

**Presbyterian Church**  
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THE STORIES THAT SHAPE US



Isaiah 2:1-5 & 9:1-7

November 21, 2021 at 10:30am

**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 this time of disruption and new normal we gather hybrid-ly (both in person and via Zoom). *This is our new normal.*

It's something that we'll get better at each time we gather, allowing us to gather together and be consistent with our values and commitments. We ask that you wear a mask during worship as some of our community (our children in particular) are not yet vaccinated.

**CHILDREN**

We've reconfigured out how to do our Godly Play program for children via Zoom. We meet 9:30-10am on Sundays via Zoom. Info in the announcements on the back.

**POST-SERVICE GARDEN PARTY**

We are serving a light snack and coffee after worship in the garden throughout the summer. You can enjoy that mask-free. We ask you to not touch any of the food or drink, instead let us serve you.

**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 your requests in the chat on ZOOM labeling it with 'prayer.'

CCL #1137062.

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

PRELUDE "Let All Things Now Living"

GATHERING SONG "Canticle of Turning"

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "Be Thou My Vision"

HEARING GOD'S WORD

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE Isaiah 9:1-7; 25:4-9

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD "Eucharist" - Rev. Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "I Saw The Light"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD BY GIVING THANKS FOR HOW GOD HAS SHOWN UP  
 YOU'RE INVITED TO COME FORWARD AND SHARE IN 2-3 SENTENCES A WAY IN WHICH YOU'RE THANKFUL FOR GOD SHOWING UP, LIKE LIGHT BREAKING INTO THE GLOOM IN ISAIAH 7 AND IN OUR PAST 2 HARD YEARS...

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER - Myrna Shadley  
 WE USE A CALL AND RESPONSE LITURGICALLY PRAYED AT THE CONCLUSION OF SHARING A PRAYER.

Leader: God, in your mercy. **People: Hear our prayer.**

CELEBRATING OUR GRATITUDE FOR GOD SHOWING UP - THE EUCHARIST  
 TODAY WE'LL CELEBRATE THIS FOUNDATIONAL MEAL BY COMING FORWARD SELECTING A PIECE OF BREAD AND A SMALL CUP OF JUICE. PLEASE APPROACH THE TABLE FROM THE CENTER AND RETURN ON THE SIDES. YOU CAN LEAVE YOUR OFFERING ON THE PLATE ON THE COMMUNION TABLE.

COLLECTION OF OUR OFFERINGS AND GIFTS  
 "Our Darkness/Jesus Remember me"

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG "Take O Take Me/ Thuma Mina"

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 "The Peace of Christ"

*In the season of a pandemic new normal, you're invited to pass the peace of God however and to whoever you can this day as we live our lives of disciples of Jesus sheltering-in-place, as a living sign of the Dominion of God at work moving us toward the healing transformation of the world.*

POSTLUDE "Harvest Home"

## Reflections on Today's Readings Isaiah 9:1-7; 25:4-9

Last week we heard from the prophet Amos, who worked in the northern kingdom of Israel in the mid-700s BCE. Today we will hear from the 1st prophet called Isaiah, who worked in the southern kingdom of Judah, mainly in the city of Jerusalem, a few years after Amos.

Isaiah was speaking to people who were weathering attacks from the northern kingdom and other surrounding tribes, and were tempted to make political alliances with bigger empires to protect themselves, and Isaiah was insistent that they should rely on God and God's promise. While the kings in Jerusalem were mostly as corrupt as the northern kings were, there were two who weren't terrible and who made an effort to turn the people back to God's way so that they would be able to live faithfully in God's promise. One of those was Hezekiah, who became king sometime around the time that Isaiah wrote the words we hear today.

*Written by @Teri Peterson on Facebook.*

Don't forget that the Hebrew prophets were also poets! They wrote in verse with metaphors, rhymes, and word-pictures to try to articulate a vision that was beyond what mere words could hold.

