

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 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 "Amazing Grace" - *Blue Hymnal #280*

CALL TO WORSHIP - *Insert*

SONG OF PRAISE "Oh Happy Day" - *Insert*

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE Mark 5:1-13 *Pew Bible pp. 971*

ACT OF CONFESSION

OPENING OURSELVES TO BEING UNDONE, THAT WE MIGHT BE REDONE

SUNG RESPONSE "Turn your eyes upon Jesus" - *Insert*

DECLARATION OF GOD'S GRACE

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER - *Deacon Diana Geary*
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 "His Eye is on the Sparrow" - *Insert*

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE Mark 5:14-20 *Pew Bible pp. 971*

SPEAKING OF FAITH - *Anna, Sin U Lei*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "If You See My Savior" - *Insert*

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING CALL AND RESPONSE

Leader: God is good!

People: All the time!

Leader: And all the time!

People: God is good!

EXHORTATION & BENEDICTION

PASSING THE PEACE OF GOD "Ping An" (Cantonese, Chinese)

恭喜发财 / 恭喜發財

"Gong hei fat choy" (Cantonese) or **"Gong she fa tsai"** (Mandarin)

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 Reading Mark 5:1-20

Today's story is disturbing. Maybe you're bothered by the loss of life and income in the 2,000 pigs that hurl themselves off the cliff (Today the going rate for a harvest pig is \$3.50-4/lb. The average weight of a pig at harvest is 150 lbs. So the cost per pig is \$525-\$600. 2,000 pigs would be worth at least \$1,050,000-\$1,200,000). Or maybe you're disturbed by Jesus seemingly not caring about the environmental impact of all those carcasses in the clean lake. He seems to be most concerned about this man living among the dead because of his impossible bondage.

Jesus has gone to the edge of the known, or acceptable world of his people. To the East of the Sea of Galilee is major Gentile country, who else would live with 2,000 pigs (considered verboten for Jews). He begins his time there, as he did in Jewish lands (Mark 1:21-28 in Capernaum), with the exorcism of an unclean spirit and the liberation of a man who was formerly as good as dead. The demoniac man is forced to live not just separate from his family and community, but among the dead. His spirit is so far from what God intends that he has to be bound to protect others and himself from his possessed derangement.

He recognizes Jesus upon his landing. Jesus recognizes him. We see the belief that naming the power you face gives you power over it.



Jesus ends the impossible bondage of this man by chasing out and off the force that is opposed to the will and good creation of God. His freedom both terrifies and inspires the local folks. They're afraid of what they've lost and what else they could lose. And in awe at this liberating power that restores of their sons back to their community. In their discomfort of losing the status quo normality of life they ask him to leave. Jesus then asks the newly free - *resurrected* - man to tell all of what God has done for him. He becomes the first "missionary" through his public testimony of how he has experienced the purpose, passion and presence of God in Jesus the Christ.

2019 is the third consecutive year of decreased life expectancy in our country. It's a figure that had been rising for over 70 consecutive years. It's due in large part to the opioid and suicide epidemics we face. Hopeless, destructive isolation, and the impossible bondage to a possession-like drug addiction. Maybe we shouldn't question or struggle with the idea of possession. We see the forces opposed to God's good will, imprisoning us in an impossible bondage throughout our society in addictions, obsessions, and financial inequalities.

QUESTIONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF EXAMEN & CONTEMPLATION

- **What part of today's passage disturbs or bothers you?**
- **How does Jesus liberate this man, giving him a new name, resurrecting him to a new life?**
- **Why would the neighbors not show more appreciation?**
- **Why wouldn't Jesus allow the man to come with him?**
- **How do you hear an invitation from the Spirit of God for you - or us - to become free in Christ through this passage?**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

25 Joy Barnes

29 Bill Beatty

COMMUNITY LIFE CALENDAR

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

Celtic Prayer Group, Wednesdays 6:45-8:15pm

Friday Night Meal, 6-7pm (1/24) This week the Community Service Crew of Piedmont High School is heading up the meal effort.

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

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

Happy Half-Hour Thursdays 6-6:30pm - wind down your week with a communal spiritual practice then grab a bit or drink along the Ave.

English as a Second Language Classes | our ministry with local immigrants here in Oakland - Mondays, 7-9pm - tomorrow 1/24.

