

College Avenue Presbyterian Church  
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January 2, 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 you requests in the chat on ZOOM labeling it with 'prayer.'

CCL #1137062.

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

PRELUDE "We Are On The Sea Of Life"

GATHERING SONG "Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom"

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

HEARING GOD'S WORD

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE Isaiah 55:6-9 & I Corinthians 1:18-2:16

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD - Rev. Bill Beatty  
 "From Manger to Cross: God's Self-Disclosure Of Himself"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "More Love To Thee O Christ"

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.**

COMMUNION - BEING NOURISHED IN OUR JOURNEY OF FAITH

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

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG "Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

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 Christo" (Spanish)

*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 "You Shall Go Out With Joy (The Trees Of The Field)"

## I Corinthians 1:18-2:16

COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE

<sup>18</sup> The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are being destroyed. But it is the power of God for those of us who are being saved. <sup>19</sup> It is written in scripture: I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and I will reject the intelligence of the intelligent. <sup>20</sup> Where are the wise? Where are the legal experts? Where are today's debaters? Hasn't God made the wisdom of the world foolish? <sup>21</sup> In God's wisdom, he determined that the world wouldn't come to know him through its wisdom. Instead, God was pleased to save those who believe through the foolishness of preaching. <sup>22</sup> Jews ask for signs, and Greeks look for wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, which is a scandal to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles. <sup>24</sup> But to those who are called—both Jews and Greeks—Christ is God's power and God's wisdom. <sup>25</sup> This is because the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup> Look at your situation when you were called, brothers and sisters! By ordinary human standards not many were wise, not many were powerful, not many were from the upper class. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what the world considers foolish to shame the wise. God chose what the world considers weak to shame the strong. <sup>28</sup> And God chose what the world considers low-class and low-life—what is considered to be nothing—to reduce what is considered to be something to nothing. <sup>29</sup> So no human being can brag in God's presence. <sup>30</sup> It is because of God that you are in Christ Jesus. He became wisdom from God for us. This means that he made us righteous and holy, and he delivered us. <sup>31</sup> This is consistent with what was written: The one who brags should brag in the Lord!

<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I didn't come preaching God's secrets to you like I was an expert in speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup> I had made up my mind not to think about anything while I was with you except Jesus Christ, and to preach him as crucified. <sup>3</sup> I stood in front of you with weakness, fear, and a lot of shaking. <sup>4</sup> My message and my preaching weren't presented with convincing wise words but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power. <sup>5</sup> I did this so that your faith might not depend on the wisdom of people but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup> What we say is wisdom to people who are mature. It isn't a wisdom that comes from the present day or from today's leaders who are being reduced to nothing. <sup>7</sup> We talk about God's wisdom, which has been hidden as a secret. God determined this wisdom in advance, before time began, for our glory. <sup>8</sup> It is a wisdom that none of the present-day rulers have understood, because if they did understand it, they would never have crucified the Lord of glory! <sup>9</sup> But this is precisely what is written: God has prepared things for those who love him that no eye has seen, or ear has heard, or that haven't crossed the mind of any human being. <sup>10</sup> God has revealed these things to us through the Spirit. The Spirit searches everything, including the depths of God. <sup>11</sup> Who knows a person's depths except their own spirit that lives in them? In the same way, no one has known the depths of God except God's Spirit. <sup>12</sup> We haven't received the world's spirit but God's Spirit so that we can know the things given to us by God. <sup>13</sup> These are the things we are talking about—not with words taught by human wisdom but with words taught by the Spirit—we are interpreting spiritual things to spiritual people. <sup>14</sup> But people who are unspiritual don't accept the things from God's Spirit. They are foolishness to them and can't be understood, because they can only be comprehended in a spiritual way. <sup>15</sup> Spiritual people comprehend everything, but they themselves aren't understood by anyone. <sup>16</sup> Who has known the mind of the Lord, who will advise him? But we have the mind of Christ.

## January Birthdays

8 Bill Bryant  
10 Thom Faulkner      Jesse Adams  
18 Gary Yee              Dick Street  
20 Daniel Geary      25 Joy Barnes  
29 Bill Beatty

## January Wedding Anniversaries

9 Dann & Marji Wilkens 1982

## Weekly Calendar

**Thank you to Bill Beatty for leading worship this morning as Monte is on vacation.**

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

**Friday Night Meal – Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:00PM.** . Sign up online w/ the QR Code to help with set-up and serving, and clean-up.

