

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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THIS IS THE WAY

TURNING THE LIGHT ON IN THE ROOM

Mark 2:1-12

January 22, 2023 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 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) have high health risks.

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 your 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 "I Want Jesus To Walk With Me" – Sue Feltman

GATHERING SONG "Ashe Ashe" – insert

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 40 – John LaMotte

SONG OF PRAISE "God Of Grace and God Of Glory" – Glory To God # 325

HEARING GOD'S WORD

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE Mark 2:1-12 – John LaMotte

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD "Turning the Light on in the Room" – Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "Walking In The Light Of The Lord" – Insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER – Myrna Shadley

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 "Just A Closer Walk With Thee" – Glory to God #835

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG "I Love To Tell The Story" – Glory to God #462

SENDING CALL AND RESPONSE

Leader: God is good!

People: All the time!

Leader: And all the time!

People: God is good!

EXHORTATION & BLESSING

PASSING THE PEACE OF GOD "Мир Христа"(Ukrainian) [Mwir Khrysta]

POSTLUDE "Interstate Rag"

Reflections on Today's Readings

Mark 2:1-12

"The injection of forgiveness into this story shows us something about the rule of God in Christ; namely, that it's an aggressive, penetrating rule. It isn't content to let sleeping dogs lie...or sleeping sins, for that matter. It isn't satisfied with simply an external manifestation of authority. It isn't willing to rule on the surface. It penetrates, goes deep into the character of its subjects. And when it gets there, it heals, restores, and redeems.

Christ as our King is concerned with our whole lives – with our spiritual paralysis as well as our physical paralysis. He wants us healed in our bodies and healthy in our souls. This is where the reign of God goes beyond what we normally experience. We treat symptoms; he heals diseases. We analyze effects; he deals with causes. We live on the surface of life; he plunges to its depths. And he will plunge to the depths in us when we open our lives to his rule.

As we look back these two thousand years and see these energetic and determined men lowering their paralyzed friend through a hole in the roof in a crowded Palestinian house, Mark's concern is that we would see something significant about the reign of God breaking into our lives – that we would see Jesus as the first ray of light in the dawn of God's kingdom. That reign is eternally present, which means it is present right now, penetrating deeply into us without passing over anything peripheral."

Eugene Peterson, a note on Mark 2:1-12 "Concerned with our Whole Lives" from the Message Translation.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged, enraged, or surprised you in these texts?
- In the Bible Walking is a metaphor for the life of faith – and life in general. So what does it mean to be a paraplegic, paralyzed, unable to walk? Can you be stuck in paralysis and still have the use of your legs?
- In verse 11 Jesus tells the man to stand up, and verse 12 tells us that he stood up. The Greek word used here is "ἐγείρω" pronounced | *egeiró* | it means: 1) to waken, to raise up (as in standing up, putting upright); 2) It's also used in the notion of "to raise up", or "rise again" as in resurrection. (See *Matthew 28:5-7* for example.) So then this story of healing is about a being-raised-to-new-life: a resurrection, a being made whole and alive. How is the man raised to new life? How have you been?
- 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?

January Birthdays

25 Joy Barnes

29 Bill Beatty

Today at & around CAPC Oakland

Post Service Garden Party! Join us for light snacks and the chance to connect after our service.

Deacons Meeting after worship

Letters of Love: Everyone loves getting mail! Pick up an addressed envelope in the back and write a note of encouragement and love to someone who could use a good word. Recipients and their situations are explained on the magnetic board.

This Week at & around CAPC Oakland

Community Bible Study (Wrestling with Scripture) We meet for discussion around the text for the week on Tuesdays at 7p on Zoom. This next week we're wrestling with Mark 3:1-6.



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!

Memorial Services for John Fonua

All events are at Grissom's Chapel & Mortuary 267 E. Lewelling Blvd. San Lorenzo, 94580

Monday, January 23rd from 4-7 pm there will be a viewing. at 6pm Monte will lead a simple memorial service with the chance to share memories and stories.

Tuesday, January 24th from 9-11am there will be a traditional Tongan Celebration. At 11am Monte will lead a simple Memorial Service John will be interred after at Mt. Eden Cemetery.

New Class! – using the book *Discover Your Spiritual Type* by Corinne Ware. A class that will help you identify the ways you most profoundly express your spirituality. Pink flyer in the entryway

Black History Month Info about a special book club on the green paper in the entryway.

Thank You to Today's Leadership:

Godly Play: Monte McClain

Music: Pete Feltman, Dave Eagle, Ben Kramarz, Roger Kim

Prayer Liturgist: Myrna Shadley

Reader-Liturgist: John LaMotte

Video Tech: Thom Faulkner

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

Ashe Ashe (Yoruban Amen)

The Yoruba word “ashe,” refers to the creative power of artists, and the Judeo-Christian “amen,” which means “so be it.” It is a philosophical concept defined by the Yoruba of Nigeria to represent the power that makes things happen and produces change in the Yoruba religion.

