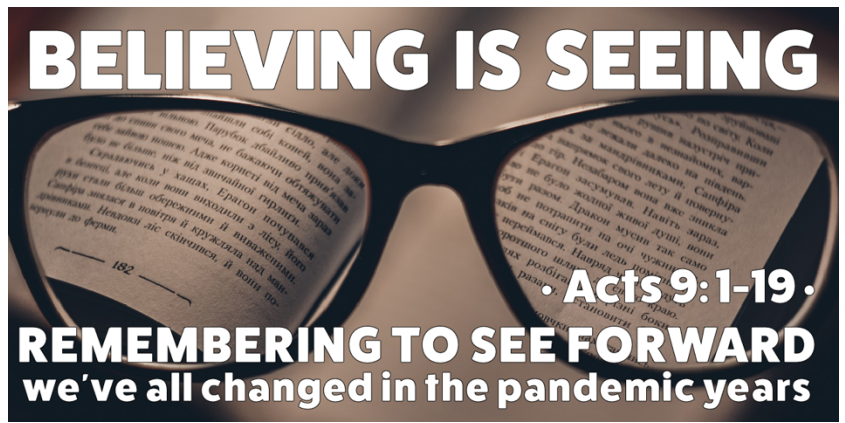


College Avenue Presbyterian Church  
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**Welcome to  
 CAPC Oakland!**

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.

**HYBRID WORSHIP**

Our Church leadership has made the decision to 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.'

CCL #1137062.

May 22, 2022

at 10:30am in Person & on Zoom

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

PRELUDE

GATHERING SONG "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" - Blue Hymnal #464

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "Come Thou Fount" - Blue Hymnal # 356

HEARING GOD'S WORD

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE Acts 9:1-19

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD "The Dark Night of COVID" - Rev. Monte McClain

A CONVERSATION WITH ANDREW SNOW ABOUT WHAT HE SEES

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "I Saw The Light" -insert

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 "God's Banner Over Me" -Insert

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG "This Little Light Of Mine" - insert

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)

pronounced [Mwir Hryrsta]

*We pass the peace in different languages to embody the depth and width of the Commonwealth of God at work moving us toward the healing transformation of the world.*

POSTLUDE "What A Friend We Have In Jesus "

## Reflections on Today's Readings

Acts 9:1-19

<sup>1</sup> [While the church community of those who followed the Way of Jesus grew and spread beyond their starting place in Jerusalem], Saul was still spewing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest, <sup>2</sup> seeking letters to the synagogues in Damascus. If he found persons who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, these letters would authorize him to take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> During the journey, as he approached Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven encircled him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice asking him, "Saul, Saul, why are you harassing me?"

<sup>5</sup> Saul asked, "Who are you, Lord?"

"I am Jesus, whom you are harassing," came the reply. <sup>6</sup> "Now get up and enter the city. You will be told what you must do."

<sup>7</sup> Those traveling with him stood there speechless; they heard the voice but saw no one. <sup>8</sup> After they picked Saul up from the ground, he opened his eyes but he couldn't see. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> For three days he was blind and neither ate nor drank anything.

<sup>10</sup> In Damascus there was a certain disciple named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

He answered, "Yes, Lord."

<sup>11</sup> The Lord instructed him, "Go to Judas' house on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying. <sup>12</sup> In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias enter and put his hands on him to restore his sight."

<sup>13</sup> Ananias countered, "Lord, I have heard many reports about this man. People say he has done horrible things to your holy people in Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> He's here with authority from the chief priests to arrest everyone who calls on your name."

<sup>15</sup> The Lord replied, "Go! This man is the agent I have chosen to carry my name before Gentiles, kings, and Israelites. <sup>16</sup> I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."

<sup>17</sup> Ananias went to the house. He placed his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord sent me—Jesus, who appeared to you on the way as you were coming here. He sent me so that you could see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup> Instantly, flakes fell from Saul's eyes and he could see again. He got up and was baptized. <sup>19</sup> After eating, he regained his strength.

He stayed with the disciples in Damascus for several days.

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged you, enraged you, or surprised you in this story?
- This is one of the ultimate stories of conversion – of personal transformation in the direct experience of God. When and how have you had such an experience? How has/is it shaping you?
- 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?

## May Birthdays

|                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 15 Richard Harvey  | 18 Marge Harvey      |
| 23 Rebecca LaMotte | 26 Sarah Reyes       |
| 27 Paulette Leston | 31 Avery Haynes 2008 |

## 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 – 6-8pm on Zoom.** We gather together to talk about race matters & how race matters in our lives of faith. This week we're meeting for a potluck dinner at the home of Monte & Kristy: 7328 Circle Hill Drive | 94605. Bring a dish to share.

**Presbyteri-What? – Thursdays 6-7pm on Zoom.** Learn more about our church and how we understand what it means to be church together. This week we're talking about Polity – how we live together as a church coherent with what we believe.

**Session Meeting – Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm on Zoom**

**Friday Night Meal – Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> 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! Bright & Remya David are cooking an Indian Dinner to serve.

**Monte Sabbatical News**– Monte is taking a sabbatical from June 6 to October 5<sup>th</sup>. Look for a letter from him this week about his dreams and thoughts about sabbatical. In the entryway.

**Anne Marie Adams.** has moved Her new mailing address is: Bethesda Christian Retirement; 22427 Montgomery St.; Hayward, CA 94541

**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!

### Thank You to Today's Leadership:

Garden-Party Host: Beth & Bill Beatty

Godly Play: Beth Beatty

Musicians: Sharon Nelson, Kristy Parsons McClain

Prayer Liturgist: Myrna Shadley

Reader: John LaMotte

Testimony on Sight: Andrew Snow

Video Tech: 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.*

### “Joyful, joyful, we adore thee”

*Author: Henry Van Dyke (1907)  
The Presbyterian Hymnal #464*

1 Joyful, joyful, we adore You,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You,  
Op'ning to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day!

2 All Your works with joy surround You,  
Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays,  
Stars and angels sing around You,  
Center of unbroken praise;  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain  
Praising You eternally!

3 Always giving and forgiving,  
Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Well-spring of the joy of living,  
Ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Loving Father, Christ our Brother,  
Let Your light upon us shine;  
Teach us how to love each other,  
Lift us to the joy divine.

### Call to Worship (Psalm 63, Matthew 23:37)

*A mash up of the Dark Night of the Soul (Spanish: La noche oscura del alma) is a poem written by the 16th-century Spanish mystic and poet St. John of the Cross.*

One: St John Of the Cross spoke poetically  
of a dark night,  
When he went forth from his house  
without being observed,

**ALL: In darkness and concealment,  
In secret, when none saw him,  
Without light or guide,  
save that which burned in his heart,  
he set out**

One: Guided by that holy light,  
more surely than the light of noonday,  
he came to the place  
where the mysterious was awaiting him –  
A place where none appeared.

**ALL: We too have in moments  
been guided by such a dark night of the soul,  
A night more lovely than the dawn,  
A night that joined Beloved with lover,  
When we have encountered the depth  
and width of God's wondrous love.**

One: We gather this morning, remembering  
Those moments of holy clarity,  
Of a transformative sense of self,  
Of the sudden awareness of the bigness of God  
And our importance in such massiveness.

**ALL: Come Spirit of God -  
May we encounter you  
as we gather in the name,  
As we listen for your voice in the Word  
As we look for your presence in our world.**

### “Come, thou Fount of every blessing”

*Author: Robert Robinson (1758); Tune: NETTLETON  
The Presbyterian Hymnal #356*

1 Come, Thou Fount of every blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
Sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
Mount of God's unchanging love!

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer,  
Hither by Thy help I'm come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wandering from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
Interposed his precious blood.

*Continued with v. 3 on back of this page*

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to Thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above.

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

*Hank Williams*

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

*chorus*

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

*chorus*

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

*chorus*

### **"His Banner Over Me is Love"**

*Alfred B. Smith*

1 I am my Beloved's and He is mine—  
His banner over me is love,  
I am my Beloved's and He is mine—  
His banner over me is love;  
I am my Beloved's and He is mine—  
His banner over me is love,  
His banner over me is love.

2. In Christ I am a new Creation...

3. He makes straight paths before my feet

4. He brought me to His banqueting table...

### **"This Little Light Of Mine"**

*Traditional Spiritual*

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

2. Hide it under a bushel NO I'm gonna let it shine  
Hide it under a bushel NO I'm gonna let it shine  
Hide it under a bushel NO I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

3. Wont let satan blow it out Im gonna let it shine  
Wont let satan blow it out I'm gonna let it shine  
Wont let satan blow it out I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine let it shine let it shine

4. Every where I go I'm gonna let it shine  
Everywhere I go I'm gonna let it shine  
Everywhere I go I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine let it shine let it shine

5. Jesus gave it to me I'm gonna let it shine  
Jesus gave it to me I'm' gonna let it shine  
Jesus gave it to me I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine let it shine let it shine