

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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Easter Sunday

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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March 31, 2024
Easter Sunday
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

INTROIT

Easter Alleluia
LMUMC Choir

Jim Meredith

OPENING PRAYER

Laurel Williams

We were not eye-witnesses to the event,
as were Mary and the disciples;
we have not journeyed
through a dangerous city
to seek answers or consolation;
we have not seen angels
gathering at the rim of this day,
or wept in the garden this morning
because we could not find Him.

But we are here to attest to a story
that has not lost its power
during twenty centuries
of change and conflict.

We are here because those before us
carried this story
as if it were precious gold;
cherished it as if it were
the key to a hidden wisdom.

Sisters and brothers in Christ,
take your places here today
in celebration and in awe.
What you are about to hear again,
has the capacity to change the world.
Your very presence attests
to the rising up of life
from the tomb of despair,
and to the uncontrollable power of God.

It is Easter morning again,
and we celebrate the risen Christ. Amen.

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

UMH 302 vs. 1-4

**1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!**

Instrumental interlude

**2. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!**

Instrumental interlude

**3. Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!**

Instrumental interlude

**4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!
Amen!**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Margaret LeWright

DECORATING THE CROSS WITH FLOWERS

SCRIPTURE

Mark 16:1-8 (NIV)

Laurel Williams

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

“Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’”

Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

SERMON

“AN INVITATION”

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

RESPONSE

Salvation Is Created

Pavel Chesnokoff

LMUMC Choir

PRAYER STATIONS

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

OFFERING & THANKSGIVING [ORGAN]

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

UMH 581 vs 1,4

1. Lord, whose love in humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
offered mercy’s perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart,
consecrating to your purpose
every gift that you impart.

4. Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go
to the child, the youth, the aged,
love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord in freedom
may your mercy know, and live.

CLOSING SONG [ORGAN]

(Please stand if able)

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

UMH 312

1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
To his throne above the skies, Alleluia!
Christ, awhile to mortals given, Alleluia!
Reascends his native heaven, Alleluia!
2. There the glorious triumph waits, Alleluia!
Lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!
Christ hath conquered death and sin, Alleluia!
Take the King of glory in, Alleluia!
3. See! The heaven its Lord receives, Alleluia!
Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia!
Still he calls the world his own, Alleluia!
4. See! He lifts his hands above, Alleluia!
See! He shows the prints of love, Alleluia!
Hark! His gracious lips bestow, Alleluia!
Blessings on his church below, Alleluia!

CLOSING PRAYER (*RESPONSIVE*)

Laurel Williams

Because the tomb is empty, your life can be full,
so go into every place and every day
as people brimming with the love of God.
Be graceful in spirit, hopeful in word, faithful in deed.
Live for the risen Christ as Christ lives in you.
And the people respond:
Alleluia and Amen!

Glen E. Rainsley (adapt)

Thank you to all of our guests from the Young Musicians Choral Orchestra Program!

Ryan Pham, trumpet, voice
Margret Kariuki, trumpet, voice
Brian Velez, trombone, voice
Oscar Harth, trombone, voice
Nimah Rowden, timpani, voice
Israel Rangel-Mejia, voice