1. we are here to welcome you - ashe ashe
young and old and babies too - ashe ashe
lend your voice and raise your hands - ashe ashe
for God alone we'll take a stand - ashe ashe

Chorus

ashe ashe ashe, ashe ashe
ashe ashe ashe ashe ashe
ashe ashe ashe, ashe ashe
ashe ashe ashe ashe ashe

2. we are here to speak the truth - ashe ashe
let our spirits be set loose - ashe ashe
bring a gift of song and joy - ashe ashe
let our tongues and voice employ - ashe ashe

Chorus

3. spread love and grace where e'er you go - ashe ashe
only then can the whole world know - ashe ashe
to God our thoughts must turn tonight - ashe ashe
we'll be justified and set upright - ashe ashe

chorus

4. spread your love and wealth around - ashe ashe
through the whole world and this small town - ashe ashe
help us to our debts forgive - ashe ashe
so that we may simply, truly live - ashe ashe

Call to Worship

~ Psalm 40 from The Message Translation / Rev Eugene Peterson

One: I waited and waited and waited for God.
At last God looked; finally the Lord listened.
God lifted me out of the ditch,
pulled me from deep mud.
God stood me up on a solid rock
to make sure I wouldn't slip.

...continued in next column

The Lord taught me how to sing the latest God-song,
a praise-song to our God.

More and more people are seeing this:
they enter the mystery,
abandoning themselves to God.

**ALL: Blessed are you
who give yourselves over to God,
turn your backs on the world's "sure thing,"
ignore what the world worships;
The world's a huge stockpile
of God-wonders and God-thoughts.
Nothing and no one
compares to you!
I start talking about you, telling what I know,
and quickly run out of words.
Neither numbers nor words
account for you.**

One: Doing something for you,
bringing something to you—
that's not what you're after.
Being religious, acting pious—
that's not what you're asking for.
You've opened my ears
so I can listen.

**ALL: So I answered, "I'm coming.
I read in your letter what you wrote about me,
And I'm coming to the party
you're throwing for me."
That's when God's Word entered my life,
became part of my very being.**

One: I've preached you to the whole congregation,
I've kept back nothing, God—you know that.
I didn't keep the news of your ways
a secret, didn't keep it to myself.
I told it all, how dependable you are, how thorough.
I didn't hold back pieces of love and truth
For myself alone. I told it all,
let the congregation know the whole story.

**ALL: Now God, don't hold out on me,
don't hold back your passion.
Your love and truth
are all that keeps me together.
When troubles ganged up on me,
a mob of sins past counting,
I was so swamped by guilt
I couldn't see my way clear.
More guilt in my heart than hair on my head,
so heavy the guilt that my heart gave out.**

...continued on back of page

One: Soften up, God, and intervene;
hurry and get me some help,
So those who are trying to kidnap my soul
will be embarrassed and lose face,
So anyone who gets a kick
out of making me miserable
will be heckled and disgraced,
So those who pray for my ruin
will be booed and jeered without mercy.
**ALL: But all who are hunting for you—
oh, let them sing and be happy.
Let those who know what you're all about
tell the world you're great
and not quitting.
And me? I'm a mess.
I'm nothing and have nothing:
make something of me.
You can do it; you've got what it takes—
but God, don't put it off...**

God Of Grace and God Of Glory

Harry Emerson Fosdick (1930)

Glory to God #307 | Blue Hymnal #420

1. God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.
- 2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.
- 3 Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.
- 4 Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,

serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

Walking In The Light Of The Lord

Lou Rawls

Walking in the light of the Lord
Walking in the light of the Lord
I ain't got no more trouble
Walking in the light of the Lord
Walking in the sight of the Lord
Walking in the sight of the Lord
I feel so good all over

Walking in the sight of the Lord

Wanna do some good each day that's the way to live
Anyone can take and take,
but you got to learn how to give
Walking in the light of the Lord
Walking in the light of the Lord
I got no need to worry
Walking in the light of the Lord

Well I've got no need for riches got no need for fame
Walking in the footsteps of his precious name

Just A Closer Walk With Thee

Anonymous | Glory to God #835

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

chorus

Just a closer a walk with Thee
Grant it Jesus is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be

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

3. When my feeble life is over
Time for me will be no more
Guide me gently safely o'er
To Thy shore, dear Lord, to Thy shore

I Love To Tell The Story

Author: Kate Hankey (1866); Author (refrain):
William G. Fischer (1869) | Glory to God #462

1 I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else could do.

Refrain:

I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.

2 I love to tell the story;
'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it,
more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story,
for some have never heard
the message of salvation
from God's own holy Word.

3 I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it, like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story
that I have loved so long.

Mark 2:1-12

NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

¹ When Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ² So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door, and he was speaking the word to them. ³ Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴ And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Child, your sins are forgiven." ⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there questioning in their hearts, ⁷ "Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ⁸ At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves, and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'? ¹⁰ But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic— ¹¹ "I say to you, stand up, take your mat, and go to your home." ¹² And he stood up and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"