

College Avenue Presbyterian Church  
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March 20, 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 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.

**VIRTUAL WORSHIP  
 THIS MONTH**

Due to the Omicron Surge in Covid transmission we are meeting virtually through mid-February to keep everyone safe and community spread of COVID at bay. You're invited to participate in worship via CHAT function and the open audio channel after service.

**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 "Pass It On"

GATHERING SONG "All Are Welcome"

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "O Sing To The Lord"

HEARING GOD'S WORD

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE John 13:1-17

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD "Machiavelli, Marx, Putin & Foot-Washing"  
 - Rev. Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Ordaining and Installing New Deacons & Elders  
*Deacons: Sarah Evangelista, Albert Hussian, David Kittams, Janet Majors,  
 Elaine Price, Marda Stothers*  
*Elders: Marge Harvey, Sharon Nelson, Jeff Trowbridge*

SONG OF RESPONSE "An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare"

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 "If Not For Your Grace"

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG "I Want Jesus To Walk With Me"

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 (Ukrainian)  
 "Мир Христа" pronounced [Mwir Hryrsta]

*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 "Will The Circle Be Unbroken"

## Reflections on Today's Readings John 13:1-17

The invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Army began 24 days ago. Since then we've been confronted with horrific images of suffering caused by intentional collateral damage as Putin seeks to make Ukraine in to Russia because they share a language and culture & economy. We've been re-awakened to the terrifying transactional notion of nuclear warfare, and reminded of what true heroism is and can do. Today's scripture speaks to the underlying value and concept of power, service and community that is underneath everything happening in our world today.

Jesus teaches his life philosophy, spiritual path and way of wisdom through spoken words and bodily practice. It's not just metaphysical but corporeal, tangible. During a holiday feast with his friends and students he assumes the place of the servant, washing the dirty feet of the guests at the meal with his own hands and clothing. This is what the servant or slave of a household would usually do to welcome guests, a sign of hospitality among people who traveled everywhere by foot without socks and closed toed-shoes. To be a leader, a lord, you must be a servant is what he says and does. Power isn't power over others, nor is power found in weakness. Power is found in loving-self-service of others.

It's a stark contrast to the world in which we live. Our notions of power in social relationships are based on the work of the renaissance Italian philosopher and first political scientist Niccolò Machiavelli (1469 -1527) in his book *The Prince*. Machiavelli says that, "Men are ungrateful, fickle, deceitful, cowardly and avaricious." From this he concludes that a good leader helps create public order and maintain stability in the society, countering human nature. To do that a ruler or a monarch should aim rather to be feared than to be loved. Everyone is ambitious and power hungry by nature, so you better "get yours before someone else does."

Later German philosopher and economist Karl Marx (1818 -1883) advanced the notion that our nature (who we are and how we live) is primarily conditioned by the social connections and world in which we live. To be a good leader than is to shape, form, determine the social world (our relationships, economy, politics, education and religion) in way that best advances the public order and maintains stability. We see streams of both Machiavelli and Marx in in the assumption of Russian President Vladimir Putin that social contexts determine our identity, this in the hyper-partisanship of our American politics which seek to destroy and cancel the opposing perspective, as well as in our transactional economy based on short-term profit at the expense of long-term stability.

Jesus offers a radically different way of being together and acting as a community for the common good. Tragically while our Western culture and world seem to claim the Way of Jesus as foundational, it doesn't seem to truly be the case except when it's convenient.

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged you, enraged you, or surprised you in the text?
- How does Jesus see human nature? Do you agree more with him? Machiavelli?; or Marx? Why?
- 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?

## March Birthdays

12 Kristy McClain      17 Louise Hirschman  
24 Marda Stothers      28 Lucian Haynes

## March Anniversaries

10 Richard and Marge Harvey 2011

## Weekly Calendar

**We have re-started In-person worship.** For those who come in person we will continue the previously practiced protocol. You can find info about it in the entryway

**Today - 3:00-4:30pm Care-Giver's Support Group Meeting** at the church. Talk to Marda Stothers for more info.

**Connection Calls Mondays & Fridays 12-12:30pm** a time for holy conversation (Mondays) and the practice of *Lectio Divina* (Fridays). On our regular Zoom channel.

**Race Matters Group Mondays - 6pm on Zoom** Monday 6-7pm - talking about how we talk about how race matters to and in how we articulate our faith in Jesus. We're sharing our own written confessions of Faith nourished by our sharing together. Find info at [www.capcoakland.org/race-matters](http://www.capcoakland.org/race-matters)

### SPECIAL LENT ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

**Atonement Theories - Tuesdays at 7pm on Zoom.** Talking about why Jesus had to die and what his death means today.

**Journey Group Gatherings - various times during the week.** Signup for a small group centered around spiritual practices and sharing. [www.capcoakland.org/lent](http://www.capcoakland.org/lent)

**Friday Night Meal - Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:00PM.** Albert Hussian is heading up a cooing team. Sign up online to help with set-up and serving, and clean-up.

