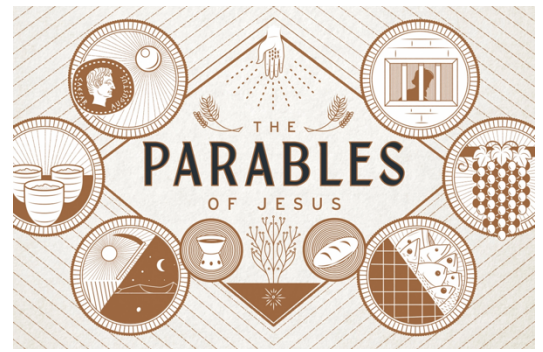


College Avenue Presbyterian Church
 5951 College Avenue | Oakland | 94618
 www.capcoakland.org | www.capcoakland.me
 Office : 510.658.3665 | capc.manager@gmail.com
 Pastor Monte: Cell 510.520.0746
 montemclain@gmail.com



October 16, 2022 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 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 allows 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.

HYBRID WORSHIP

We do our Sunday Gatherings hybrid style – both in person and online for those that prefer that option. We're seeking to do that, using Zoom, to affirm our value of participation and collaboration in our gatherings.

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.'

WIFI

Capc1 | PW 5106583666
 CCL #1137062

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

PRELUDE "Dig a Little Deeper"

GATHERING SONG "Come Ye Thankful People Come" - *Glory to God #367*

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "Open The Eyes Of My Heart" - *Glory to God #32*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE

Readings: Deuteronomy 10:10-22; Isaiah 6:1-12; Matthew 13:10-17

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD "True Fiction" - *Monte McClain*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "We Plow The Fields And Scatter" - *Blue Hymnal #560*

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 OUR OFFERINGS AND GIFTS

OFFERING SONG "Amen" - *Glory to God # 507*

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG "Holy, Holy, Holy" - *Glory to God #1*

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 "Мир Христа"(Ukrainian) [Mwir Khrysta]

POSTLUDE "Shady Grove"

Reflections on Today's Readings

Deuteronomy 10:10-22; Isaiah 6:1-12; Matthew 13:10-17

The Bible tells stories of women and men who heard God speaks and rose the occasion. It's not all easy peasey, for many times the stories relate the failures, short-comings and basic humanness of people who we look to as those of great faith. But nonetheless, they heard God.

For many of us it seems as if we can't hear God, or God

isn't speaking up. In fact an ongoing marketing approach by the Methodist and UCC Churches focuses on just that – "God is still speaking." (pictured above).



Today in our current cultural context we're deeply divided over politics and how they shape our worldview. When you listen closely you can hear people who claim to follow Jesus saying: "Build the Wall!" and "No one is illegal." Or saying "Black Lives Matter" and "All Lives Matter"; or "Make America Great Again" and "Make America Compassionate Again"; or "America First" and "He's got the whole world in his hands." They're not just different; they often are categorically oppositional stances! How can God be saying both things?

A recent article in The Week talked about how evangelical Christianity is "undergoing a sort of schismatic split between one camp that favors Trump-style messaging, politics, and conspiracy theorizing, and those who follow the traditional evangelical path of avoiding politics as antithetical to biblical." "There's a great separation taking place," agrees Wade Lentz, "patriot" pastor of Beryl Baptist Church in Vilonia, Arkansas. "A lot of people are getting tired of going to church and hearing this message: 'Hey, it's a great day, every day is a great day, the sun is always shining.' There's this big disconnect between what's going on behind the pulpit in those churches and what's going on in the real world." Article QR Code



The article lifts up the notion that in church we often say God is making everything good, all the time. Yet that's not what we see (especially recently). How do we talk about the challenge of hearing God's voice, seeing God's leading in the world? That's what today's scriptures talk about. Beginning with a reminder from Moses to walk in God's ways, to the prophet Isaiah sent to the people to speak for God; to Jesus who speaks in parables to either make the message more muddled or plain (depending upon what you hear.) – we struggle to grasp how it is that we can hear God today.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged you, enraged you, or surprised you in this story?
- How do you struggle to understand God today, or the words of Scripture? How do we as a church? In our nation?
- 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?

October Birthdays

5 Emma Fleming 7 Cameron Beatty
14 Mike Castner 26 Chinyere Okereke
30 Robbin Peach & Joshua Beatty

Weekly Calendar

Post Service Garden Party! Join us for light snacks and the chance to connect and chat outside in the garden.

Zoom Connection Calls Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 12-12:30pm a time for holy conversation (Mon) and the practice of Lectio Divina (Fri).

Race Matters Group Mondays – 6-7 pm on Zoom. We gather together to talk about race matters and how race matters in our lives of faith.



