

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
 5951 College Avenue | Oakland | 94618
 www.capcoakland.org | www.capcoakland.me
 Office : 510.658.3665 | capc.manager@gmail.com
 Pastor Monte: Cell 510.520.0746
 montemclain@gmail.com



INCLINE YOUR EAR, AND COME TO ME;
 LISTEN, SO THAT YOU MAY LIVE.
 FOR MY THOUGHTS ARE NOT YOUR THOUGHTS,
 NOR ARE YOUR WAYS MY WAYS.



Sunday • November 19, 2023 at 10:30am
 in Person & on Zoom

**Welcome to
 CAPC Oakland!**

We are a reformed, multicultural, politically purple, community of followers of Jesus. Together we seek to vigorously live our faith in our words, actions, and relationships in the East Bay.

In our community, face masks are not required, but always welcome. Masks are available in the entry.

As a community we are committed to being safe, open and real. We'd love to know you better. Use this QR Code to share your contact info or questions with our staff so we can follow up. We will not sell, share or abuse your personal info.



CHILDREN

We have Godly Play – “Sunday School” for children during our service. It’s a Montessori-like approach to teaching children language to use to learn to express faith through the telling of Bible Stories. The Godly Play group and leaders leave for their arranged learning space after the 2nd song.

PRAYER CARDS

To operationalize participation in our Prayers of the People we invite you to fill out a prayer card and share it with the liturgist or to share you requests in the chat on ZOOM labeling it with ‘prayer.’

WI-FI

Want Wi-Fi during our gathering?
 Select our network – Capc1.
 Our password is 5106583666
 CCL #1137062

GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD BOTH IN PERSON & VIA ZOOM

- PRELUDE “Harvest Home”
- GATHERING SONG “We Gather Together” - Blue Hymnal #559
- CALL TO WORSHIP *Responsive Reading of Isaiah 55*
- SONG OF PRAISE “Let All Things Now Living” - Blue Hymnal #554
Children are invited to depart for Godly Play upstairs with today’s Story-Teller
- LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD
- HEARING SCRIPTURE 2 Timothy 3:10-4:8
- PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD THROUGH TESTIMONY - *The People of God (YOU!)*
- RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD
- SONG OF RESPONSE “Ancient Words” - *Insert*
- PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER
 WE USE A CALL AND RESPONSE LITURGICALLY PRAYED AT THE CONCLUSION OF SHARING A PRAYER.
 Leader: God, in your mercy.
People: Hear our prayer.
- COLLECTION OF THE OFFERING
- OFFERING SONG “Give Thanks” - *Insert*
- THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH
- SENDING SONG “Song of Hope | *Canto de Esperanza*” - *Insert*
- 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 “La paz de Cristo” - *Spanish*
- POSTLUDE “Turkey In The Straw”

Reflections on Today's Readings Isaiah 55 & 2 Timothy 3:10-4:8

Last week we finished our series on the key teaching of Jesus: the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus ended his teaching with multiple metaphors (roads and gates, trees and fruit) ending with a comment about sustainable housing – inviting those who follow him and his way to build their house, center their life in and upon his words.

Today in worship, we're active and vocally reflecting as a community about the words of Jesus that serve our foundational to us and how we live. You're invited to come forward and share the word, teaching, verse, parable of Jesus that serves as a centering force for you. It doesn't have to be in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5, 6 & 7).



Our reading from Isaiah 55, used as the Call to Worship, is a radical invitation to forsake everything else, to focus only God's voice and word. It's an image of God's word as food that sustains, strengthens and renews. It also transforms as the thoughts of God are different than our thoughts about ourselves, each other, the world and God.

The selection from 2 Timothy includes a training section for the young disciple, who is actively working among people who have chosen to build and center their lives around the Way of Jesus. In it we hear of how scripture is a sound teaching for building up and maturing. (remember what the word teleios, that we translate as perfect, means?). The word we translate as sound is the great word *hygiaino* (yep it's the word from which we get our word hygiene). The word of God, scripture, the teachings of Jesus contribute to our healthy living, balance and functionality. Jesus calls us not to blind obedience or enforced allegiance, like you might find in a cult. No. Jesus calls us to sane, balanced, full, healthy living.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged, enraged, or surprised you in the text?
- What advice do you hear Paul giving to Timothy? How is it helpful, appropriate, or "sound" for us today?
- Isaiah is writing to people in exile, suffering because of their faith and past trust in God. How are the words of the prophet encouraging? Hopeful? Speaking truth to power?
- How do you struggle with scripture – the Hebrew Scriptures and the Second Testament as a trustworthy source of wisdom and/or encouragement? Or, how do you find it to be a deep well of wisdom and/or encouragement?
- What invitation do you hear the Spirit of God speaking to you – or to us, as a church – to act, speak, be, or change, through this word of scripture?

