

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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February 25, 2024 at 10:30am
 in Person & on Zoom

**Welcome to
 CAPC Oakland!**

We are a reformed, multicultural, community of followers of Jesus. Together we are committed to vigorously living 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 are moving towards restarting 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. Until then we have quiet toys, and activity sheets around today's scripture in the play area up front.

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 – Capc-net. Our password is 5951CAPC

CCL #1137062

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

PRELUDE " Angel Band"

WORDS OF WELCOME

GATHERING SONG "Come And Find The Quiet Center" - Insert

CALL TO WORSHIP - Sharon Nelson

SONG OF PRAISE "The God That I Know" - Insert

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

CELEBRATING GOD'S GOOD CREATION IN BLACK HISTORY MONTH
 "Mary McLeod Bethune" -Chickwendu Okereke

HEARING SCRIPTURE Psalm 46 - Sharon Nelson

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD "Faith – We're All on the Journey"
 -Sarah Evangelista

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "On the Sea of Life" - Insert

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF OUR NEW DEACONS AND ELDERS

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.

You can give electronically using this QR Code



COLLECTION OF THE OFFERING

OFFERING SONG "Lift Every Voice And Sing" - Blue Hymnal #339, v. 3

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG "Sing With Hearts" - Blue Hymnal #484,

SENDING CALL AND RESPONSE

Leader: God is good!

People: All the time!

Leader: And all the time!

People: God is good!

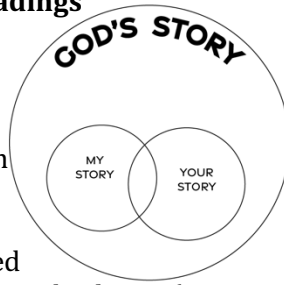
EXHORTATION & BEDICTION

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST "Amani Ya Mungu" (Swahili)

POSTLUDE "The High Road"

Reflections on Today's Readings

Psalm 46



In Lent this year, we're inviting different members of our church community to talk about faith. The word religion is often seen in a negative light these days; in particular in comparison to the words spiritual and spirituality. And the word "religion" is derived from the Latin term *religio*, connected to the word *religare* (to relegate, to unite, to bind together). In Lent we're celebrating this notion that we are invited to practice our faith bound together in a living community. Each of us has a story, our stories can enrich and encourage each other. Our stories together are wrapped up in the story of God and the creation. As we say in our Lenten tag-line "we're all on the journey."

Today we're hearing from Sarah Evangelista, including a scripture and a song of response that she suggested.

Psalm 46

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear,
though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,
- ³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- ⁴ There is a river
whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city;
it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.
- ⁶ The nations are in an uproar;
the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice;
the earth melts.
- ⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
- ⁸ Come, behold the works of the Lord;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
- ⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.
- ¹⁰ "Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations;
I am exalted in the earth."
- ¹¹ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged, enraged, or surprised you in the text?
- What invitation do you hear the Spirit of God speaking to you – or to us, – to act, speak, be, or change, through this scripture?

February Birthdays

3 Tina Faulkner 4 William Markman 2008
9 Angel Carney 2002 16 Myrna Shadley

Today at & around CAPC Oakland

Post Service Sanctuary 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

Community Bible Study Sunday Edition
(Sundays 9:30-10:20am). Discussing the text used in our gathering each Sunday.

Deacons Meeting • TODAY, Sunday February 25
after our gathering.

Quilters Club Mondays 10a-12p, in the library.

Community Bible Study Wednesday Edition
Wednesdays at 7pm on Zoom. This week we're wrestling with Psalm 74 & 137 – (communal lament).

Book Club • We're reading *The Second Mountain* by David Brooks. We're discussing part 4 – Friday 3/1 at 11am on Zoom.

In Person Book Club – Thursday, 2/29 at 7pm in the sanctuary. We're discussing the whole book.

Friday Night Meal – Fridays 6-7:00pm.
Sign up online to help with set-up, serving, & clean-up! *Our partners of Trinity Fellowship of Berkeley are cooking. Monte McClain is the host.*

Women's Group: Saturday 9:30-10:30am (Zoom)

Faith in the Public Square • Ceasefire in Gaza •
We're discussing the call to action by the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity on Zoom on Thursday, March 7th at 7pm. Learn more on our website with this QR Code.



You can also learn more about what our national church – the PCUSA – is saying and doing about the Hamas-Israel war in Gaza via the Facebook page for Israel/Palestine Mission Network of the Presbyterian Church - USA @ipmnpcusa or on our church blog.

Next Week in Worship – March 3rd:

Louise Waters is sharing a testimony, we're remembering Janet Fawcett & celebrating communion.

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.

“Come And Find The Quiet Center”

*tune: Beach Spring text Shirley Erena Murray
The Faith We Sing #2128*

1. Come and find the quiet center
in the crowded life we lead
Find the room for hope to enter
find the frame where we are freed
Clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes that we can see
All the things that really matter,
be at peace and simply be
2. Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being touches base
Making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun
Raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun
3. In the spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain
Let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain
There's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for hearts to care
In the spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare

Call to Worship Opening Litany

*written by written by Cole Arthur Riley, from the book entitled
Black Liturgies. Prayers, Poems, and Mediations for Staying
Human., |. p. 71*

Inhale:
I was meant for love.

Exhale:
God, help us to receive it.

Inhale:
I need more than me.

Exhale:
We get free together.

Inhale:
I am worthy of embrace.

Exhale:
**God, lead us to belonging to you
and to each other.**

“The God That I Know”

Sheree Anderson © 2004

1 He comes with his arms open wide
A sheltering place I can hide
And my deepest fears, questions and tears
I can face with his strength as my guide

2 She comes with a smile on her face
Loving kindness my wrongs to erase
My company she keeps, for the pleasure it reaps
My life she will renew with her grace

3 Both father and mother to me
More loving than parents can be
The God that I know, is a stranger no more
But the place where I find myself free

4 I walk this earth on my own
Carrying a promise I'm not alone
Gift that is mine, for all of my time
Love that lets me know that I am home
Love that lets me know that I am home

“On The Sea Of Life”

Melody: TS Sloan | Lyrics: George Sebren

1. We are on the sea of life
sailing to a better home
where the saved of all
the earth shall abide
we've got all our trials here
many pleasures wait us there
when we cross the foam
and reach the other side

chorus

(sailing on)
we are sailing onward
sailing sailing on a foam
we are talking to the captain
as the angry billows hum
(sailing to)
soon, yes soon we'll reach the harbor
and be safely o'er the tide
we are going onward,
to the other side

2. We've a captain brave and true
who will guide us o'er the blue
And will shield us
when the storms hover nigh
He can still the angry wave
and from evil he can save
If we'll trust Him
and His loving promise try
3. Many millions now abide
in that home beyond the tide
where the ransomed pilgrims
wade free from care
there is room on board for all
who will heed the captains call
and take ship for heaven's country
bright and fair

“Lift Every Voice And Sing”

James Weldon Johnson (1900)

Glory to God #339 | The Blue Hymnal #563

3 God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
thou who hast 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 met 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.

““Sing With Hearts”

Jonathan Malicsi (1983) | Blue Presbyterian Hymnal #484

Refrain:

Sing with hearts, sing with souls,
Dance with joy to God.
To whom we offer praises,
To whom we sing with gladness.

1. Let all our hearts open to the Lord God,
Let all the heavens hear how our hearts rejoice;
For it is God who has given us graces,
From whom comes the music in our voice.
O Lord, we sing with joyful hearts,
with soul and body offer we our arts.
2. Let all our bodies sway to God's music,
Let all the earth move with our feet and hands;
For it is God who inspires and uplifts us,
From whom flows all rhythm in our dance.
O Lord, we sing with joyful hearts,
with soul and body offer we our arts.
3. Let all our souls shine out with God's beauty,
Let all creation feel our love for God;
For it is God who has granted us wisdom,
In whom we find reality and dream.
O Lord, we sing with joyful hearts,
with soul and body offer we our arts.