

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

Oakland, CA 94606



*Resurrection
Stories*
Unlock yours.

*"Threshold Moments – Is There
Healing at the End of Life?"*

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

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Lake Park Community Engagement Pastor

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May 5, 2024
Sixth Sunday of Easter
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Spiritual, arr. Calvin Taylor

WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

OPENING PRAYER (*RESPONSIVE*)

Rev. Dr. Dale Tremper

Leader: This is a thin place

People: Where hopes are renewed

Where faith is restored

Where peace is revived

Where love is refreshed

Leader: This is a thin place

People: Where fresh words are heard

Deep wisdom revealed

Daring promises proclaimed

Leader: This is a thin place

People: Where the God who shaped us

The Christ who remakes us

The Spirit who inspires us

Walk among us full of grace and truth

All: God above us

God beside us

God within us

May we be open to see and hear

your grace revealed

as we worship you this day. Amen

Craig Mitchell

OPENING SONG

(Please stand if able)

Morning Has Broken

UMH 145

1. Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

2. Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Margaret LeWright

SCRIPTURE

Lamentations 3:19-33 (NIV)

Rev. Dr. Dale Tremper

I remember my affliction and my wandering,
the bitterness and the gall.
I well remember them,
and my soul is downcast within me.
Yet this I call to mind
and therefore I have hope:
Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed,
for his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion;
therefore I will wait for him."
The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him,
to the one who seeks him;
it is good to wait quietly
for the salvation of the Lord.
It is good for a man to bear the yoke
while he is young.
Let him sit alone in silence,
for the Lord has laid it on him.
Let him bury his face in the dust —
there may yet be hope.
Let him offer his cheek to one who would strike him,
and let him be filled with disgrace.
For no one is cast off
by the Lord forever.
Though he brings grief, he will show compassion,
so great is his unfailing love.
For he does not willingly bring affliction
or grief to anyone.

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

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

SERMON "THRESHOLD MOMENTS – IS THERE
HEALING AT THE END OF LIFE?"

Rev. Stephanie Gameros

RESPONSE

Give Me Jesus

Spiritual

Rev. Stephanie Gameros, soprano

HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

Rev. Stephanie Gameros

INVITATION

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 & PARDON (*UNISON*)

ALL: 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 PRAYERS OF CONFESSION & 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.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Let us offer one another signs of peace and love.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: 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 formed us in your image
and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed,
your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity,
made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through the prophet.
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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
Your Spirit anointed him
to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.
He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

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.
When the Lord Jesus ascended,
he promised to be with us always,
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.
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 the 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!**

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

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!**

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

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.*

SHARING IN THE BREAD AND CUP

UNISON PRAYER

All: Generous Lord, in word and eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of your love: help us so to live out our days
that we may be signs of your wonders in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

OFFERING & THANKSGIVING

Give Thanks

TFWS 2036

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong",
Let the poor say, "I am rich
because of what the Lord has done for us."

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong",
Let the poor say, "I am rich
because of what the Lord has done for us."
Give thanks.

LIVING AS THE CHURCH

CLOSING SONG [ORGAN]

(Please stand if able)

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

UMH 140

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

CLOSING PRAYER (*UNISON*)

Rev. Dr. Dale Tremper

All: How precious, how fragile, how short is life!
Our lives are but a breath.
The Divine brings us into being,
weaves our lives together,
and ushers us into eternal rest.
Blessed are the Sacred rhythms of life
and holy are these tasks:
to be alive,
to pay attention,
to honor the fleeting with awe and care. Amen

enfleshed

POSTLUDE

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

William Runyan
arr. Mark Hayes