



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

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



The Way Around

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

Jim Meredith, Music Director
jimmeredith@mac.com

Sean Hyland, Church Operations Manager
office@lakemerrittumc.org

March 08, 2026
Third Sunday in Lent
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Prelude

A Wilderness Wandering People

Jim Strathdee
Adapted by Worship Design Studio
LMUMC Bell Choir

**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)

Ron Fujie

Leader: God of the Bending Road, be with us on The Way.
We find ourselves changed
by the things we encounter and the people we meet.
**People: We want to grow and yet sometimes
the growing pains can be disorienting for everyone.**
**All: Help us as we navigate the twists and turns,
and help us see that others are doing the same. Amen.**

Opening Song

(Please stand if able)

Open the Eyes of My Heart
W&S 3008

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You**

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You**

To see you high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
I want to see you.

Children's Moment

Margaret LeWright

Scripture

Luke 13:31-34 (CEB)

Ron Fujie

At that time, some Pharisees approached Jesus and said, "Go! Get away from here, because Herod wants to kill you."

Jesus said to them, "Go, tell that fox, 'Look, I'm throwing out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will complete my work.

However, it's necessary for me to travel today, tomorrow, and the next day because it's impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.'

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those who were sent to you! How often I have wanted to gather your people just as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings. But you didn't want that.

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

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sermon

The Way Around

Pastor Sunae

Response

Meditation Movement

Susannah Wood

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)

Guide My Feet TFWS 2208

**1. Guide my feet while I run this race.
Guide my feet while I run this race.
Guide my feet while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!**

2. Hold my hand while I run this race.
Hold my hand while I run this race.
Hold my hand while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

3. Stand by me while I run this race.
Stand by me while I run this race.
Stand by me while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

4. I'm your child while I run this race.
I'm your child while I run this race.
I'm your child while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

5. Search my heart while I run this race.
Search my heart while I run this race.
Search my heart while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

6. Guide my feet while I run this race.
Guide my feet while I run this race.
Guide my feet while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

Closing Prayer (responsive)

Ron Fujie

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 let others
share with you their journey stories,
and for you to share yours
so you might come to know each other more fully.

All: May it be so. Amen.

Postlude

The Light of the World is Jesus

Philip P. Bliss
arr. Mark Hayes