

College Avenue Presbyterian Church  
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# THIS IS THE WAY

telling it like it is - the power of testimony

February 19, 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 "Sometimes I Feel Like A Motherless Child"

GATHERING SONG "I Owe My Lord A Morning Song" - Insert

CALL TO WORSHIP - Sharon Nelson

SONG OF PRAISE "As The Windsong" - Glory to God #292

HEARING GOD'S WORD

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE 2 Timothy 1:1-9 - Sharon Nelson

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD "Telling It Like Is: The Power of Testimony"

CELEBRATING GOD'S GOOD CREATION IN BLACK HISTORY MONTH  
 - A Conversation with Joy Barnes curated by Bill Beatty

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "For All The Faithful Women" - Glory to God # 324

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, v3

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG "God Of Grace And God Of Glory" - The Blue Hymnal #420

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 "Lonesome Fiddle Blues"

## Reflections on Today's Readings

### 2 Timothy 1:1-9

Our reading today is from the very beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> letter of pastoral advice written by the Apostle Paul to his protégé and partner in ministry, Timothy.

By the time of Timothy's ministry, things are beginning to shift in the life of the Christian community. The community is no longer associated with Judaism. The rabbinical leaders made those who were both Jewish and followers of Jesus choose at some point during the first century. What we call today "the Church" were folks first called "people of the Way" (at least according to Acts 11:26 where it's translated as "Christians"). The other big thing is a generational change. Increasingly, followers of Jesus never personally knew or experienced him, or are taught by people that hadn't. It's becoming a community that is centered around proclamation and testimony of what one has experienced. More like us than the original church; focused on words and hearing as opposed to eyes and seeing.

Paul speaks of the power of relationships in faith. Referring to Timothy's grandmother Eunice and mother Lois, he points out that relationships are the context in which we share our stories with one another.

Nathan Bransford, a current author and writing coach explains that: "Our entire worldview and memories are created out of our stories. Two people can witness the same event, process and interpret it completely differently and reach completely different conclusions about what just happened. And that's before the fluid and corrosive effects of memory take hold. The reality of the actual event, even if it was recorded on film, blurs into the past. In its place: Stories, our way of interpreting what we have seen, which is all we have to make sense of what passes before our eyes."

Today we hear a bit of the story of Timothy that Paul calls out as a way to make sense of his call as a minister. We also hear some of the story of Joy Barnes – which makes sense not just of "her" story, but also to our own, through which we make sense of life.



#### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged, enraged, or surprised you in this text?
- If someone asked you what the story of your faith development – how you experienced faith in your childhood/youth – how would you answer?
- 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?

## 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**  
Matthew 4:1-11 & Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

**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.  
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. *Louise Waters is sharing 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 22<sup>nd</sup> at which we'll be discussing chapters 4-5. You can join the Zoom call at 12pm or 7pm.

**Lent Devotionals.** Pick up your copy of the daily devotional for Lent. Copies are in the entryway.

**Sing Jam.** - Musical History Tour! Today at 4:30pm in the Sanctuary. More info at [www.singjam.org](http://www.singjam.org)

**Ash Wednesday.** We're celebrating the beginning of Lent – Wednesday night at 6pm with a meditation service on Zoom.

#### Thank You to Today's Leadership:

Black History Month Sharing: Joy Barnes with Bill Beatty  
Godly Play: David Kittams

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

Prayer Liturgist: Myrna Shadley

Presider: Pete Feltman

Reader-Liturgist: Sharon Nelson

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*

### I Owe My Lord A Morning Song

John L. Bell | Iona Abbey Music Book, p. 58.  
2003 © WGRG, Iona Community, Glasgow, UK

1. I owe my Lord a morning song  
For God has meant this day.  
Through fears of night and hidden light  
God moves and wills my way.

2. I owe my Lord a morning song  
For Jesus rose at dawn;  
He made death die and would not lie  
That others might live on.

3. I owe my Lord a morning song;  
The spirit gave me voice,  
Nor did she force my soul to praise  
But honored me with choice.

