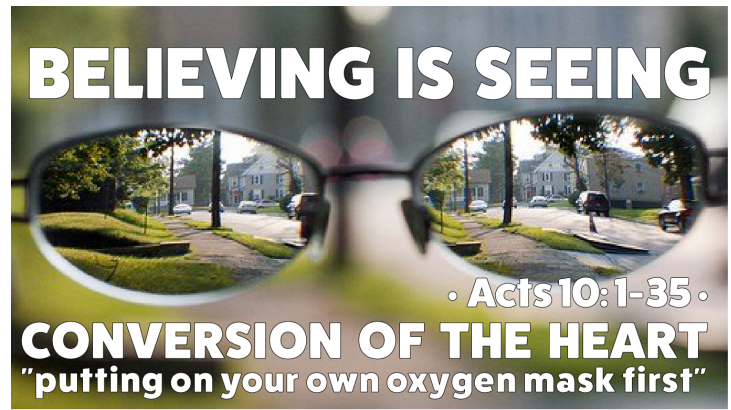


College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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 Pastor Monte: Cell 510.520.0746
 montemclain@gmail.com



May 29, 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.

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.

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

PRELUDE

GATHERING SONG "Spirit of the Living God" - Blue Hymnal #322

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "O God You Are My God" - insert

HEARING GOD'S WORD

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE Acts 10:1-35 - Fredora Darmstadt

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD - Rev. Monte McClain
 "Putting on your own Oxygen Mask in order to See the Big Picture"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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.

Today we're responding to God's Word through a ritual of confession and letting go, and the lighting of candles as embodiments of our hope.

While we sing you can come forward, to pray with your body. You can also leave your offering and gifts in the plate on the communion table.

SONGS OF RESPONSE "Be Thou My Vision" & "God's Got the Whole World in his Hands" -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.

Reflections on Today's Readings

Acts 10:1-35

On airplanes the flight attendants always ask you to first put your own oxygen mask on before you go to help someone else in case of an emergency. It might seem selfish or counter-intuitive. But what it's really about is seeing the larger picture. You can't help or care for others unless you're able to act yourself.



In scripture, back at the foundational story of creation we're told that we are created in the image of God, that we are called to be stewards (care-givers) of all of creation. Jesus talks of it in terms of neighborliness in his teaching of Mark 12:29-31:

²⁹ Jesus replied, "The most important one is Israel, listen! Our God is the one Lord, ³⁰ and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your mind, and with all your strength. ³¹ The second is this, You will love your neighbor as yourself. No other commandment is greater than these."

Is an expansion upon that articulated in the Hebrew scriptures as God through Moses teaches the people how to live in a community rooted in love, mutual forbearance, and solidarity.

¹⁸ You shall not take vengeance, nor hold any grudge against your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; Leviticus 19:18

Today's reading tells the story of a double conversion. Cornelius, a gentile (or non-Jew) is moved by the Holy Spirit and seeking Jesus as the Way. Peter, one of the foundational apostles, is sent by the Holy Spirit to minister to Cornelius. But the problem is that Peter – like all of us – is deeply shaped by his social identity. He's Jewish, has always eaten kosher and followed the misvots or laws of the commandments. To go to Cornelius, enter his home and eat with him is something he has learned his whole life to avoid and never do. He doesn't see Cornelius as his neighbor.

In the story Peter is converted, transformed – his vision expands...and he is able to see what he couldn't see before. The God Jesus points to is the God of all nations, tribes, people and social classes. Peter must change himself before he can participate in what God wants for the world, and minister to Cornelius. In a sense Peter has to put on his own oxygen mask first in order to see what he needs to do and what God is up to in the bigger picture.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged you, enraged you, or surprised you in this story?
- How might you need to change, recognize your own blindness (put on your own oxygen mask) in order to see more clearly what God wants?
- 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

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).

Our Race Matters Group is on vacation until August.

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 Worship.