Organizing 2020 sign up to be involved in ministry areas or emerging small groups today up front or online at www.capcoakland.org/2020

Missional Matters - pick up a copy of the minutes from last week's meeting and how we allocated our 2019 budgeted money (*entryway*)

The PTSA of Oakland Tech HS is organizing a presentation Weds., Feb. 5 at 6:30 pm to highlight the importance and urgency of this ballot measure to close the loopholes in commercial property taxes (prop 13. You can RSVP to the event on their Facebook event page. www.facebook.com/events/539450126652527,

Black History Month - would you like to do one of our weekly sharing moments in worship during Black History Month? Talk to Monte.

Thank you to this Week's Leadership:

Counting: Sharon Nelson, Louise Hirschman
Deacon Liturgist: Diana Geary
Fellowship: D. Kittams, M. Stothers, G Yee
Godly Play: Patt Schroeder (ST); Avery Haynes (DK)
Greeters: Janet Majors, Myrna Shadley

Leadership for next week, 2/2/2020:

Counting: Marge Harvey, Marda Stothers
Fellowship: Sharon Nelson, Anne Marie Adams
Godly Play: Children in Worship
Greeters: David Kittams, Joy Barnes

LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

"Amazing Grace"

Traditional | Blue Hymnal #260

1 I That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind but now I see.

2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

3. Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

4. The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my Shield and Portion be,
As long as life endures.

5. When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING

*Community of Christ Liturgy, Breath New Life at
www.cofchrist.org*

The People read the BOLD print

One: Holy One,

ALL: you are as near to us as our breath.

One: Touch us,

ALL: help us see you in one another.

One: Open our ears,

**ALL: allow us to hear your voice in the cries of
the helpless.**

One: Penetrate our hearts,

ALL: fill us with your love toward all people.

One: O God, breathe new life,

**ALL: strengthen our faith and prepare us for
witnessing.**

"Oh Happy Day"

*a 1967 gospel music arrangement of an
18th-century hymn by clergyman Philip Doddridge.
Recorded by the Edwin Hawkins Singers,*

Oh happy day (oh happy day)
Oh happy day (oh happy day)
When Jesus washed (when Jesus washed)
When Jesus washed (when Jesus washed)
When Jesus washed (when Jesus washed)
He washed my sins away (Oh happy day)
Oh happy day (oh happy day)

He taught me how to walk,
fight, and pray, fight and pray
And live rejoicing every day,
every day

"Turn your eyes upon Jesus"

Helen Howarth Lemmel (1922)

3. His word shall not fail you He promised
Believe Him and all will be well
Then go to a world that is dying
His perfect salvation to tell

Refrain

Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in his wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace

“His eye is on the sparrow”

Civilla D. Martin (1905)
Glory to God Hymnal #661

3. Whenever I am tempted whenever clouds arise
When song gives place to sighing
when hope within me dies
I draw closer to him from care he sets me free
His eye is on the sparrow and I know he watches me
His eye is on the sparrow and I know he watches me

chorus
I sing because I’m happy,
I sing because I’m free
His eye is on the sparrow
and I know he watches me

“If You See My Savior”

Rev. Thomas A. Dorsey, 1929

1. I was standing by the bedside of a neighbor
Who was just about
to cross the swelling tide (the swelling tide)
And I asked him if he would do me a favor
Kindly take this message
to the other side (to the other side)

Chorus:
If you see my Savior tell Him
that you saw me (that you saw me)
When you saw me I was on my way (on my way)
You may meet some old friend
who may ask you for me (ask you for me)
Tell him I am coming home some day (some day)

3. Though you have to make a journey on without me
It’s a debt that sooner or later must be paid
When you reach the golden city think about me
And don’t forget to tell my savior what I say
chorus

4. You may come across
my father and my mother (and other ones)
And the burdens of this life
they may recall (oh they may recall)
You may chance to meet
my sister or my brother (oh my brother)
But please do try to see
my Savior first of all (oh first of all)

¹[After surviving the storm at sea Jesus and his disciples] came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. ²And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man out of the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. ³ He lived among the tombs; and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain; ⁴ for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him. ⁵ Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. ⁶ When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him; ⁷ and he shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me.” ⁸ For he had said to him, “Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!” ⁹ Then Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” He replied, “My name is Legion; for we are many.” ¹⁰ He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. ¹¹ Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding; ¹² and the unclean spirits begged him, “Send us into the swine; let us enter them.” ¹³ So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and were drowned in the sea.

¹⁴The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened. ¹⁵ They came to Jesus and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid. ¹⁶ Those who had seen what had happened to the demoniac and to the swine reported it. ¹⁷ Then they began to beg [Jesus] to leave their neighborhood. ¹⁸ As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. ¹⁹ But Jesus refused, and said to him, “Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you.” ²⁰ And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.