Friday Night Meal – Fridays 6:00-7:00PM.

Help us respond to the hungers of Oakland by signing up online to help with set-up, serving, and clean-up – this -or *any* Friday! Capcoakland.org/ or use this QR Code



Women's Group Saturday 9:30-10:30am on Zoom. Contact Anne Marie Adams for info.

Godly Play Sundays 9:30-10am on Zoom – our Montessori-approach to Sunday School!

Survey Look for a survey in your email inbox, or pick up a paper copy today, as we take the temperature of our congregational life as we exit this time of pastoral sabbatical. OR access the survey using your Smart Phone & this QR Code.



Halloween Parade Sunday, October 30th after church. This is a yearly event that brings hundreds of people to our doorstep, giving us the chance to introduce ourselves to folks who don't know us. Would you like to be involved in envisioning how to do get the word out about how great we are through candy and a kids' craft area? Talk to Monte.

Thank You to Today's Leadership:

Counters: Marge Harvey, Marda Stothers

Garden-Party Host: Margaret Smith

Godly Play: Beth Beatty

Liturgist:

Music: Dave Eagle (Drums),

Ben Kramarz, Roger Kim

Video Tech: Thom Faulkner, Albert Hussian, Dann Wilkens

LYRICS & RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

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 through using gender inclusive language

Come Ye Thankful People Come

Henry Alford (1844, alt.) | Glory to God #367

1. Come, ye thankful people, come;
raise the song of harvest home.
All is safely gathered in,
ere the winter storms begin.
God, our Maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple, come;
raise the song of harvest home.
2. All the world is God's own field,
fruit in thankful praise to yield,
wheat and tares together sown,
unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade, and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.
3. For the Lord our God shall come,
and shall take the harvest home;
from each field shall in that day
all offenses purge away;
give the angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store
in God's garner evermore.
4. Even so, Lord, quickly come
to thy final harvest home.
Gather thou thy people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there forever purified,
in thy presence to abide:
come, with all thine angels, come;
raise the glorious harvest home!

Call to Worship:

a riff on Psalm 63 and Deuteronomy 10

ONE: O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;

ALL: my soul thirsts for you;

ONE: my flesh faints for you,

ALL: as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

ONE: So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,

ALL: beholding your power and glory.

ONE: Because your steadfast love is better than life,

ALL: my lips will praise you.

ONE: So I will bless you as long as I live;

ALL: in your name I will lift up my hands.

ONE: My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips

**ALL: when I think of you on my bed
and meditate on you in the watches of the night**

ONE: or you have been my help,

and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

ALL: My soul clings to you;

your right hand upholds me.

ONE: Holy One I ask for your wisdom and direction,

ALL: I feel surrounded by enemies, threats and confusion.

ONE: I am not seeking to be stubborn or hard-hearted,

ALL: but I struggle to love as you love, to see my neighbor as you do, to find your Way through the weeds around me.

Open The Eyes Of My Heart

Paul Baloche | Glory to God #452

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord

Open the eyes of my heart

I want to see You

I want to see You

(repeat)

To see You high and lifted up

Shinin' in the light of Your glory

Pour out Your power and love

As we sing holy, holy, holy

We plough the fields, and scatter

Translator: Jane M. Campbell; Author: Matthias Claudius (1782)

Tune: WIR PFLÜGEN

Blue Hymnal #560

1. We plow the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand.
God sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes, and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.

Refrain:

All good gifts around us
are sent from heav'n above.
We thank you, God, we thank you, God,
for all your love.

2. You only are the Maker
of all things near and far.
You paint the wayside flower,
you light the evening star.
The winds and waves obey you,
by you the birds are fed;
much more to us, your children,
you give our daily bread.

3. We thank you, then, Creator,
for all things bright and good,
the seed-time, and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food.
Accept the gifts we offer
for all your love imparts,
and what you most would welcome:
our humble, thankful hearts.

Amen

Amen Amen

Amen Amen Amen

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Author: Reginald Heber (1826) | Glory to God #1

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the
glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before
thee,
which wert and art and evermore shalt be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not
see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.
4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth, and
sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Stubborn

A prayer by Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow

<https://www.patreon.com/posts/2022-advent-73188547>

Ignore lips that whisper, "stop being stubborn"
Stubbornness born of faith is
determination and disruption made real

So as you go, be stubborn...
Be stubborn for hope.
Be stubborn for wholeness.
Be stubborn for justice.

Be stubborn with courage.
Be stubborn with kindness.
Be stubborn with conviction.

Be stubborn in love.
Be stubborn with love.
Be stubborn for love.

Be stubborn for others around you
be stubborn for those yet to come
and give thanks for ancestors and saints
who were stubborn for you.

— AMEN