Isaiah writes twice of a vision of God's wholeness – peace – purpose – inhabiting all the world. Often called the Day of the Lord; or what we might call “the end of the world.” It's in Isaiah 25:5-9; and also Isaiah 2 and Micah 4. But this vision is one of a meal – a true thanksgiving meal for all the nations – it's underneath the story of the travelers on the way to Emmaus and the breaking of bread as a way in which we have a foretaste of what God intends for the universe. Our catholic brothers and sisters continue to call this meal the eucharist – a Greek & Latin word meaning “to give thanks.”



### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged you, enraged you, or surprised you in the text?
- Isaiah lived and wrote during a time of great threat, trouble and unknown outcomes. The history and culture of the people was threatened. They were afraid of being replaced by other peoples by a foreign imperial power. What do you notice about this fear in the texts? What images of hope and God's faithfulness do you notice?
- We often jump right to the Christmas Story, the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, when we hear Isaiah 9; but if you linger in the context of the day; what image is Isaiah painting for the people? The meal of all meals in Isaiah 2 (a vision repeated in Isaiah 25 and Micah 4) is at the root of communion. How do you (or don't you) experience as this meal of peace-making for all the nations?
- What invitation do you heard 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 Ruth Ann Frieland  
16 Elodie McClain    19 Radman Beatty

## Weekly Calendar

### Race Matters Group Mondays - 6pm on Zoom

More info at [capcoakland.org/racematters](http://capcoakland.org/racematters)  
This week we're wrestling with the meaning of the word intersectionality.

### Friday Night Meal – Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm.

Sign up online w/ the QR Code to help with set-up and serving, and clean-up. Dinner is left-overs from Thanksgiving Day.



**Letters of Love** send a greeting card to someone who could use a good word or to one of our governmental representatives (back wall).

### Godly Play for Children Sundays 9:30-10am on Zoom

**Sabbath as Resistance** – Tuesdays 7pm (Zoom)  
*Tuesday, 11/23 we're discussing chapter 4.*

**Wrestling with Scripture** No meeting this Thursday because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

**Annual Thanksgiving Day Community Meal**  
We're serving a to-go dinner Thanksgiving Day from the Gym 11a-12p. If you're signed up to help, look for an email with directions.

**Advent** –Next Sunday 11/28 is the first Sunday of Advent – the start of the “Christmas” season.

**Girl Scouts Advent Event** –Sunday 12/5 we're hosting several local Girl Scout Troops who will be selling crafts and holiday gift ideas in our garden on the afternoon of 12/5 as a fundraiser for their troop activities.

**Deacons Meting** –Next Sunday 11/28 after worship. *Meets the last Sunday of the month.*

**Can you help host a coffee hour?** –We need a few more helpers! *Talk to Richard Harvey.*

### Thank you to Today's Worship Leadership:

Coffee Hour: Gloria Lim  
Godly Play: Cameron Beatty  
Music: Pete Feltman, Dave Eagle, Ben Kramarz, Gabe Szilardi-Tierney, Roger Kim  
Prayer Liturgist: Myrna Shadley  
Video Tech: Albert Hussian, Dann Wilkens

## LYRICS & RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

*We seek to use gender inclusive language, as we affirm that God is neither male or 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.*

### “Canticle of Turning”

*Author: Shirley Erena Murray (2004) | Glory to God #292*

1. My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great  
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight and my weakness you did not spurn  
So from east to west shall my name be blessed, could the world be about to turn

#### *chorus*

My heart shall sing of the day you bring  
Let the fires of your justice burn  
Wipe away all tears For the dawn draws near  
And the world is about to turn  
Though I am small, my God, my all  
You work great things in me  
And Your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be  
Your very name puts the proud to shame  
and to those who would for you yearn  
You will show Your might, put the strong to flight  
for the world is about to turn

2. From the halls of power to the fortress tower  
not a stone will be left on stone  
Let the king beware for your justice tears  
every tyrant from his throne  
The hungry poor shall weep no more  
for the food they can never earn  
There are tables spread, every mouth be fed  
for the world is about to turn

3. Though the nations rage from age to age  
we remember who holds us fast  
God's mercy must deliver us  
from the conqueror's crushing grasp  
This saving word that our forebears heard  
is a promise which holds us bound  
Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God  
who is turning the world around

## Call to Worship Litany –

*Written by Monte, inspired from Priya Parker's book The Art of Gathering: Isaiah 29, Psalm 119*

One: What a mess!

