

OUR RECONCILING STATEMENT

(Approved February 17, 2019)

Inspiring the world as passionate followers of Jesus Christ so all can experience God's life-giving love.

Echo Park United Methodist Church is a faith community seeking to live in joyous response to the love of God in Christ.

We are people of Christ's new creation called to be ministers of reconciliation.

We are not always of the same mind, but we seek to be of the same Spirit, reaching out in unconditional love to let others know that there is a place of reconciliation: "There is a Balm in Gilead."

We share the Gospel and Spirit of Jesus Christ and open our community to all, especially to those who are hurt or have been left out because of racial differences, ethnic origin, gender identity, legal or immigration status, language, sexual orientation, disability, all who have suffered abuse or abandonment by society, or even by the church.



We invite you to make ECHO PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH your spiritual home as together we celebrate being a reconciling and inclusive ministry. We strive to love as Jesus loved, welcoming all people and excluding no one. It takes open hearts, open minds and open doors to make a place of real equality, respect, justice and peace. It takes people loving people to make God's reign a reality.

ECHO PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH A Reconciling Congregation

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Facebook: [@EchoParkUnitedMethodistChurch](https://www.facebook.com/EchoParkUnitedMethodistChurch)

Instagram: [@EchoParkUnitedMethodist](https://www.instagram.com/EchoParkUnitedMethodist)

Pastor: Rev. Frank Wulf + Music Director: Mina Rhee

THE 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 22, 2022 + 10:00 a.m.



Welcome to Echo Park United Methodist Church A Reconciling Congregation



We are a church of open hearts, open minds, and open doors.
We welcome you to worship here just as you are!

GATHERING

PRELUDE: "Prayer" – Mina Rhee
Music: R. Wagner

OPENING MEDITATION: – Read in silence
Kenneth Sauer – *Who Is Our 'Man from Macedonia'?*

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." (Acts 16:9)

Who is our "Man from Macedonia"? What doors are being shut and what doors are opening up? What vision is God giving us as we seek the future mission of this Church? And a Church must have a mission. A church without a mission will most certainly die. God is alive. The Holy Spirit is active. There is a plan for those who are willing to do what God has called us to do. There is a future for those who listen to their "Man from Macedonia." Are we listening?

***HYMN OF PRAISE:** "Shall We Gather at the River" – Page 8
Words + Music: Robert Lowry (*UM Hymnal* 723)

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** – Read responsively
Gill LeFevre – *Sunday Prayers*

Liturgist:

We come this morning full of ourselves:

*** INDICATES: PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT AS YOU PREFER.**

Community:

Our concerns, our plans, our opinions, our schedules.

Liturgist:

In this moment, help us empty our minds of the relentless 'I' and make space for you.

Community:

Enable us to put down our priorities; to set aside our assumptions and schemes. 3

Liturgist:

Open our hearts to recognize your love in action in our lives.

Community:

Reassure us of your divine vision, and let us rest in your unending care.

***OPENING PRAYER:**

– Prayed in unison

Gill LeFevre – *Sunday Prayers*

The Community:

Sustaining and encouraging God, thank you for being always by our side. Encourage us to turn to you every day and to seek your guidance for our lives. Slow us when we try to rush ahead. Prompt us when we delay and hesitate. Steady us when we stumble. Although we cannot always understand this world, remind us that you delight in each one of us, and will strengthen and support us to grow in faith and service. Amen.

WELCOME:

– Lay Leader Franie Maddela

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE:

– Pastor Frank Wulf

***HYMN OF PREPARATION:**

– Page 9

“As a Fire Is Meant for Burning” (*The Faith We Sing* 2237)

Words: Ruth Duck; Music: *The Sacred Harp*; Harmony: Ronald A. Nelson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

– Pastor Frank Wulf

Call to Prayer

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Community Prayer

The Prayer that Jesus Taught

– Page 5

SCRIPTURE READING:

– Emanuel Avalos (read in Spanish)

Paul Is Called to Macedonia

Acts 16:9-15 (NRSV)

Listen for the Word of God in the book of Acts, chapter 16, verses 9 to 15.

SERVICE NOTES AND PERMISSIONS

PRELUDE: Prayer – Music: R. Wagner. Public domain.

OPENING MEDITATION – Excerpt from a sermon preached by Rev. Kenneth Sauer at East Ridge United Methodist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee. Copyright © 1999-2020 by SermonCentral or its content providers and contributors. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

HYMN OF PRAISE: Shall We Gather at the River – Words & Music: Robert Lowry. Public domain.

CALL TO WORSHIP, OPENING PRAYER, & BENEDICTION: By Gill LeFevre at <https://gill-lefevre.medium.com/sunday-prayers-acts-16-6-15-a2d6e9e488fc>. All rights reserved.