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

**COVID-19 and Omicrom.** The East Coast has experienced a surge in COVID-19 cases. It's believed that this variant, while milder, is much more contagious. We will be monitoring our public health directives to make informed decisions about our public gatherings in the coming weeks. Do know that we will continue to stream all our activities in real time on Zoom.

We have up-to-date information about vaccination sites and testing options (and much more) on our website –search at [www.capcoakland.org/covid19-virus](http://www.capcoakland.org/covid19-virus).



**Thank you to Today's Leadership:**  
Music: Pete Feltman, Dave Eagle, Ben Krmarz, Gabe Szilardi-Tierney, Roger Kim  
Preaching: Bill Beatty  
Video Tech: Thom Faulkner, Albert Hussian,

## Isaiah 55:6-9

COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE

- <sup>6</sup> Seek the Lord when he can still be found;  
call him while he is yet near.
- <sup>7</sup> Let the wicked abandon their ways  
and the sinful their schemes.  
Let them return to the Lord so that he may have mercy on  
them,  
to our God, because he is generous with forgiveness.
- <sup>8</sup> My plans aren't your plans,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
- <sup>9</sup> Just as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways,  
and my plans than your plans.

### 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.*

#### “Come and seek the ways of Wisdom”

*Ruth Duck (1993) | Glory to God#174  
© 1997 The Pilgrim Press*

1. Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,  
she who danced, when earth was new.  
Follow closely what she teaches,  
for her words are right and true.  
Wisdom clears the path to justice,  
showing us what love must do.
2. Listen to the voice of Wisdom,  
crying in the market-place.  
Hear the Word made flesh among us,  
full of glory, truth and grace.  
When the word takes root and ripens,  
peace and righteousness embrace.
3. Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;  
nurture all who seek rebirth.  
Spirit-guide and close companion,  
bring to light our sacred worth.  
Free us to become your people,  
holy friends of God and earth

### Call to Worship

*The Worship Sourcebook, 1.4.42 from  
<https://worship.calvin.edu/resources>*

One: we come to you in worship and thanksgiving.  
You are greater than we can understand;

**MANY: open our eyes that we may see  
the wonderful truths  
you have shown to us in Jesus.**

One: You are more loving  
than our hearts can respond to;

**MANY: help us to give ourselves  
to you in worship  
so that we learn what you want us to be.**

One: You are wiser than we can know;

**MANY: still our minds as we worship you  
so that we can understand the things  
you are saying to us.**

One: Loving God, in Jesus

you chose to come to the world in humility.  
You chose the path the world saw as foolish.  
You used what the world considered weak.

**MANY: We worship and adore you. Amen.**

#### “Turn your eyes upon Jesus”

*Helen Howarth Lemmel (1922)*

1. O soul, are you weary and troubled?  
No light in the darkness you see?  
There's light for a look at the Savior,  
And life more abundant and free!

*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.

2. Thro' death into life everlasting,  
He passed, and we follow Him there;  
O'er us sin no more hath dominion--  
For more than conqu'rors we are!

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!

**“More love to Thee, O Christ”**

*E. Prentiss (1856)*

*The Blue Presbyterian Hymnal #359*

1 More love to Thee, O Christ,  
More love to Thee!  
Hear Thou the prayer I make  
On bended knee.  
This is my earnest plea:  
More love, O Christ, to Thee;  
More love to Thee,  
More love to Thee!

2 Once earthly joy I craved,  
Sought peace and rest;  
Now Thee alone I seek,  
Give what is best.  
This all my prayer shall be:  
More love, O Christ to Thee;  
More love to Thee,  
More love to Thee!

3 Then shall my latest breath  
Whisper Thy praise;  
This be the parting cry  
My heart shall raise;  
This still its prayer shall be:  
More love, O Christ to Thee;  
More love to Thee,  
More love to Thee!

**“Let Us Break Bread Together”**

*African American spiritual*

*Glory to God #525*

1 Let us break bread together on our knees;  
(on our knees)  
let us break bread together on our knees.

*Refrain:*

When I fall on my knees,  
with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.  
(on me)

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
(on our knees)  
let us drink wine together on our knees.

3 Let us praise God together on our knees;  
(on our knees)  
let us praise God together on our knees.

**“Just A Closer Walk With Thee”**

*Trad. North American hymn*

*Glory to God #835*

*Refrain:*

Just a closer walk with thee,  
grant it, Jesus, is my plea,  
daily walking close to thee:  
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

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

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

3 When my feeble life is o'er,  
time for me will be no more;  
guide me gently, safely o'er  
to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore.