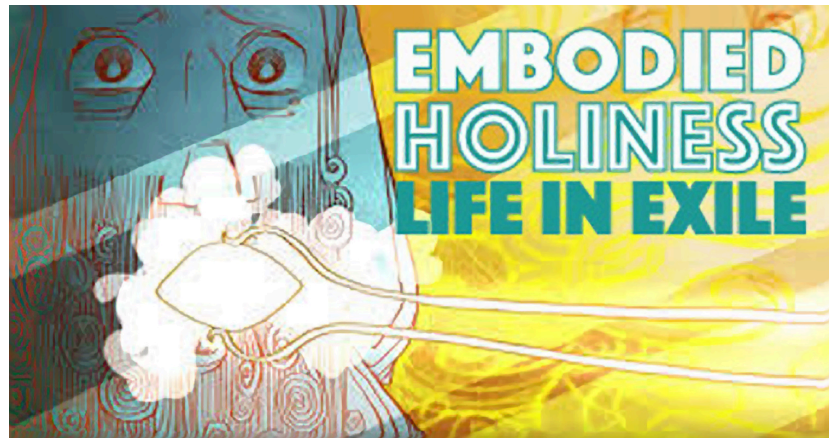


College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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October 27, 2019

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 "Sacred the Body" - *Insert*

CALL TO WORSHIP - *Insert*

SONG OF PRAISE "The Servant Song" - *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 1, Romans 12:1-3 - *Pew Bible, p. 855, 1100*

SPEAKING OF FAITH "Reformed, Always being Reformed" - *Monte McClain*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" - *Blue Hymnal #369*

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 1, Romans 12:1-3



“The logic of the gospel is grace and justification by faith while that of the world is the logic of social ambition, profit and the pursuit of power.” – Rev. Antoine Nous

Life in Exile is a metaphor rooted, as we've been seeing, in the experience of the ancient Israelites taken as captives to the foreign empire of Babylon. It was a time of fear and anxiety, uncertainty and the loss of established points of reference. Had God abandoned the people? Did God no longer love them? Was there another god stronger than the God of the Hebrews: Yahweh? What would become of the people, their way of life in a changed and changing world?

It's a metaphor used repeatedly when we talk about the loss of points of reference in a world changing either by dramatic forces of power, transformation or evolution. The Israelites came to understand the changing power structure of their world as God punishing them for their idolatry, their abuse of the poor and lowly, their worship of power and wealth. Later Martin Luther when he provoked what we now call the Protestant Reformation spoke of the corruption of the Church in the 16th century as a Babylonian Exile.

Today many speak of our dramatically changing time as another time of Exile. It's a way to wrestle with the failing and flailing of our institutions, the radical diversification of our cultural cues and the technological disruption which characterizes our emerging new way of living. It's a way to wrestle with the failing and flailing of the Church and the growing population of the *Nones* (who don't identify with any religion) and the decreasing number of Christians. Is this God punishing us? Is this the world changing and us struggling to adapt to it? Is this an indicator that our “way” of believing needs to grow or change?

Today's scriptures wrestle with the challenge of living in but not of the world, teasing out the line between accommodating to a new context and compromising on our values to fit in.

Daniel finds a middle, or third-way between compromising the values of his faith around his identity and his diet which is neither refusing to adapt nor selling out. Paul in Romans writes this climactic section, inviting those who follow Jesus to trust in the grace, freely given, of Jesus as the bedrock of their identity, a faith in a God that the don't possess, but rather towards whom they are moving, a God that is unknowable and who is slowly known through the renewal of our intelligence.

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?**
- **How do you feel like an “exile” in today's world? How does your faith in Jesus guide or structure your life in our changing world?**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

26 Chinyere Okereke 30 Josh Beatty

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Nenna Okereke	5 Harry Hussian
11 Al Hussian	13 Elaine Price
15 Pete Feltman	16 Ruth Ann Friedland
Elodie McClain	19 Radman Beatty

COMMUNITY LIFE CALENDAR

TODAY: It's the annual College Avenue Trick-Or-Treat Day among the merchants – all centered @ CAPC. We also include the fun in our worship!

