

College Avenue Presbyterian Church  
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**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 6<sup>th</sup> 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

November 10, 2019

**GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD**

GATHERING SONG "The Earth Belongs To God Alone" - Insert

CALL TO WORSHIP - Insert

SONG OF PRAISE "Lift Every Voice And Sing" - Blue Hymnal #563

**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 - David Kittams

*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

LECTIO DIVINA READING SCRIPTURE - Unison Reading

The Brief Statement of Faith of the PCUSA & the Preamble to the US Constitution

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

SONG OF RESPONSE "When The Saints Go Marching In" - Blue Hymnal #526

**THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

*Praying and Sending Karl & Myrna Shadley off for a month of mission partnership in Guatemala*

**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 Readings The Constitutional Preamble & the Brief Statement of Faith

A recent Time Magazine article asserted that "A Majority of Americans Already Cite 2020 Election as 'Significant Stressor' in Their Lives." But you probably don't need the media to tell you that. You may encounter it every day throughout life in our city and nation, in your relationships at work, at play and in your family.

This week marks a year until the 2020 presidential elections: a period of time which promises to be stressful, divisive, verbally violent, and anxiety-producing. How do you decide how your faith forms your ethical decisions, moral stance, political perspective, and personal commitments? The word *politics* comes from the Greek word *polis*, meaning city-state or city.

It points to how we live together. According to the Greek philosopher Plato, the best form of government of the *polis* is the one that leads to *the common good*.

What does it mean to be committed to following Jesus as the center of our lives, our polis, as well as being American citizens? How - if it is different - does our choice to live together as the Church in but not of the world, gathered in Christ invite us to live out that community as a testimony to the polis?

This week we're reflecting a year out from the elections via lectio divina, or "sacred reading" on the statements at the root of our nation (the Preamble to the US Constitution) and our church (the Brief Statement of Faith of the PCUSA).

The Preamble explains the purposes of the Constitution, and defines the powers of the new government as originating from the people of the United States. It establishes that the people of the nation are forming the government with these specific goals in mind, but then it says one important thing: the people "...do ordain and establish *this* Constitution for the United States of America." Not the views of a majority or those in power, but the Constitution. In this way all are protected, not just a simple majority. It puts into words the ideal of Rousseau's Social Contract when he posits that in order to be governed, the governed give up certain elements of their individual sovereignty, otherwise it would be either anarchy or tyranny as a result. The Preamble, written in 1787, is important not in what it creates, but in what it promises.

The Brief Statement of Faith is a statement of faith adopted by the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 1991 as part of its Book of Confessions. It was commissioned in 1983 when the two largest Presbyterian churches in the United States reunited to form the PC(USA) [our church].

### QUESTIONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF EXAMEN & CONTEMPLATION

- What word, phrase or image grabs your attention?
- How does each document formulate the common good?
- What invitation to do you hear in this word for you / us?



## ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11 Al Hussian	13 Elaine Price
15 Pete Feltman	16 Elodie McClain
Ruth Ann Friedland	19 Radman Beatty

### COMMUNITY LIFE CALENDAR

**TODAY:** In worship we're reflecting on the our call as the church in the light of or life as citizens of the USA through lectio divina on the Preamble of our constitution and the Brief Statement of Faith of the Presbyterian Church.

**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 in person or by email at [petefeltman@gmail.com](mailto:petefeltman@gmail.com)

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

**Friday Night Meal, 6-7pm** this week (11/15)  
the meal is being prepared and served by a group from Montclair Presbyterian Church.

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

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

**Be sure to check out the design for the garden labyrinth & see the newly pruned tree**

**HELP NEEDED: THANSIVING MEAL** -Sign up today in person or online at [www.capcoakland.org/thanksgiving-meal](http://www.capcoakland.org/thanksgiving-meal)

**Free Organ Concert today 4:00pm** at St. Marks Episcopal Church - 2300 Bancroft Way Berkeley, 94704 | [www.stmarksberkeley.org](http://www.stmarksberkeley.org)

