

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

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1255 First Avenue

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ENOUGH

Discovering Joy Through
Simplicity and Generosity



*"Cultivating Contentment in a
Fearful Age"*

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

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Lake Park Community Engagement Pastor

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May 12, 2024
Seventh Sunday of Easter
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Adoration

Florence Price

Khristle Jordan, violin

WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

OPENING PRAYER (*RESPONSIVE*)

Yvette Bravo

Leader: This morning, O God,
your voice sounds into our lives again.

**People: We are grateful to hear your call,
for on many mornings we hear other voices —
voices urging us to care only about ourselves.**

Leader: By the end of the week,
we feel trapped in our anxiety, our work, our spending,
our need for control, and our excuses.

**People: And then we hear your voice again,
calling us to your healing care,
to your spacious freedom,
to your steadfast love.**

**All: We come to rest and be content.
Call us to your freeing love again. Amen.**

ministry matters (adapt)

OPENING SONG

(Please stand if able)

Come and Find the Quiet Center

TFWS 2128

1. Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.
2. Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.
3. In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:
There's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare.

SCRIPTURE

1 Timothy 6:6-17 (Msg)

Yvette Bravo

A devout life does bring wealth, but it's the rich simplicity of being yourself before God. Since we entered the world penniless and will leave it penniless, if we have bread on the table and shoes on our feet, that's enough.

But if it's only money these leaders are after, they'll self-destruct in no time. Lust for money brings trouble and nothing but trouble. Going down that path, some lose their footing in the faith completely and live to regret it bitterly ever after.

But you, child of God: Run for your life from all this. Pursue a righteous life – a life of wonder, faith, love, steadiness, courtesy. Run hard and fast in the faith.

Seize the eternal life, the life you were called to, the life you so fervently embraced in the presence of so many witnesses.

I'm charging you before the life-giving God and before Christ, who took his stand before Pontius Pilate and didn't give an inch: Keep this command to the letter, and don't slack off. Our Master, Jesus Christ, is on his way. He'll show up right on time, his arrival guaranteed by the Blessed and Undisputed Ruler, High King, High God. He's the only one death can't touch, his light so bright no one can get close. He's never been seen by human eyes – human eyes can't take him in! Honor to him, and eternal rule! Oh, yes.

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

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

SERMON

"CULTIVATING CONTENTMENT
IN A FEARFUL AGE"

Rev. Dr. Dale Tremper

RESPONSE

How Can I Keep from Singing (My Life Flows On)

Khristle Jordan, soprano

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

STEWARDSHIP WITNESS

Patty Staggs, LMUMC member

OFFERING & THANKSGIVING [ORGAN]

What Gift Can We Bring?

UMH 87 vs. 1, 4

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 [ORGAN]

(Please stand if able)

God Will Take Care of You

UMH 130

1. Be not dismayed whate'er betide,
God will take care of you;
beneath his wings of love abide,
God will take care of you.

God will take care of you,
through every day, o'er all the way;
he will take care of you,
God will take care of you.
2. Through days of toil when heart doth fail,
God will take care of you;
when dangers fierce your path assail,
God will take care of you.

God will take care of you,
through every day, o'er all the way;
he will take care of you,
God will take care of you.

3. All you may need he will provide,
God will take care of you;
nothing you ask will be denied,
God will take care of you.

God will take care of you,
through every day, o'er all the way;
he will take care of you,
God will take care of you.

4. No matter what may be the test,
God will take care of you;
lean, weary one, upon his breast,
God will take care of you.

God will take care of you,
through every day, o'er all the way;
he will take care of you,
God will take care of you.

CLOSING PRAYER (*RESPONSIVE*)

Yvette Bravo

Leader: When we long for the special effects we think life should offer:

People: it is enough, for us, that God appears in a glorious spring morning.

Leader: When our hearts are cracked by the drought of doubt:

People: it is enough, for us, that God opens up the fountains of faith.

Leader: When our senses are deadened by the sales pitches of our culture:

People: it is enough, for us, that God wraps us in the silence of grace.

All: Let us go into this week delighting in simple joys. Amen

Thom Shuman (adapt)

POSTLUDE

Joyous Fuge in C

Dietrich Buxtehude