESPONSE

What Child Is This?

Trad. English Carol

Arr. Boude Moore  
Sonos Handbell Quartet

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

What Gift Can We Bring

UMH 87 vs 1,4 [organ]

1. What gift can we bring, what present, what token?  
What words can convey it, the joy of this day?  
When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,  
what song can we offer in honor and praise?
4. This gift we now bring, this present, this token,  
These words can convey it, the joy of this day!  
When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,  
this song we now offer in honor and praise!

CLOSING SONG

(Please stand if able)

The Summons

TFWS 2130 [organ]

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
4. Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

CLOSING PRAYER (*UNISON*)

Naomi Martin

Creator God,  
We are made in your image,  
and we give you thanks for the seeds of creativity  
and skill you have planted within each person.  
Grant us, we pray, the capacity to appreciate everyone's gifts,  
even when we don't always notice them.  
Give us the patience and strength to nourish our own gifts,  
and the courage and persistence to use them for your will. Amen.

faithum.net (adapt)

POSTLUDE [organ]

Suite Gothique, Toccata

Léon Boëllmann