

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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February 16, 2020

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 "Refiners' Fire" - *Insert*

CALL TO WORSHIP - *Insert*

SONG OF PRAISE "Just A Closer Walk With Thee" - *Insert*

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

CELEBRATING GOD'S GOOD CREATION IN BLACK HISTORY MONTH THROUGH THE STORY & WORK OF DR. CHRISTINA CLEVELAND - Monte McClain

ACT OF CONFESSION

OPENING OURSELVES TO BEING UNDONE, THAT WE MIGHT BE REDONE

SUNG RESPONSE "If Not For Your Grace" - *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 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 "Lift Every Voice and Sing" - *Insert, v.3*

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE Mark 7:1-23 *Pew Bible pp. 975*

SPEAKING OF FAITH "Living as a Holy People" - *Monte McClain*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" - *Insert*

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 "Amani ya mungu" (Swahili)

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 7:1-21



HOLY. It's a word that I hear used repeatedly, outside of the church context, in two specific expressions: 1) as an explicative "Holy #\$\$%*!" or as an expression about hypocrisy "Holier-than-thou." Somehow we've moved far from the original Biblical sense of the word $\Psi\text{I}\text{T}\text{P}$ or *Qadosh*, or "holy" meaning "to be set apart."

If you think back to the story of Moses encountering the living presence of God at the burning bush, he's told to remove his sandals for he is standing on holy ground. It's not an everyday experience, it's something out-of-the-ordinary for which you should sit up straight and pay attention. The opposite of holy is conveyed by the intellectualized word "profane" or in today's reading as "defiled." Whereas holy is unique, special, to be noticed; profane is what you take for granted because you encounter it every day. It's out of this notion of recognizing, embracing and paying attention to the holy in life, that the ancient Israelites developed many different rituals to ensure that they were paying attention, and living a life set apart in other words to focus on what God created us for and to do.

In theology, we say that we're intended for the *Imago Dei* and the *Missio Dei*. Nothing like a little Latin to complicate things. *Imago Dei* (God's image) is a reminder that we are each and all created in God's image – intended to be part of God's triune community that leads from life to life. Genesis 1:27. *Missio Dei* (the Mission of God) is what we are to join into: God's mission of salvation in the world. Mission comes from the very nature of God (*imago dei*). "So to participate in mission is to participate in the movement of God's love toward people, since God is a fountain of sending love." (D. Bosch)

The conversation between Jesus and the Pharisees in today's reading points to the way in which we all too easily move from holy as *set apart* (identity in regards to vocation, engagement, testimony, forward-thinking.) to holy as *apartness* (identity, belonging, barriers, tribal definition, looking-back-to-the-past). Jesus points out the hypocrisy of those who claim to live every aspect of their life as holy when in fact the religiosity and self-absorption is an act of defilement. In their desire to live holy lives they are wholly consumed by living to avoid the contagion of sin or uncleanness by the profane.

But the Pharisees are the only ones to shape their life around the practice and pursuit of apartness. In Afrikaans the word apartness is "*apartheid*" – which justified a system of racism. Nazi thought envisioned the Germans as "*Herrenvolk*" (or master race) pure and set-apart from the rest of the sub-populations of the human race. Jesus challenges notions of identity as holiness, of incongruence between what we say and what we do, between our inside and outside.

QUESTIONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF EXAMEN & CONTEMPLATION

- **What grabs your attention in today's reading?**
- **How do you understand the idea of holiness and apartness?**
- **How does this word invite us to live holy lives in a world shaped by apartness, consumerism, & tribal identity?**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

16 Myrna Shadley

COMMUNITY LIFE CALENDAR

Tastes of India a cultural exchange program around a lunch today Sunday, Feb 16th.

Join our Choir! Tuesdays 5:30-6:30p, Sundays 12-1p | Contact Pete Feltman

Celtic Prayer Group, Wednesdays 6:45-8:15pm
Talk to Marda Stothers for more information.

There is no Friday Night Meal this week.

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 bite or drink along the Ave.

English as a Second Language Classes | our ministry with local immigrants here in Oakland – Mondays, 7-9pm – No class this week 2/17.

Guatemala Sharing –Sharing about recent work in Palín, next Sunday 2/23 after worship.

New Member Lunch –Join us for lunch March 8th after worship if you're interested in becoming an official member of our church community. Talk to Monte or Elder Sharon Nelson

Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner & Games :: Tuesday, Feb 25th 6-7pm Join us for a traditional Mardi Gras dinner and pancake games fun! Bring a skillet. Come at 4pm to help!

Ash Wednesday Evensong & Prayers
Wednesday, 2/26 7pm – Get your Ash there!

Men's Breakfast Saturday, Feb 22nd 8:30am

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:
Black History Month Sharing: Monte McClain
Counting: Jeff Trowbridge, Albert Hussian
Fellowship: Linda Davis, Louise Hirschman
Godly Play: Bill Beatty ST, Radman Beatty DK
Greeters: Elaine Price, Biruta Vinerts

Leadership for next week, 2/23/2020:
Counting: Louise Hirschman, Sharon Nelson
Fellowship: F Darmstadt, K Parsons McClain
Godly Play: Beth Beatty ST, Mercy Beatty DK
Greeters: Bill Beatty

LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

"Refiner's Fire"

Brian Doerksen

© 1990 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing

1. Purify my heart
Let me be as gold and precious silver
Purify my heart
Let me be as gold, pure gold

Refrain

Refiner's fire
My heart's one desire
Is to be holy
Set apart for You, Lord
I choose to be holy
Set apart for You, my Master
Ready to do Your will

2. Purify my heart
Cleanse me from within and make me holy
Purify my heart
Cleanse me from my sin, deep within

CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING

(Based on 1 Corinthians 13:1-13) www.umcdiscipleship.org

The People read the BOLD print

One: Love, without it we are like clanging cymbals,
All: Love!

One: We can speak like prophets, but we still have to
All: Love!

One: We can build great buildings, but we need to
All: Love!

One: We can preach and pray, thank God everyday,
but we must
All: Love!

One: Be patient and kind, with no envy in mind,
All: Love!

One: Don't be rude or resentful; don't insist on your
own way,
All: Love!

One: How can we live without it?
All: Love!

One: How can we sing without it?
All: Love!

One: Who can serve God without it?
All: Love!

One: We just stopped by today so that God could
remind us to
All: Love!

"Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

Anonymous | Glory to God #835

1. I am weak but thou art strong
Jesus, keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As a I walk, let me walk close to Thee

Refrain

Just a closer a walk with Thee
Grant it Jesus is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be

2. Through this world of toil and snares
If I falter, Lord who cares?
Who with my my burden shares?
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee

3. When my feeble life is over
Time for me will be no more
Guide me gently safely o'er
To Thy shore, dear Lord, to Thy shore

"If Not For Your Grace"

Israel & New Breed

Where would I be if not for your grace
Carrying me in every season
Where would I be if not for your grace
You came to my rescue and I want to thank you
for your grace

Grace that restores, grace that redeems,
grace that releases me to worship
Grace that repairs, visions and dreams,
grace that releases miracles
Your grace, Your grace

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

James Weldon Johnson (1900)

Glory to God Hymnal #339

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

“I’m Gonna Live So”

Ruth C. Duck | Glory to God Hymnal #3

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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