

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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THIS IS THE WAY

reformata, semper reformanda

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 you requests in the chat on ZOOM labeling it with 'prayer.'

WIFI

Capc1 | PW 5106583666
 CCL #1137062

February 12, 2023 at 10:30am
 in Person & on Zoom

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

PRELUDE "Come On Children Lets Sing About The Goodness Of The Lord"

GATHERING SONG "Come With Me (Hamba Nathi)" - Insert

CALL TO WORSHIP - Linda Davis

SONG OF PRAISE "Be Thou My Vision" - Blue Hymnal # 302

HEARING GOD'S WORD

CELEBRATING GOD'S GOOD CREATION IN BLACK HISTORY MONTH
 Alexander Lightfoot Manly -Monte McClain

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE Acts 10:9-23 - Linda Davis

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD "Reformata, Semper Reformanda"
 - Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "Just As I Am" - The Blue Hymnal #370

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 "Lift Every Voice" - The Blue Hymnal #563, v2

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG "His Eye Is On The Sparrow" - Glory to God #661

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 Amani Ya Mungu (Swahili)

POSTLUDE "Sir Duke"

Reflections on Today's Readings

Acts 10:9-23

Our reading today is rarely preached on, even though the story of the double conversion of Peter and Cornelius is foundational to our understanding of the Way of Jesus.

The entire story is told in Acts 10:1-44. We hear the middle portion, the vision that Peter receives that leads to a re-formation of his way of understanding God and his neighbor. While Cornelius and his family are transformed, choosing to follow the Way of Jesus. Peter is transformed, converted from a type of racism and tribalism to a wider vision of who God loves, blesses, and includes in the Kingdom of God described in the Beatitudes (*Matthew 5:1-12 – which we read last week*).

Like other faithful, observant Jews of his day, Peter would never eat any food that was unclean, or not kosher: forbidden according to God in the Torah (*the definitive list is in Leviticus 11*). In the same way, Peter would never associate or be in relationship with non-Jews, or Gentiles. This too was commanded by God, supposedly to keep the Israelites from idolatry and following other gods. (*said throughout the Hebrew scriptures, such as in Ezra 9; 1 Kings 11; Leviticus 7, 11; and Numbers 19*). In this trance epiphany, Peter moves to a new place. He never eats anything, but he does welcome these Gentiles into his home. He moves from what we today might call racist supremacy to a God-given affirming vision of equality and solidarity.

This expanded vision is what Jesus talks of as eyes to see and ears to hear. It's understanding that is God-given. A sort of conversion. While we might not be shackled by the legacy of kosher laws and ancient laws, as Peter was, we are shackled by history and our own journeys. Can one person really make a difference? Can we actually do anything on our own, with our own agency, as Albert Camus and the Existentialists would say? Or, are we trapped under the weight of society and history, like Franz Kafka described? Is our life determined by nature or nurture? Is it predetermined; or ours to write? Or is it maybe a bit of both? As Presbyterians our rallying cry harkens back to this truth of the Way of Jesus: *Ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda!* That is we are called to be: the church reformed, always reforming, according to the Word of God and the call of the Spirit.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged, enraged, or surprised you in this text?
- How do you hunger for the Spirit of God to give you expanded vision – eyes to see and ears to hear?
- 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?

February Birthdays

4 William Markman 2008 8 Dixie Lind *turning 100!*
9 Angel Carney 2002 16 Myrna Shadley

Today at & around CAPC Oakland

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

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) – Tuesdays 7:00pm on Zoom

There is no class this week as it's Valentine's Day.

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.

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

Discover Your Spiritual Type Class Thursdays at 6pm on Zoom.

More info on our website. Use this QR Code to go straight there. Reread chapter 2 for this week's class.



Black History Month We're celebrating all month long the diverse beauty of God's good creation and our shared history. *Joy Barnes is sharing with Bill Beatty next week.* We also are doing a book club around the book *What Kind of Christianity* by William Yoo. Our first book club meet up is this Wed., February 16th at which we'll be discussing chapters 1- 3. You can join the Zoom call at 12pm or 7pm.

