



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

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1255 First Avenue, Oakland, CA 94606



Easter Sunday

Rev. Sunae Cho, Lead Pastor
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April 05, 2026
Easter Sunday
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Prelude (organ)

Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?

African American Spiritual
arr. Calvin Taylor

Introit

Easter Alleluia

James Meredith
LMUMC Choir

Welcome

Rev. Sunae Cho

Opening Prayer (responsive)

Tom Huetteman

Leader: God of Renewed Life,
we give you thanks for the ultimate Good News—life wins!
On this day of celebration of the rising of Jesus, the Christ,
we open ourselves to our destination: your unending love.

**People: We know that whenever we need direction,
we have only to begin the journey afresh and you will come alongside.
Thank you, Spirit, for the wind beneath our wings, the pep in our step,
the flame of desire for life and love renewed.**

Leader: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Amen!

Opening Song (organ)

(Please stand if able)

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

UMH 302 vs 1-4
arr. David Johnson

**1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!**

[interlude]

**2. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!**

[interlude]

**3. Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!**
[interlude]

**4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

Children's Moment

Margaret LeWright

Flowering the Cross

Scripture

Matthew 28:1-10 (CEB)

Tom Huetteman

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the tomb. There was a great earthquake, for an angel from the Lord came down from heaven. Coming to the stone, he rolled it away and sat on it. Now his face was like lightning and his clothes as white as snow. The guards were so terrified of him that they shook with fear and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Don't be afraid. I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He isn't here, because he's been raised from the dead, just as he said. Come, see the place where they laid him. Now hurry, go and tell his disciples, 'He's been raised from the dead. He's going on ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there.' I've given the message to you."

With great fear and excitement, they hurried away from the tomb and ran to tell his disciples. But Jesus met them and greeted them. They came and grabbed his feet and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid. Go and tell my brothers that I am going into Galilee. They will see me there."

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

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sermon

Now, Go Home. And You will See Jesus

Rev. Sunae Cho

Response

Mary's Jubilation

Michael Barrett
LMUMC Choir

Holy Communion

adapted from John van de Laar

Rev. Sunae Cho
Rev. Myrna Bernadel-Huey

Pastor: What are we to make of this day?
When graves are opened...
When the dead awaken...
When life refuses to be contained...

**People: That nothing is impossible!
Hope is never extinguished and love is never conquered!**

Pastor: We celebrate You today, Jesus,
because You have made it clear that death does not have the last word.
Because You have filled us again with hope and faith.
Because You have given us a vision of new possibilities,
new realities, and new ways of being.

**People: Open our minds to believe what we cannot explain;
open our hearts to hope for what we cannot see;
open our lives to live and to love in the midst of death and despair;
let resurrection happen again in us today.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Let us offer one another signs of peace and love.

Confession & Pardon

Rev. Sunae Cho

Pastor: God, resurrection is not what we expect in our world.
On the face of things, life seems to be under threat...
our earth is grieving,
our families are fracturing,
our nations are in turmoil,
and the light of our hope is growing dim.

People: We need the stone to be rolled away again.

Pastor: Forgive us and all who have failed to honour
and preserve life in all its diversity and glory.
Forgive us and all who have allowed relationships
to become less important than riches or recognition.
Forgive us and all who continue to exalt our needs and desires
over those of others, and who are prepared to kill to prove it.
Forgive us and all who have grown blind
to all the signs of resurrection that beckon us still.

Silence Is Kept For Prayers Of Confession

**People: We need the stone to be rolled away again.
We need life to break out within us again.
We need love to consume us again.
Resurrect us today, O Lord, and make us agents of Your life
wherever dying and grief hold sway.**

Pastor: Followers of Christ, I remind you of this surpassing grace –
in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Let us join together in the prayer which Jesus taught 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.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Rev. Myrna Bernadel-Huey

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Pastor: Let us celebrate this irrepressible life;
let us open our hearts to the joy and wonder of infinite possibility,
of unquenched hope, of eternal resurrection.

**People: We celebrate, we raise our voices and our hearts
in worship and thanksgiving to the God who lives.**

Pastor: Resurrection happened because Christ was first prepared to die.
Defying death, He refused to release His hold on life and love.
So now, as He encouraged us,
we choose to remember so that we too can truly live.

At supper on the night before He died Jesus took bread and blessed it.
Then He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying:
This is my body, broken so that you may know life.
Eat it and remember Me.

After the meal Jesus took wine and blessed it.
Then He gave it to His disciples saying:
This is my blood, shed so that you may know life.
Drink it and remember Me.

So, now, Lord of Life, we share in this meal, we celebrate together, and we
remember You.

And we will continue to do this until resurrection has flooded the whole creation.
As we break this bread, we receive Christ's life.

People: In all our diversity, in all our individuality, as we share this one loaf, we are one.

Sharing In The Bread And Cup

Rev. Sunae Cho

Unison Prayer

Rev. Sunae Cho

All: We thank You, O God, for Your life, pulsing in creation, revealed in Jesus, renewed in resurrection, and available to us now. Thank you for touching us again with Your life through bread and wine; for joining our lives with Yours through Jesus; and for renewing resurrection in our hearts through your Holy Spirit. Amen

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 (organ)

(Please stand if able)

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise **UMH 312**

1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
To his throne above the skies, Alleluia!
Christ, awhile to mortals given, Alleluia!
Reascends his native heaven, Alleluia!
2. There the glorious triumph waits, Alleluia!
Lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!
Christ hath conquered death and sin, Alleluia!
Take the King of glory in, Alleluia!

3. See! the heaven its Lord receives, Alleluia!
Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia!
Still he calls the world his own, Alleluia!

4. See! he lifts his hands above, Alleluia!
See! he shows the prints of love, Alleluia!
Hark! his gracious lips bestow, Alleluia!
Blessings on his church below, Alleluia!

Closing Prayer (responsive)

Tom Huetteman

Leader: O God of both Good Friday and Easter morning,
overcome our willingness to take life as it is,
rather than search out its new possibilities.
Sometimes we have been deadened by hard reality
and cold facts longer than we care to admit.

**People: Give us back the laughter,
the enthusiasm,
the optimism,
the dreams,
that help us find something
to believe in once again.**

Leader: Roll away the stone from our hearts
when they become cold,
and enable us to truly live and love once more.

**All: Help us to see ourselves as you see us
and to be fully alive
to the new morning
that has broken this day,
through Jesus Christ,
who has become our Savior. Amen.**

Easter Alleluia

James Meredith
LMUMC Choir

Postlude

Allegro vivo e maestoso

Dom Paul Benoit, O.S.B.

Instrumentalists

Fernando Lozano, Margret Kariuki - trumpet
Geo Garcia, Brian Velez - trombone
Nimah Rowden - percussion, electric bass
Janice Pang, Ron Fujie, James Cosentino - percussion