

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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living a life of

narrative holiness, telling an alternative story



October 20, 2019

Welcome to CAPC Oakland!

We are a reformed, multicultural, politically purple, community of followers of Jesus seeking to live our faith seriously in word, deed and relationships in the East Bay.

If you've never celebrated with us, you can follow along using this paper or the projection on the screen. Hymnals and Bibles are in the pews. We invite you to join us for a moment of community connection afterwards with a drink and simple snack.

CHILDREN

We have a quiet play area for children in the front of the sanctuary with toys and coloring sheets that can be played with during services. We also have a lounge, off the entryway, where the service is broadcast if you need more space.

We invite children 3 years old to 6th grade to depart for Godly Play following our second song. You can gather your child(ren) after worship upstairs in the GP room.

PRAYER CARDS

You're invited to share your prayers of concern or gratitude by filling out the cards, located in the pews, and placing them in the glass vase on the table. We'll use them during today's service.

WIFI & SOCIAL MEDIA

2wire927 is our open wifi. The password is 7304088568. If you do social media during the service we invite you to add #capcoakland to include others.

NESTLÉ PARKING LOT

We're able to park in the lot behind the church. They ask us to enter and exit off of Chabot Road, using the pedestrian door there near Crossroads Trading.

CCL #1137062

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

GATHERING SONG "All Are Welcome" - Insert

CALL TO WORSHIP - Insert

SONG OF PRAISE "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" - Insert

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

ACT OF CONFESSION

OPENING OURSELVES TO BEING UNDONE, THAT WE MIGHT BE REDONE

SUNG RESPONSE "Our Darkness" - Insert

DECLARATION OF GRACE.

THE IN-BREAKING OF GOD'S GRACE DISRUPTS OUR HUMAN CONDITION OF SIN

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER - Fredora Darmstadt

Call and response liturgically prayed at the conclusion of sharing a prayer card

Leader: God, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

To pray with someone after the service, look for today's liturgist after today's service

GIVING OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS TO EMPOWER THE WORK OF GOD IN THE CHURCH

OFFERTORY SONG "We Will Take What You Offer" - Insert

READING OF SCRIPTURE Daniel 3, 1 Peter 2:1-10 - Pew Bible, p. 857, 1177

SPEAKING OF FAITH "Fearless Friction" - Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel" - Insert

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING CALL AND RESPONSE

Leader: God is good!

Leader: And all the time!

People: All the time!

People: God is good!

EXHORTATION & BENEDICTION

PASSING THE PEACE OF GOD "Tiyoox tii Ka'tal" /tea oshtea katal/ (Poqomam)

We pass the peace weekly using languages native to the cultures of our church community as an audible sign of the Dominion of God at work towards the healing transformation of the world.

Thoughts on Today's Scriptures Daniel 3, 1 Peter 2:1-10

We live in a complex and anxious age. Many argue moreso that at other times because we are living in a time of massive change, the emergence of a new world through technological development, wide cultural interaction, economic disruption and emerging consequences of climate change. We can respond to such change with fear of the different and despair of losing the familiar. We can also choose to step into the change, developing the muscle of discernment to embody accommodation without compromise. We can adapt and change without losing who we are and both what we stand for and with whom we choose to stand. In the Bible such integrity of identity is called holiness.



The Book of Daniel tells stories of how some of the ancient Israelites exiled in the foreign culture of the great power of Babylon (following the latter's conquest of the kingdom of Judah in 598 and 587 BCE) sought to accommodate to their new existence without compromising their beliefs, values and identity.

Daniel and his three friends, who are the protagonists in the fiery furnace story of chapter 3 have been selected to serve in the Babylonian government. It was a way for the great power to acclimate conquered foreigner into their culture, erasing their cultural and religious background to transform them into good Babylonians. It was a covert way of accomplishing cultural genocide and white-washing history. They accommodated the changes without compromising their faith as we see in the way they eat in chapter 1 and throughout the story of chapter 3. Their story was one of encouragement to the Israelites in the Babylonian Captivity and later for the Israelites returned home to Palestine but later conquered and controlled by the Greeks and Romans (3rd -1st century BCE); pushed to reject their native culture and beliefs to acclimate to the imperial ones of Greece and Rome.

We are faced with a similar challenge in our Babylonian Exile today – how should we live? How do we make sense of life? How do we respond well to life's circumstances?

1 Peter 2 is written to Christians facing their own “exile captivity” in the Roman Empire in a time of persecution. Peter writes to remind those who follow Jesus that they are unified in their call, identity, purpose and personhood even in their differences. We face that same challenge in our time of massive cultural upheaval, economic disruption and change when we are encouraged to focus on our differences, to rally around our “tribes”, to resist change through fear, division & violence, to “fit” without losing ourselves.

QUESTIONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF EXAMEN & CONTEMPLATION

- **What word, phrase or image grabs your attention?**
- **How does that word intersect with your life?; our life?**
- **When do you feel most alone, or with-others, in your faith?**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

26 Chinyere Okereke 30 Josh Beatty

COMMUNITY LIFE CALENDAR

TODAY: We're having a 100th birthday party for Emma Fleming after our service. Please come and join the fun – *how often can you go to such a party!*

Care Givers Support Group 3-5p at 2600 Warring Street, Berkeley.

ESL Class tomorrow & Mondays 7-9pm. Our efforts to show God's love to local immigrants through simple one-on-one conversation.

Join our Choir! Tuesdays 5:30-6:30p, Sundays 12-1p | Contact Pete Feltman petefeltman@gmail.com

Celtic Prayer Group, Wednesdays 6:45-8:15pm
Contact *Marda* at mqstothers@gmail.com for info.