HYMN OF PREPARATION: As a Fire Is Meant for Burning – Words: Ruth Duck; Music: *The Sacred Harp* 1844; Harmony: Ronald A. Nelson. Words © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc. Harmony © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Reprinted under One License, License #733845-A. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #733845-A.

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ESCRITURA EN ESPAÑOL – *Reina-Valera 1995*, Copyright © 1995 by *United Bible Societies*. All rights reserved.

ANTHEM: And Can It Be – Words: Charles Wesley; Music: Thomas Campbell. Public domain.

OFFERTORY:

DOXOLOGY: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow/Oh, Criaturas del Señor – Words: Thomas Ken, adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira; Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*; Adapt. © 1989 United Methodist Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Reprinted under One License, License #733845-A. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #733845-A.

HYMN OF DEDICATION: Down by the Riverside – Words & Music: Traditional African American Spiritual. Public domain.

POSTLUDE: Postlude – Music: J. Haydn. Public domain.

Down By The River-Side

SOLO CHORUS

1. Goin't' lay down my burden, Down by the river-side, Down by the river-side,
 2. Goin't' lay down my sword and shield, Down by the river-side, Down by the river-side,
 3. Goin't' try on my long white robe, Down by the river-side, Down by the river-side,
 4. Goin't' try on my starry crown, Down by the river-side, Down by the river-side,

SOLO CHORUS

Down by the river-side, Goin't' lay down my bur-den, Down by the river-side,
 Down by the river-side, Goin't' lay down my sword and shield, Down by the river-side,
 Down by the river-side, Goin't' try on my long white robe, Down by the river-side,
 Down by the river-side, Goin't' try on my star-ry crown, Down by the river-side,

CHORUS

Goin' to stud - y war no more. Ain't goin't' study war no more, Ain't goin't'

1 2

study war no more, Ain't goin't' study war no more, . . . Ain't goin't':] war no more.
 goin't' study war no more,

⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

CHORAL ANTHEM: "And Can It Be" – Chancel Choir
 Words: Charles Wesley; Music: Thomas Campbell

SCRIPTURE READING: – Eunice Avalos (read in English)
 The River of the Water of Life
Revelation 22:1-5 (NRSV)

Listen for the Word of God in the book of Revelation, chapter 22, verses 1 to 5.

¹Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

Based on Psalm 91:5 (NRSV)

– Prayed in unison

The Community:

May the words of our mouths and the meditations of all of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O God, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

SERMON

Meandering Paths

– Pastor Frank Wulf

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

Invitation to the Offering

– Pastor Frank Wulf

Offertory

Walter Elmer, soloist + Mina Rhee, organist

**Doxology*

United Methodist Hymnal 94

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Words: Thomas Ken + Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*

**Stewardship Prayer*

– The Congregation

The Community:

May your Word shape our lives, form our thoughts, and guide our steps, O God, so that we may live in this world as your faithful followers and love this world as those who have been transformed by your love. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pages 5-6

***HYMN OF DEDICATION:**

“Down by the Riverside”

Words & Music: Traditional African American Spiritual

Page 10

SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**

– Read responsively

Karin Ellis – *Abingdon Worship Annual 2022*

Pastor:

As you go out from here, may God’s love guide and protect and strengthen you.

The Community:

In all things, may God show us the way. Alleluia and amen.

***POSTLUDE**

“Postlude”

– Mina Rhee

Music: J. Haydn

ENTER TO WORSHIP



DEPART TO SERVE

2237

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning

1. As a fire is meant for burn - ing with a
 2. We are learn - ers; we are teach - ers; we are
 3. As a green bud in the spring - time is a

bright and warm - ing flame, so the church is meant for
 pil - grims on the way. We are seek - ers; we are
 sign of life re - newed, so may we be signs of

mis - sion, giv - ing glo - ry to God's name. Not to preach our creeds or
 giv - ers; we are ves - sels made of clay. By our gen - tle, lov - ing
 one - ness 'mid earth's peo - ples, man - y hued. As a rain - bow lights the

cus - toms, but to build a bridge of care, we join
 ac - tions we would show that Christ is light. In a
 heav - ens when a storm is past and gone, may our

hands a - cross the na - tions, find - ing neigh - bors ev - ery - where.
 hum - ble, lis - tening Spir - it we would live to God's de - light.
 lives re - flect the ra - diancance of God's new and glo - rious dawn.

Shall We Gather at the River 723

1. Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, where bright an-gel feet have
 2. On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver
 3. Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-ery bur-den
 4. Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er, soon our pil-grim-age will

trod, with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing
 spray, we will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the
 down; grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-
 cease; soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er with the

Refrain
 by the throne of God?
 hap-py gold-en day. Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er,
 vide a robe and crown. mel-o-dy of peace.

the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er; gath-er with the
 saints at the riv-er that flows by the throne of God.

WORDS: Robert Lowry, 1864 (Rev. 22:1-5)
 MUSIC: Robert Lowry, 1864

HANSON PLACE
 87.87 with Refrain

BIBLE VERSE FOR COMFORT AND INSPIRATION

THE WEEK OF MAY 22-28

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." (Acts 16:9)

THE PRAYER THAT JESUS TAUGHT US

(Each is invited to pray in their own heart language)



English: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Español: Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre. Venga tu reino. Hágase tu voluntad, como en el cielo, así también en la tierra. El pan nuestro de cada día, dánoslo hoy. Y perdónanos nuestras deudas, como también nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores. Y no nos dejes caer en tentación, mas líbranos del mal; porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la gloria, por todos los siglos. Amén.

Tagalog: Ama namin, sumasalangit Ka, sambahin ang ngalan Mo. Mapasaamin ang kaharian Mo. Sundin ang loob Mo dito sa lupa, para nang sa langit. Bigyan Mo kami ngayon ng aming kakanin sa araw-araw. At patawarin Mo ang aming mga sala, para ng pagpapatawad naming sa mga nagkakasala sa amin. At huwag Mokaming ipahintulot sa tukso, at iadya Mo kami sa lahat ng masama. Sapagkat Iyo ang kaharian, at kapangyarihan, at ang kadakilaan, magpakailanman. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 22-28

1. Thank you to all who helped out with today's service of worship:

Greeter: Franic Maddela (Lay Leader) + **Liturgist:** Emily Schoales;
Readers: Emanuel Avalos, Eunice Avalos + **Message for Young People:** Pastor Frank Wulf + **Musicians:** Mina Rhee (Music Director), Ember Knight (Technical Support), Walter Elmer (Offertory), Chancel Choir (Anthem) + **Technical Support:** John Chavis, Josefina Amado, Walter Elmer

2. Today's worship service is being broadcast and will be available on the church's Facebook page. Please invite your family and friends to view it there: <https://www.facebook.com/EchoParkUnitedMethodistChurch>
3. Christian education programming:
 - There will be no Sunday School for children and youth today. Sunday school will resume next week.
 - We are looking for volunteers to be part of a Sunday school team. If you would like to help Sunday school happen at Echo Park United Methodist Church, please contact Pastor David Farley at grandpastordavid@gmail.com.
 - Suggested activities for children and families for the coming week have been posted on the church website.
 - The Bible and Theology Group for adults will meet by Zoom this coming Thursday, May 26, at 7:00 p.m. We will begin discussing *The God Who Sees: Immigrants, the Bible, and the Journey to Belong* by Karen Gonzalez, which is available through Amazon (www.amazon.com) both in hard copy and in Kindle format. More information about the Bible and Theology Group can be found on the church website: www.echoparkumc.org/bible-study/.
4. The Mission and Ministry Committee will meet by Zoom this coming Wednesday, May 25, at 7:30 p.m. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7184544317>.
5. SAVE THE DATE: The Echo Park Immigration Center will hold its Lotería Fundraiser in the church parking lot from 12:00-2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 11. For more information or to register your attendance, please go online to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/epic-loteria-fundraiser-tickets-338425589047>.
6. With the theme "Ending Spiritual & Physical Hunger", the 38th Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference will take place on June 7 (online), 15 (online), 17 & 18 (online & in person). Echo Park UMC will be represented by Emily Schoales, John Chavis (alternate) and Rev. Frank Wulf. All sessions will be livestreamed through the Annual Conference website: www.calpacumc.org. Please keep Bishop Hagiya and the Conference in your prayers.
7. Happy birthday to: Kimberly Alexander (May 22), Ken Requa (May 23), and Anthony Palombi (May 27)

DONATING TO ECHO PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

You may make donations to Echo Park United Methodist Church in a number of ways. If you feel called and inspired to contribute financially to the church or one or more of its ministries, please do so in a way that feels appropriate and comfortable to you.

By cash offering: Please put your donation into an envelope. Write your name and contact information on the outside of the envelope along with any instructions about how you want your contribution used. Place the envelope into one of the offering plates at the back of the Sanctuary or deliver it in person to the church office.

By check: Please make your check payable to "Echo Park United Methodist Church." Make sure your personal contact information on the check is correct and write the purpose of your donation onto the check's memo line. You may place your check into one of the offering plates at the back of the Sanctuary or mail it to the church office: Echo Park United Methodist Church, 1226 N. Alvarado Street, Los Angeles, CA 90026.

Online using PayPal: Access the church's donation page by going online to: <https://echoparkumc.org/donate-here/> or using the following QR code:



After entering the amount of your donation, use the drop-down menu to select the purpose of your donation. Then click "Next,"

On the next page, add any other specific instructions into the field labeled "What's this payment for?" Also, if necessary, enter your payment information, and then click the blue button labeled "Donate Now."

However you choose to give, thank you for your offering to support the mission and ministry of Echo Park United Methodist Church and the wider United Methodist Church. Echo Park United Methodist Church is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible.