



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

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The Wandering Way

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February 22, 2026
First Sunday in Lent
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Prelude

A Wilderness Wandering People

Jim Strathdee

Adapted by Worship Design Studio

Rev. Stephanie Gameros, guitar

**We are a wilderness wandering people
on a journey of the soul.
May we find our destination
in our longing to be whole.
Our Holy God is calling to us.
With Jesus by our side
May compassion be our compass;
may the Spirit be our guide,
on The Way,
on The Way,
on The Way.**

Welcome

Pastor Sunae

Opening Prayer (responsive)

Andrew Champion

Leader: God of the Pilgrimage,
be with us on The Way.

**People: At times, we don't know if we are on the path
you would have us travel.**

How do we know the direction for our lives?

Leader: We come seeking your guidance,
as Jesus showed us to do.

**All: Help us to be at home even in our wanderings,
knowing that you are ever with us. Amen.**

Opening Song

(Please stand if able)

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me
UMH 521

**1. I want Jesus to walk with me.
I want Jesus to walk with me.
All along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

2. In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
When my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

3. When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me.
When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me.
When my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Children's Moment

Margaret LeWright

Scripture

Psalms 1 (CEB)

Andrew Champion

The truly happy person
doesn't follow wicked advice,
doesn't stand on the road of sinners,
and doesn't sit with the disrespectful.
Instead of doing those things,
these persons love the Lord's Instruction,
and they recite God's Instruction day and night!
They are like a tree replanted by streams of water,
which bears fruit at just the right time
and whose leaves don't fade.
Whatever they do succeeds.

That's not true for the wicked!
They are like dust that the wind blows away.
And that's why the wicked will have no standing in the court of justice—
neither will sinners
in the assembly of the righteous.
The Lord is intimately acquainted
with the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked is destroyed.

Luke 4: 1-13 (CEB)

Jesus returned from the Jordan River full of the Holy Spirit, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness. There he was tempted for forty days by the devil. He ate nothing during those days and afterward Jesus was starving.

The devil said to him, "Since you are God's Son, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus replied, "It's written, People won't live only by bread."

Next the devil led him to a high place and showed him in a single instant all the kingdoms of the world. The devil said, "I will give you this whole domain and the glory of all these kingdoms. It's been entrusted to me and I can give it to anyone I want. Therefore, if you will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered, "It's written, You will worship the Lord your God and serve only him."

The devil brought him into Jerusalem and stood him at the highest point of the temple. He said to him, "Since you are God's Son, throw yourself down from here; for it's written: He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you and they will take you up in their hands so that you won't hit your foot on a stone." Jesus answered, "It's been said, Don't test the Lord your God."

After finishing every temptation, the devil departed from him until the next opportunity.

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

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response

I Am a Poor Wayfaring Stranger

Traditional Folk Spiritual
arr. Keith Christopher
LMUMC Choir

Sermon

The Wandering Way

Pastor Sunae

Prayers & Gratitudes (organ)

Jesus, Remember Me UMH 488

**Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.**

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 (organ)

How Shall I Come Before the Lord

W&S 3124 vs 1,3

**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?**

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

Closing Song

(Please stand if able)

The Summons

TFWS 2130 vs 1,4,5

**1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?**

**4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?**

**5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

Closing Prayer (responsive)

Andrew Champion

Leader: The Creator God filled you with breath,
inviting you to this journey called Life.

All: We will follow on The Way.

Leader: Jesus, our Guide, showed us what it means
to make a new way with Love.

All: We will follow on The Way.

Leader: The Spirit gives us strength to move forward
with Courage and Compassion for all we meet.

All: We will follow on The Way.

Leader: May this week be filled with opportunities to choose good over evil; humility over pride; and loving God over loving the things that do not last.

All: May it be so. Amen.

Postlude

Wayfaring Stranger

Traditional Folk Spiritual
arr. Mark Hayes