Session Meeting, Thursday 7-8:30pm (*library*)

Friday Night Meal, This week the meal is being put on by partners of First Covenant Church of Oakland with the help of host Harry Hussian.

Men's Breakfast Group - Next Saturday 8:30-10am | Talk with Bill Beatty for more info

Women's Group, Saturdays 8:30am | in the church library (meets 1st, 2nd, 3rd Saturdays)

The Vocabulary of Faith | Sundays 9:30-10:15a *A weekly intro class to learning how to read the Bible.*

HELP NEEDED – Thanksgiving Meal, Can you help with advanced work like soliciting donations and marketing the event to volunteers and guests?

HELP NEEDED: greeters Would be willing to volunteer 1x/month to welcome folks to worship? Sign up today or talk with Richard Harvey

NEXT SUNDAY:

Come to worship in a Halloween costume if you like! It's the annual College Avenue Trick-Or-Treat Day among the merchants – all centered @ CAPC.

Thank you to Today's Leadership

Counting; Albert Hussian, Jeff Trowbridge
Deacon Liturgist: Fredora Darmstadt
Fellowship: Beth & Bill Beatty
Godly Play: Cameron Beatty (ST); F Darmstadt (DK)

Leadership for next week, 10/27/19:

Counting; Louise Hirschman, Sharon Nelson
Deacon Liturgist: Fredora Darmstadt
Fellowship: David Kittams, Marda Stothers
Godly Play: Bill Beatty (ST); Rady Beatty (DK)

LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

"All Are Welcome"

Author: Marty Haugen; Glory to God #301

1. Let us build a house
where love can dwell and all can safely live
A place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive
Built of hopes and dreams and visions
Rock of faith and vault of grace
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place
2. Let us build a house where
prophets speak and words are strong and true
Where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew
Here the cross shall stand as witness
And as symbol of God's grace
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place
3. Let us build a house where
love is found in water wine and wheat
A banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet
Here the love of God through Jesus
is revealed in time and space
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place
4. Let us build a house where
hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen serve and teach
and live the word they've known
Here the outcast and the stranger bear
the image of God's face
Let us bring an end to fear and danger
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are
welcome in this place
5. Let us build a house where
all are named their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured taught
and claimed as words within the word
Built of tears and cries and laughter
Prayers of faith and songs of grace
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING

Today's reading is adapted from a prayer found online at <https://spaciousfaith.com> riffing on Psalm 133.

The People read the **BOLD print**

- One: Though at times we may be inclined to brag,
let us come together with humility.
- ALL: How good a thing it is when all of God's
people live together in unity.**
- One: Though we may be tempted to use harsh
words, let us come together with gentleness.
- ALL: How good a thing it is when all of God's
people live together in unity.**
- One: Though we may want everything to happen
quickly, let us come together with patience.
- ALL: How good a thing it is when all of God's
people live together in unity.**
- One: Though the world around often encourages
hate, let us come together in love.
- ALL: How good a thing it is when all of God's
people live together in unity.**
- One: In humility, gentleness, patience, love, and
unity,
- ALL: Let us worship the God who has calls us
together, calling us to the work of
expanding the living Kingdom of God in
our world.**

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

Author: Isaac Watts (1719); Glory to God #803

1. My Shepherd will supply my need
Jehovah is His name
In pastures fresh He makes me feed
beside the living stream
He brings my wandering spirit back
when I forsake His ways
And leads me, for His mercy's sake,
in paths of truth and grace

continued on the back of the page

2. When I walk through the shades of death
Your presence is my stay
One word of Your supporting breath
drives all my fears away
Your hand in sight of all my foes
does still my table spread
My cup with blessings overflows,
Your oil anoints my head

3. The sure provisions of my god
attend me all my days
O may Your house be my abode
and all my works be praise
There would I find a settled rest
while others go and come
No more a stranger or a guest,
but like a child at home

“Our Darkness”

*Author: Taizé Community
English; French
© 1991, Les Presses de Taizé,*

Our darkness is never darkness in your sight
The deepest night is clear as the daylight

ACT OF CONFESSION RESPONSIVE READING

*Today's reading is adapted from a prayer found online at
<https://spaciousfaith.com> riffing on Daniel 3*

The People read the BOLD print

One: Holy One,
Sometimes we are like King Nebuchadnezzar of
ancient Babylon, wanting to be in charge,
desperately and destructively trying to control
everyone around us.

ALL: God of freedom, forgive and transform us.

One: Sometimes we are like the Chaldeans from which
Nebuchadnezzar came,
jealous of those who seem more successful,
malicious toward people who do not do things the
proper way.

ALL: God of grace, forgive and transform us.

Continued in the next column...

One: And we are not sure if we could, if we would,
be like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego,
trusting you despite all odds,
devoted to you even in the face of isolation,
tribalism, life in exile and even death.

**ALL: God of salvation, transform our fear into
faithfulness, our isolation into connection,
our tribalism into kingdom-wide vision.**

“We Will Take What You Offer”

Author: John L. Bell (1998)

We will take what you offer.
We will live by your word.
We will love one another
and be fed by you, Lord.

“Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel”

*From The Book of American Negro Spirituals by James
Weldon Johnson and J. Rosamond Johnson
(New York: Viking, 1940).*

chorus:

Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel,
deliver Daniel, deliver Daniel
Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel,
and why not every one? *(repeat)*

1. He delivered Daniel from the Lion's den
Jonah from the belly of the whale
And the Hebrew children from the fiery furnace
And why not every one?

2. The moon run down in a purple stream
The sun forget to shine,
And every star disappear
King Jesus will be mine

3. The wind blows east and the wind blows west
It blows like judgment day
And every soul that never prayed
will be glad to poor that day

4. I set my food on the gospel ship
And the ship begin to sail
It landed me over on Canaan shore
And I'll never come back no more