November Birthdays

15 Pete Feltman
16 Elodie McClain 2005

16 Ruth Ann Friedland
19 Radman Beatty 2006

Today at & around CAPC Oakland

Post Service Garden Party! Join us for light snacks and the chance to connect after our service.

Letters of Love: *Everyone loves getting mail!* Pick up an addressed envelope in the back and write a note of encouragement and love to someone who could use a good word. Recipients and their situations are explained on the magnetic board.

This Week at & around CAPC Oakland

Advent Music Ensemble - practicing after worship.

Deacons Meeting - today after worship.

Sunday Bible Study Before Worship • We have restarted Bible Study in person on Sunday mornings before worship (from 9:30-10:15am). We'll discuss the text for worship each Sunday. Find text study sheets online if you want to read in advance.

Quilters Club Mondays 10a-12p, in the library. No experience required.

There is no Community Bible Study this Tuesday

Friday Night Meal – Fridays 6-7:00pm. Sign up online to help with set-up, serving, and clean-up! *There will be no meal this coming Friday 11/24. The next FNM will be Friday 12/1.*



Thanksgiving Day Happenings | Thurs 11/23

Blessing Bag Distribution 10:30a-12p

Community Thanksgiving Meal • 11a-12pm.



If you're helping with cooking Sarah is passing out food stuffs today after the end of our service.

Women's Group: Saturday 9:30-10:30am on Zoom.

In Defense of Kindness Book Club – Thursday 11/30 at 11am on Zoom. We're discussing pp. 85-111.

Nominating Team • Our Nominating Team is meeting next on Thursday, Nov 30th

Congratulations to Jasmine, Adam and Suraya Kaddoura their son (brother), Isa (Ee-sah) Felah Kaddoura was born Friday, November 10. He is 7 lbs 2oz. Everyone is doing well.

Thank You to Today's Leadership:

Music: Pete Feltman, Dave Eagle Roger Kim, Ben Kramaz
And a special welcome to our new musicians – Kate Rose (fiddle) and Jane Mendonca (piano)!

Video Tech: Dann Wilkens, Albert Hussian

LYRICS & RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

We affirm that God is neither male nor female – but wholly and holy other. In doing so, we seek to empower each person to participate fully in worship, able to identify with the lyrics of songs and the words of our communal prayers through our use of gender inclusive language.

“We Gather Together”

Translator: Theodore Baker; Author: Anonymous (1625)

Tune: KREMSER | The Blue Hymnal #559

1 We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to His name, He forgets not His own.

2 Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;
so from the beginning the fight we were winning:
the Lord was at our side- the glory be Thine!

3 We all do extol Thee, Thou leader triumphant,
and pray that Thou still our defender wilt be.
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Call to Worship Opening Litany

Responsive Reading of Isaiah 55 (NRSVUE)

One: All you who are thirsty;
come to the waters;
Whoever has no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

**ALL: Why do you spend your money for that
which is not bread
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me,
and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.**

One: Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

**ALL: See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
Now you shall call nations that you do not know,**

**and nations that do not know you
shall run to you,
because of the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.**

One: Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake their way
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the Lord,
that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

**ALL: For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.**

One: For as the rain and the snow come down
from heaven
and do not return there
until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

**ALL: so shall my word be that goes out from
my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.**

One: For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

**ALL: Instead of the thorn
shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier
shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign
that shall not be cut off.**

“Let All Things Now Living”

*Katherine Davis (1939) | Glory to God #37
The Blue Hymnal #554*

1 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who guideth us on to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us,
His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
'Til shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

2 By law God enforces the stars in their course,
The sun in His orbit, obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim Him divine,
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing,
With glad adoration a song let us raise,
'Til all things now living unite in thanksgiving
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

“Ancient Words”

Michael W. Smith

1. Holy words long preserved,
For our walk in this world
They resound with God's own heart,
O let the ancient words impart
Words of life, Words of hope,
Give us strength, Help us cope
In this world where e'er we roam,
Ancient words will guide us home

Chorus:

Ancient words ever true,
Changing me and changing you
We have come with open hearts,
O let the ancient words im--part

2. Holy words of our faith,
Handed down to this age
Came to us through sacrifice,
O heed the faithful words of Christ
Holy words long preserved,
For our walk in this world
They resound with God's own heart,
O let the ancient words impart

“Give Thanks”

*Henry Smith
Glory to God #647*

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks, because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks, because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say 'I am strong',
let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us;
and now let the weak say 'I am strong',
let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks...

“Song of Hope | Canto de Esperanza”

*Translator: Alvin Schutmaat
Tune: ARGENTINA (Traditional)*

May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace;
singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.