Friday Night Meal – Friday, June 3rd 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! Our partner of Trinity Fellowship Berkeley are cooking an Indian Dinner to serve.

Monte Sabbatical News– Monte is taking a sabbatical from June 6 to October 5th. Find a letter with more information and contact numbers for leadership questions in the entryway.

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: Margaret Smith

Godly Play: Beth Beatty

Musicians: Sharon Nelson, Kristy Parsons McClain

Reader: Fredora Darmstadt

Video Tech: Albert Hussian

Should you need Pastoral Care during Monte's absence you can call the following pastors:

Rev. Bill Beatty. (510) 851-2237

Rev. Karl Shadley (510) 435-4264

Rev. Matt Prinz. (510) 856-7434

For questions regarding:

Our Session - contact:

Marge Harvey (510) 823-4716

Margaret Smith (510) 704-3838

Our Deacons – contact:

Marji Wilkens (760) 574-9769

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.

“Spirit of the Living God”

*Daniel Iverson (1926)
The Blue Presbyterian Hymnal #322*

Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me,
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me.
Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me.
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me.

Call to Worship *Adapted from "A Prayer to End Gun Violence" by James Martin S.J.*

One: After another shooting in our country,
Many of us are sad, tired, and angry.

**ALL: We're sad at the loss of life,
The disrespect of human dignity,
The callousness with which we treat our children.
The way in which we politicize other people's pain and fear,**

One: We know that the sadness we feel is your sadness.
It is the same sadness your son expressed
when he wept over the death of
his friend Lazarus.

**All: We're tired,
of the unwillingness to see this as an important issue.
of those in power who work to prevent any real change.
of those who say that gun violence can't be reduced.**

One: All this makes us tired.
The tiredness I feel is your tiredness.
It's the same tiredness that Jesus felt
after his own struggles against injustice
that led him to fall asleep on the boat
with his disciples.

ALL: We're angry.

**at the seeming powerlessness of our community to prevent this.
at the selfish financial interests who block change that these shootings happen at all.**

One: This anger is your anger
It's the same anger Jesus felt when he overturned
the tables in the Temple,
angry that anyone would be taken advantage
of in any way.

**ALL: Help us see in these feelings
as the way that you move me to act.
Help me see in these emotions
your own desire for change.
Help me see in these feelings
your moving me to act.
Help me see in these reactions
your pushing me to do something.**

One: Because I know this is the way you move
people to action.
And I know that you desire action.
For Jesus did not stand by while people
were being hurt.
He plunged into their lives.

**ALL: So help me to answer these questions:
How can I help?
How can I stand up against violence and murder?
How can I urge my political leaders
to enact change?
How can I help people understand that this is
an issue about life?**

One: We are sad over the loss of life,
tired of excuses for the loss of life,
and angry that we are paralyzed by the loss of life.

**ALL: Turn my sadness into compassion.
Turn my tiredness into advocacy.
Turn my paralysis into the freedom to act.**

**Help me
to be compassionate,
to advocate
and to act,
as your son did,
Almighty God.**

“O God You Are My God”

*Author: David "Beaker" Strasser
© Copyright 1991 BMG Songs, Inc
Glory to God #743*

O God, you are my god
And I will ever praise you
Oh god, you are my god
And I will ever praise you

I will seek you in the morning
I will learn to walk in your ways
And step by step you will lead me
And I will follow you all of my days

God, you are my god
And I will ever praise you
Oh god, you are my god
And I will ever praise you

“Be Thou My Vision ”

*Translator: Mary E. Byrne (1905)
Glory to God #450
The Blue Presbyterian Hymnal #339*

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught 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;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King 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.

“God's Got The Whole World”

Traditional

God's got the whole world in His hands
God's got this whole, in Her hands
God's got this whole world in His hands
God's got the whole world in Her hands

God's got the wind and rain in His hands

God's got you and me sister in His hands

God's got everybody here right in his hands

“This Little Light of Mine”

Traditional

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.

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.

Everywhere 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.