**ALL: It's hard to tell the difference between the past week, month, year...the past two years!**

One: Holy One we read of how you sustained the people in the past,  
as they wandered in the desert,

**ALL: When they faced defeat;  
The destruction of their way of life;  
were threatened by genocide and replacement;  
deported in mass to a distant, foreign land.**

One: We face a similar homesickness today...

**ALL: for what used to be;  
For how we used to live;  
For what we have lost and left behind.**

One: We face what can feel like a similar threat to our history and culture

**ALL: as we hear more than just the voice of the victors who wrote our history;  
as we recognize the complexity of what it is to be human,  
to be part of a culture;  
to live always embedded in systems.**

One: We regather to listen to ancient words  
Of what you have done in the past  
To glimpse what you may be doing in the present  
– you alone have the words of life.

**ALL: in the gloom of potential variants;  
Shortages and inflation;  
Continuing isolation and uncertainty;  
Once-in-a-century events  
that seem to be becoming annual events**

One: We regather together in this mess;  
because we can;  
Because you call us together...

**ALL: May you be a lamp unto our feet;  
And a light unto our path,  
That we might walk in your way.**

## **"Be Thou My Vision"**

*Translator: Mary E. Byrne; Versifier: Eleanor H. Hull  
The Blue Presbyterian Hymnal #339*

1. Be thou my vision O lord of my heart  
Nought be all else to me save that thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light
2. Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word  
I ever with thee and thou with me lord  
Thou my soul's shelter and thou my high tower  
Still be my vision O ruler of all
3. Riches I heed not nor vain empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance now and always  
Thou and thou only first in my heart  
Great God of heaven my treasure thou art
4. High King of heaven my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys O bright heaven's sun  
Heart of my own heart whatever befall  
Still be my vision O ruler of all

## **" I Saw The Light"**

*Hank Williams, 1948*

1. I wandered so aimless life filled with sin  
I wouldn't let my dear Savior in  
Then Jesus came like a stranger in the night  
Praise the Lord I saw the light
- chorus*  
I saw the light I saw the light  
No more darkness no more night  
Now I'm so happy no sorrow in sight  
Praise the Lord I saw the light
2. Just like a blind man I wandered along  
Worries and fears I claimed for my own  
Then like the blind man that God gave back his sight  
Praise the Lord I saw the light
3. I was a fool to wander and stray  
Straight is the gate and narrow the way  
Now I have traded the wrong for the right  
Praise the Lord I saw the light
4. God give me wisdom when I walk this path  
Show me the right way to love and to laugh  
I cant walk without you sharing my plight  
Praise the lord I saw the light

## **"Our Darkness / Jesus Remember me"**

*Taizé Community; Glory to God #678  
Taizé Community ; Glory to God #227*

Our darkness is never darkness  
in your sight  
The deepest night is clear  
as the daylight

Jesus remember me  
when you come into your kingdom  
Jesus remember me  
when you come into your kingdom

## **"Take O Take Me / Thuma Mina"**

*John L. Bell © 1995 Iona Community /Glory to God #698  
Traditional, South Africa | Glory to God #746  
"Thuma mina" in Zulu means "Send me Lord"*

Take, O take me as I am;  
summon out what I shall be  
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me

Thuma mina thuma mina  
Thuma mina somandla

Send me Jesus...

Lead me Jesus...

Fill me Jesus...