Tax letters regarding 2022 donations have been mailed out. Didn't get yours? Or need to correct it? Contact Mahri in the office at capc.manager@gmail.com

Thank You to Today's Leadership:

Black History Month Sharing: Monte McClain
Godly Play: David Kittams
Music: Pete Feltman, Dave Eagle, Ben Kramarz, Roger Kim
Prayer Liturgist: Myrna Shadley
Reader-Liturgist: Linda Davis
Video Tech: Albert Hussian, Dann Wilkens, Thom Faulkner

Sign up for our electronic newsletter to be the most up to date on activities and opportunities.



LYRICS & RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

We affirm that God is neither male 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 our use of gender inclusive language

Come With Me (Hamba Nathi)

South African traditional: English; Zulu

Translator: Gerhard M. Cartford

© Lutheran World Federation

Zulu

Hamba nathi, kululu wethu.

Hamba nathi, kululu wethu.

Hamba nathi, kululu wethu.

Hamba nathi, kululu wethu.

Kululu, kululu, kululu wethu

Kululu, kululu, kululu wethu

Kululu, kululu, kululu wethu

English

Come with me for the journey is long.

Come with me for the journey is long.

Come with me for the journey is long.

the journey is long.

the journey is long.

the journey is long.

Call to Worship ~

One: God, you love us more than we can fathom.

More than we deserve,

more than we have paid forward.

**ALL: When we are a hot mess,
rejecting others because of our own fears
of being replaced, of being rejected,
our insecurity, you; you stand by us.**

One: When we are blinded by our history,

shackled by our trauma,

paralyzed by our self-doubt –

you whisper word of love, comfort and courage.

**ALL: The score seems too much to overcome,
the journey too far to survive;
but you call time-out
– huddling us in your arms,
telling us when no one else does that we are
special, that though broken we're perfect,
that you will always love us the same.**

One: We tread water in a world where we're told the problem is others different than us, or our past, or our lack of being-good-enough.

All: But you, you remind us that the problem is that we forget we're not in control, we're not you – we see too small, we hope too little, we dream too tiny.

One: Holy One – You who called Abraham and Sarah to a new country,

All: who called Esther to such a time as this,

One: who invited Peter to become a rock,

All: Open our eyes to see,

our ears to hear,

that we might walk in the light of your Way.

Be Thou My Vision

Ancient Irish; Irish, ca. 700

*Translator: Mary E. Byrne; Versifier: Eleanor H. Hull
The Blue Presbyterian Hymnal #339*

1. Be thou my vision O lord of my heart
Nought 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
Still be my vision O ruler of all

3. Riches I heed not nor vain empty praise
Thou mine inheritance now and always
Thou and thou only first in my heart
Great God 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

Just As I Am

Tune: Woodworth

Lyrics: Charlotte Elliott

1. Just as I am without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that thou biddest me come to Thee
O lamb of God I come I come

Chorus

Just as I am, I come, I come

2. Just as I am though tossed about
With many a conflict many a doubt
Fightings and fears within without
O lamb of God I come, I come

3. Just as I am Thou wilt receive
Wilt welcome pardon cleanse relieve
Because Thy promise I believe
O lamb of God I come, I come

4. Just as I am Thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down
Now to be Thine yea Thine alone
O lamb of God I come I come

Lift Every Voice

Author: James and Rosamond Johnson (1900)

The Blue Presbyterian Hymnal #563

Glory to God #339

2. Stony the road we trod,
bitter the chastening rod
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died
Yet with a steady beat,
have not our weary feet
Come to the place
for which our parents sighed
We have come over a way
that with tears has been watered
We have come treading
our path through the blood
of the slaughtered
Out of the gloomy past,
till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam
of our bright star is cast

His Eye Is On The Sparrow

Civilla D. Martin (1905)

Glory to God Hymnal #661

1. Why should I feel discouraged,
why should the shadows come?
Why should my heart be lonely
and long for heaven and home
When Jesus is my portion,
my constant friend is he
His eye is on the sparrow
and I know he watches me
His eye is on the sparrow
and I know he watches me

chorus

I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free
His eye is on the sparrow
and I know he watches me

2. Let not your heart be troubled
his tender word I hear
And resting on his goodness
I lose my doubts and fears
though by the path he leadeth
but one step I may see
His eye is on the sparrow
and I know he watches me
His eye is on the sparrow
and I know he watches me

3. Whenever I am tempted
whenever clouds arise
When song gives place to sighing
when hope within me dies
I draw closer to him from care
he sets me free
His eye is on the sparrow
and I know he watches me
His eye is on the sparrow
and I know he watches me