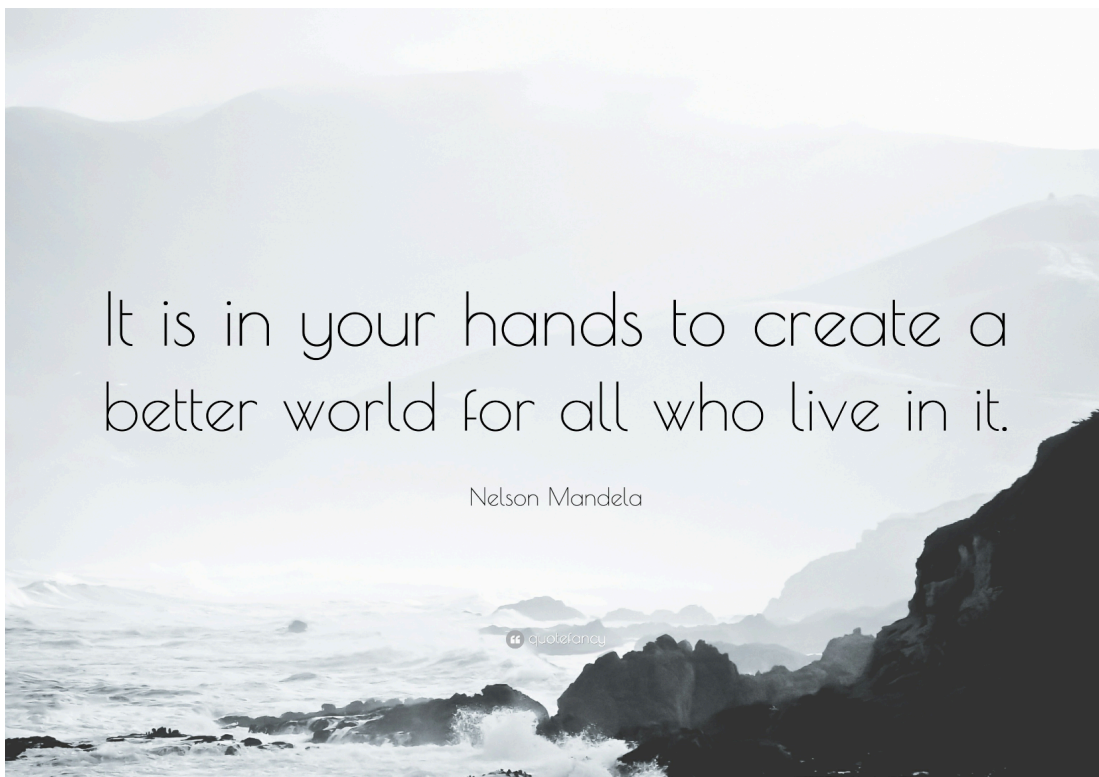




**An Inclusive Christian Community
feeding the spiritual and physical hunger of Oakland.**

**(510) 465-4793 www.lakemerrittumc.org
1255 First Avenue, Oakland, CA 94606**



Core Value: Cause

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

Jim Meredith, Music Director
jimmeredith@mac.com

Sean Hyland, Church Administrator
office@lakemerrittumc.org

October 26, 2025
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Poor Wayfarin' Stranger

Traditional Spiritual
arr. Calvin Taylor

Welcome

Pastor Sunae

Opening Prayer (responsive)

Weichi Chen

Leader: We come, for God gathers us here,
with that community called faith:

**People: where the hungry are served first,
where the thirsty drink life's water.**

Leader: We come, for God welcomes us here
into that home called grace:

**People: where the naked are clothed in robes of hope;
where the stranger is embraced as the long-lost prodigal.**

Leader: We come, for God reunites us here,
sisters and brothers in that family called love:

**People: where the imprisoned model justice,
where the sick are cradled in God's peace.**

All: Let us worship our God.

Thom Shuman (adapt)

Opening Song (organ)

(Please stand if able)

For the Healing of the Nations

UMH 428 vs 1,3,4

**1. For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords;
to a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word,
help us rise and pledge our word.**

**3. All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span,
may we hallow life's brief span.**

**4. You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind,
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find,
earth its destiny may find.**

Children's Moment

Margaret LeWright

Scripture

Matthew 25: 34-40 (NIV)

Weichi Chen

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Job 34: 23-28 (NIV)

God has no need to examine people further,
that they should come before him for judgment.

Without inquiry he shatters the mighty
and sets up others in their place.

Because he takes note of their deeds,
he overthrows them in the night and they are crushed.

He punishes them for their wickedness
where everyone can see them,

because they turned from following him
and had no regard for any of his ways.

They caused the cry of the poor to come before him,
so that he heard the cry of the needy.

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

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sermon

Core Value: Cause

Rose Lynn Abesamis-Bell
Co-Leader, Connectional Ministry Team

Response

Amen, So Be It!

Natalie Sleeth
LMUMC Choir
Carol DeArment, String Bass

Prayers & Gratitudes

Dona Nobis Pacem (Grant Us Peace)

Dona nobis pacem, pacem.
Dona nobis pacem.

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

Let us offer one another signs of peace and love.

Living As the Church

Offering & Thanksgiving

Many Gifts, One Spirit

UMH 114

God of change and glory, God of time and space,
When we fear the future, give to us your grace.
In the midst of changing ways give us still the grace to praise.

Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.
In our difference is blessing, from diversity we praise
one Giver, one Lord, one Spirit, one Word
known in many ways, hallowing our days.
For the Giver, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

Here I am, Lord UMH 593

**1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?**

**Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.**

**2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?**

**Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.**

**3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?**

**Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.**

Closing Prayer (responsive)

Weichi Chen

Leader: Gracious Lord, as we go, teach us to listen to those in pain,
give us ears to hear your Spirit speaking,
and transform us with your unending love
for the lost, lonely and broken.

**All: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Bowthorpe Church

Postlude

Poor Mourner Got a Home at Las'

Traditional Spiritual
arr. Calvin Taylor