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.

Friday Night Meal, There is no meal this next week

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.*

Pick up a Report on the ongoing work of the Church in the Narthex on green paper.

HELP NEEDED: greeters & sound help - Would be willing to volunteer 1x/month to welcome folks to worship? Or to help with the sound equipment? Sign up today or talk with Richard Harvey

NEXT SUNDAY: DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS / ALL SAINTS' DAY IN WORSHIP. Bring a photo or memento of loved ones who have died to contribute to our communion table we'll create together.

Thank you to Today's Leadership

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

Leadership for next week, 11/3/19:

Counting; Marge Harvey, Marda Stothers
Deacon Liturgist: Ben Bencomo
Fellowship: Anne Marie Adams, Sharon Nelson
Godly Play: Children stay in worship for Communion

LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

"Sacred the Body"

Author: Ruth Duck (1997) | Glory to God #27

1. Sacred the body, God has created,
temple of Spirit that dwells deep inside.
Christ each person; nurture relation.
Treat flesh as holy, that love may abide.
2. Bodies are varied, made in all sizes,
pale, full of color; both fragile and strong.
Holy the difference, gift of the Maker,
so let us honor each story and song.
3. Love respects persons, bodies and boundaries.
Love does not batter, neglect, or abuse.
Love touches gently, never coercing.
Love leaves the other with power to choose.
4. Holy of holies, God ever loving,
make us your temples; indwell all we do.
May we be careful, tender and caring,
so may our bodies give honor to you.

CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING

Today's reading is adapted from a prayer found online at www.rev-o-lution.org riffing on Romans 12.

The People read the **BOLD** print

- One: The God of our ancestors calls to us today;
**ALL: May we work for justice and peace
to build up the reign of God on earth.**
- One: The God of our children calls to us today;
**ALL: How good a thing it is when all of God's people
live together in unity.**
- One: Jesus, the son of the Living God,
calls to us now;
**ALL: May we worship God,
follow Jesus,
and be moved by the Spirit
To do justice,
love mercy,
walk humbly with God,
now and forever.**

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" (The Servant Song)

Author: Richard Gillard (1977, alt.)
Glory to God # 727

1. Will you let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I might have the grace
To let you be my servant, too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey.
We are brothers on the road.
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night time of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you;
Speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping.
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through.
5. When we sing to God in heaven,
We shall find such harmony
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.
6. Will you let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I might have the grace
To let you be my servant, too.

ACT OF CONFESSION RESPONSIVE READING

Today's unison prayer is found online at
www.rev-o-lution.org riffing on Romans 12.

The People read the BOLD print

One: Holy One,
You bring heaven to earth, inviting us to live here
and now as you are.
We experience you as the One who
is moved by love,
moves from love,
moves toward love,
yet we struggle to love as you do.

**ALL: Almighty God,
we have failed to do justice.
We have failed to show mercy to others
but expect it for ourselves.
We have forgotten to be kind.
Wake us up to see the violence,
the injustice and oppression in our world.
Call us away from the worldly ways of looking
after ourselves and our loved ones,
and to Your ways of seeing
all of Your people as our kin,
all of creation as our home.
Forgive us,
help us to repent,
to turn to You
and to live into your ways
of justice, peace and mercy.
Amen.**

"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

"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.

"I'm Gonna Live So God can Use Me"

Traditional Spiritual
Blue Hymnal #369

1. I'm gonna live so God can use me.
Anywhere lord, any time
I'm gonna live so God can use me.
Anywhere lord, any time
2. I'm gonna work so God can use me.
Anywhere lord, any time
I'm gonna work so God can use me.
Anywhere lord, any time
3. I'm gonna pray so God can use me.
Anywhere lord, any time
I'm gonna pray so God can use me.
Anywhere lord, any time
4. I'm gonna sing so God can use me.
Anywhere lord, any time
I'm gonna sing so God can use me.
Anywhere lord, any time