

Lake Merritt **United Methodist Church**



An Inclusive Christian Community of Oakland

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
1255 First Avenue, Oakland, CA 94606



WALKING THE HARD ROAD

When Faith is Challenged

When We Keep Silent *Palm/Passion Sunday*

Rev. Sunae Cho, Lead Pastor
pastor@lakemerrittumc.org

Jim Meredith, Music Director
jimmeredith@mac.com

Lulu Sapigao, Church Administrator
Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Director
office@lakemerrittumc.org

April 13, 2025
Palm/Passion Sunday
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Prelude (organ)

The Rejoicing

G.F. Handel

Welcome

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

Opening Prayer (responsive)

Andrew Champion

Leader: Let us enter the city with God today,
And sing hosannas to our king,

**People: Let us turn our backs on the powers that grasp and control,
And open our hearts to the son of God riding on a donkey.**

Leader: Let us join his parade,

Surrounded by outcasts and prostitutes, the blind and the leper.

**People: Let us follow the one who brought freedom and peace,
And walk in solidarity with the abandoned and oppressed.**

Leader: Let us shout for joy at Christ's coming and join his disciples,
welcoming the broken, healing the sick, dining with outcasts.

**All: Let us touch and see as God draws near,
Riding in triumph towards the Cross. Amen.**

Christine Sine

Opening Song (organ)

(Please stand if able)

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna
UMH 278

**1. Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;
through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.**

**2. From Olivet they followed mid an exultant crowd,
the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud.
The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,
nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.**

**3. "Hosanna in the highest!" that ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King.
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice!**

Children's Moment

Margaret LeWright

Scripture

Luke 19:29-40 (CEB)

Andrew Champion

As Jesus came to Bethphage and Bethany on the Mount of Olives, he gave two disciples a task. He said, "Go into the village over there. When you enter it, you will find tied up there a colt that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks, 'Why are you untying it?' just say, 'Its master needs it.'" Those who had been sent found it exactly as he had said.

As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

They replied, "Its master needs it." They brought it to Jesus, threw their clothes on the colt, and lifted Jesus onto it. As Jesus rode along, they spread their clothes on the road.

As Jesus approached the road leading down from the Mount of Olives, the whole throng of his disciples began rejoicing. They praised God with a loud voice because of all the mighty things they had seen. They said,

"Blessings on the king who comes in the name of the Lord.
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens."

Some of the Pharisees from the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, scold your disciples!
Tell them to stop!"

He answered, "I tell you, if they were silent, the stones would shout."

Sermon

When We Keep Silent

Chris Logan

Response

Glory to God, Hosanna in the Highest
LMUMC Choir

Michael Barrett

Prayers & Gratitudes

***Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten,
those who seek God shall never go wanting.
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten,
God alone fills us.***

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 of Christ

Living as the Church

Offering & Thanksgiving Song

How Shall I Come Before the Lord
W&S 3124

**1. How shall I come before the Lord
and bow myself with heart outpoured?
And shall I come with offering?
What shall I give? What shall I bring?**

**2. Will finest gifts bring God's delight?
Will wealth bring favor in God's sight?
What must we be? What must we do?
What does the Lord require of you?**

**3. Let Justice shine in all your ways.
Let loving kindness rule you days,
that, as this earthly path you trod,
you shall walk humbly with your God.**

Closing Song

(Please stand if able)

What Wondrous Love Is This

UMH 292 (verses 1, 2, 3)

**1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.**

**2. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, that caused the lord of life
to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
to lay aside his crown for my soul.**

**3. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme I will sing.**

Closing Prayer (responsive)

Andrew Champion

Leader: Our Lord is on a journey,
and the way leads through opposition and misunderstanding.
Jesus invites us to follow him.

**People: This journey leads through the shadows of betrayal,
the night of Gethsemane,
the afternoon darkness of Golgotha.**

Leader: Our Lord is on a journey.
May we have the grace to follow this Christ,
and to give to him our very lives.

**All: For in giving away our lives, we find them,
and in dying we live. Amen.**

First Baptist Church, Carrollton, Georgia

Postlude (organ)

Psalm XX

Benedetto Marcello