**Meeting of the Congregation, Sunday 11/24** to elect new officers (elders & deacons).

### Thank you to Today's Leadership

Counting; Anne Marie Adams, Margaret Smith  
Deacon Liturgist: David Kittams  
Fellowship: Lina Foltz, Patt Schroeder  
Godly Play: Beth Beatty (ST); Avery Haynes (DK)

### Leadership for next week, 11/17/19:

Counting; Albert Hussian, Jeff Trowbridge  
Deacon Liturgist: David Kittams  
Fellowship: Linda Davis, Louise Hirschman  
Godly Play: David Kittams (ST); Elaine Price (DK)

## LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

### "The Earth Belongs To God Alone"

*Adam M. L. Tice (2006)*  
*Glory to God Hymnal #715*  
© 2011 GIA Publications, Inc

1. The earth belongs to God alone,  
hard clay, rich soil, find sand.  
Give thanks wherever food is grown  
on borrowed holy land.
2. The fertile ground through years of toil  
has cried for Sabbath rest -  
a time of peace for worn-out soil  
so land can be refreshed.
3. All life belongs to God alone,  
in wilderness and fields.  
From fallow land, or plowed and sown,  
God gives the good it yields.
4. Till God endows the earth one more  
with Eden's state of grace,  
may we endeavor to restore  
all land as sacred space.

### CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING

*Today's reading is Psalm 113 from the Message Translation.*

**The People read the BOLD print**

One: Hallelujah!  
You who serve God, praise God!  
Just to speak the name is praise!  
**ALL: Just to remember God is a blessing—  
now and tomorrow and always.  
From east to west, from dawn to dusk,  
keep lifting all your praises to God!**

One: God is higher than anything and anyone,  
outshining everything you can see in the skies.  
**ALL: Who can compare with God, our God,  
so majestically enthroned,  
Surveying his magnificent  
heavens and earth?**

One: The Holy One picks up the poor  
from out of the dirt,  
**ALL: rescues the wretched who've been thrown  
out with the trash,  
Seats them among the honored guests,  
a place of honor among the brightest and best.**

One: The Lord gives childless couples a family,  
**ALL: gives them joy as the parents of  
children.  
Hallelujah!**

### "Lift Every Voice And Sing"

*J. Rosamond Johnson*  
*and James Weldon Johnson (1900)*  
*Blue Hymnal #563*

1. Lift every voice and sing  
Till earth and heaven ring  
Ring with the harmonies of liberty  
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea  
Sing a song full of the faith  
that the dark past has taught us  
Sing a song full of the hope  
that the present has brought us  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun  
Let us march on till victory is won
2. Stony the road we trod,  
bitter the chastening rod  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died  
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our parents sighed  
We have come over a way  
that with tears has been watered  
We have come treading our path  
through the blood of the slaughtered  
Out of the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast

3. God of our weary years, God of silent tears  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way  
Thou who hast by thy might led us into the light  
Keep us forever in the path we pray  
Lest our feet stray from the places  
our God where we meet thee  
Lest our hearts drunk with the wine  
of the world we forget thee  
Shadowed beneath thy hand  
may we forever stand  
True to our God, true to our native land

## **“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.

## **“When The Saints Go Marching In”**

*Traditional Spiritual*

O when the saints \ go marching in  
When the saints go marching in  
O Lord I want to be in that number  
When the saints go marching in

On that \ hallelujah day  
When the trumpet sounds the call  
O Lord I want to be in that number  
When the saints go marching in

Some say this world of trouble  
Is the only one we need  
But I'm waiting for that morning  
When the new world is revealed

O when the air \ is pure and clean  
When the air is pure and clean  
O Lord I want to be in that number  
When the saints go marching in

O when the saints \ go marching in  
When the saints go marching in  
O Lord I want to be in that number  
When the saints go marching in

When we all \ have food to eat  
When we all have food to eat  
O Lord I want to be in that number  
When the saints go marching in

When our leaders \ learn to cry  
When our leaders learn to cry  
O Lord I want to be in that number  
When the saints go marching in

O when the saints \ go marching in  
When the saints go marching in  
O Lord I want to be in that number  
When the saints go marching in

And when the sun \ refuse to shine  
And when the sun refuse to shine  
O Lord I want to be in that number  
When the saints go marching in