4. I owe my Lord a morning son.  
How can I help but sing  
When God is all in all, and  
I am one with everything.

### Call to Worship ~ Psalm 89, 90:1-2; Psalm 113:5-9

One: Your love, God, is my song, and I'll sing it!  
I'm forever telling everyone how faithful you are.

**ALL: I'll never quit telling the story of your love—**

**how you built the cosmos  
and guaranteed everything in it.**

One: Your love has always been our lives' foundation,  
your fidelity has been the roof over our world.

**ALL: God-of-the-Angel-Armies,  
who is like you,**

**powerful and faithful from every angle?**

ONE: Lord, you have been our dwelling place -  
our home where we flourish -  
in all generations.

from "once upon a time" to "kingdom come"—  
you are God.

**ALL: You are higher than anything and any-  
one,**

**outshining everything you can see in the  
skies.**

One: Who can compare with you God:  
the One who makes a way where there is no  
way?

**ALL: The Lord picks up the poor  
from out of the dirt,**

**rescues the forgotten**

**who've been thrown out with the trash,**

One: Seats them among the honored guests,  
a place of honor among the brightest and best.

**ALL: The Lord gives childless couples -  
shunned for their barrenness**

**- the hope and future of a family -**

**gives them joy as the parents of children.**

One: God of Life,  
in this time of division and dysfunction,

**ALL: Of polarization and partisanship,**

One: Of inflation and growing fear about  
changes and the future,

**ALL: You promise to be with us, to carry us;  
to journey with us**

One: though the mountains should fall,  
the Stock Market tumble,

or our vision of the truth be self-concerned.

**ALL: God who gave courage to Esther;**

One: life to Lazarus;

**ALL: and sight to Bartimaeus,  
Who can compare with you?**

### As The Windsong (風之頌)

*Shirley Erena Murray (2004)  
Glory to God Hymnal # 292*

1 As the wind song through the trees,  
as the stirring of the breeze,  
so it is with the Spirit of God,  
as the heart made strangely warm,  
as the voice within the storm,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.  
Never seen, ever known  
where this wind has blown  
bringing life, bringing power to the world,  
as the dancing tongues of fire,  
as the soul's most deep desire,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.

2 As the rainbow after rain,  
as the hope that's born again,  
so it is with the Spirit of God,  
as the green in the spring,  
as a kite on a string,  
so it is with the Spirit of God,  
making worlds that are new,

making peace come true,  
bringing gifts, bringing love to the world,  
as the rising of the yeast,  
as the wine at the feast,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.

### **For All The Faithful Women**

*Herman G. Stuempfle*

*Text © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.*

*Glory to God #324*

1. For all the faithful women  
who served in days of old,  
To you shall thanks be given;  
to all, their story told.  
They served with strength and gladness  
in tasks your wisdom gave.  
To you their lives bore witness,  
proclaimed your power to save.
2. We praise your name for Miriam,  
who sang triumphantly  
while Pharaoh's vaunted army  
lay drowned beneath the sea;  
For Ruth, who left her homeland  
and ventured forth in faith,  
Who pledged to serve and worship  
Naomi's God till death.
3. We sing of busy Martha,  
who toiled with pot and pan  
While Mary sat in silence  
to hear the word again.  
We praise the other Mary,  
who hastened to the tomb  
And found her Lord arisen,  
dispelling doubt and gloom.
4. Lord, hear our praise of Dorcas,  
who served the sick and poor.  
Her hands were cups of kindness,  
her heart an open door.  
O God, for saints and servants,  
our fervent prayer we raise,  
That, faith, in your service,  
our lives may sing your praise.

### **Lift Every Voice**

*Author: James and Rosamond Johnson (1900)*

*The Blue Presbyterian Hymnal #563*

*Glory to God #339*

3. God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
thou who hast brought us  
thus far on the way,  
thou who hast by thy might  
led us into the light,  
keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God,  
where we met thee;  
lest our hearts,  
drunk with the wine of the world,  
we forget thee;  
shadowed beneath thy hand,  
may we forever stand,  
true to our God,  
true to our native land.

### **God Of Grace And God Of Glory**

*Harry Emerson Fosdick (1930, alt.)*

*Glory to God #307*

*Blue Presbyterian 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.