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

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

### Thank you to Today's Leadership:

Godly Play: Beth Beatty  
Music: Pete Feltman, D Eagle, B Karmar, R Kim  
Preaching: Monte McClain  
Video Tech: Dann Wilkens, Albert Hussian,

## 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.*

### “All Are Welcome”

*Marty Haugen | Glory to God #301*

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live

A place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions  
Rock of faith and vault of grace  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak  
and words are strong and true  
Where all God's children dare to seek to dream  
God's reign anew

Here the cross shall stand as witness  
And as symbol of God's grace  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place

3. Let us build a house where love is found  
in water wine and wheat

A banquet hall on holy ground  
where peace and justice meet  
Here the love of God through Jesus  
is revealed in time and space  
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone

To heal and strengthen serve and teach  
and live the word they've known  
Here the outcast and the stranger  
bear the image of God's face  
Let us bring an end to fear and danger  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place

5. Let us build a house where all are named  
their songs and visions heard  
And loved and treasured taught and claimed  
as words within the word  
Built of tears and cries and laughter  
Prayers of faith and songs of grace  
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.

### Call to Worship

*Structured around Psalms 67 & Philippians 2:5-11*

One: Let God grant us grace and bless us;  
let God make his face shine on us,

**ALL: so that your way becomes known on earth,  
so that your salvation becomes known  
among all the nations.**

One: We see your way in the attitude that was in  
Christ Jesus:

Though he was in the form of God,  
he did not consider being equal with God  
something to exploit.

**ALL: But he emptied himself  
by taking the form of a slave  
and by becoming like human beings.**

**When he found himself in the form of a human,  
he humbled himself by becoming obedient  
to the point of death,  
even death on a cross.**

One: Therefore, God highly honored him  
and gave him a name above all names,  
so that at the name of Jesus everyone  
in heaven, on earth, and under the earth  
might bow

and every tongue confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**ALL: And so Lord we thank you God!  
You judge the nations fairly  
and guide all nations on the earth.**

One: Let the people thank you, God!

Let all the people thank you!

The earth has yielded its harvest.

**ALL: God blesses us—our God blesses us!  
Let God continue to bless us;  
let the far ends of the earth honor the LORD.**

## “O Sing To The Lord”

*Tune: CANTAI AO SENHOR | Glory to God #637*

Cantad al Señor un cantico nuevo  
Cantad al Señor un cantico nuevo  
Cantad al Señor un cantico nuevo  
Cantad al Señor, cantad al Señor

O sing to the Lord O sing God a new song  
O sing to the Lord O sing God a new song  
O sing to the Lord O sing God a new song  
O sing to our God, O sing to our God

By God’s holy power our Lord has done wonders  
By God’s holy power our Lord has done wonders  
By God’s holy power our Lord has done wonders  
O sing to our God, O sing to our God

So dance for our God and blow all our trumpets  
So dance for our God and blow all our trumpets  
So dance for our God and blow all our trumpets  
O sing to our God, O sing to our God

## “An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare”

*Fred Pratt Green (1973) |*

*The Presbyterian Hymnal #94 | Glory to God #202*

1 An upper room did our Lord prepare  
for those he loved until the end:  
and his disciples still gather there  
to celebrate their risen friend.

2 A lasting gift Jesus gave his own:  
to share his bread, his loving cup.  
Whatever burdens may bow us down,  
he by his cross shall lift us up.

3 And after supper he washed their feet,  
for service, too, is sacrament.  
In Christ our joy shall be made complete:  
sent out to serve, as he was sent.

4 No end there is! We depart in peace.  
He loves beyond our uttermost:  
in every room in our Father's house  
Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.

ORDINATION OF DEACONS AND ELDERS

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE *1 Cor. 12:4–7, 27*

There are varieties of gifts,  
but it is the same Spirit who gives them.  
**There are different ways of serving God,  
but it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through each person in a unique way,  
but it is God’s purpose that is accomplished.

**To each is given a gift of the Spirit  
to be used for the common good.**

Together we are the body of Christ,  
**and individually members of it.**

## “If Not For Your Grace”

*by Israel Houghton*

*Verse*

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

*Chorus*

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

*Bridge*

Grace that restores, grace that redeems,  
grace that releases miracles  
Grace that restores, grace that redeems,  
grace that releases miracles

## “I Want Jesus To Walk With Me”

*African-American spiritual*

1. I want Jesus to walk with me *(walk with me)*  
I want Jesus to walk with me *(walk with me)*  
All along my pilgrim journey  
Lord I want Jesus to walk with me *(walk with me)*

2. In my trials Lord walk with me *(walk with me)*  
In my trials Lord walk with me *(walk with me)*  
When my heart is almost breaking  
Lord I want Jesus to walk with me *(walk with me)*

3. When I’m in trouble Lord walk with me *(walk with me)*  
When I’m in trouble Lord walk with me *(walk with me)*  
When my head is bowed in sorrow  
Lord I want Jesus to walk with me *(walk with me)*