

College Avenue Presbyterian Church  
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Sunday • April 23, 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 you 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 Keep Falling In Love With Him"

#### GATHERING SONG

"Called As Partners In Christ's Service"

- *Glory to God # 761*

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

- *John LaMotte*

#### SONG OF PRAISE

"Lord You Have Come To The Lakeshore"

- *Insert*

*Children are invited to depart for Godly Play upstairs with today's Story-Teller*

#### LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

#### HEARING SCRIPTURE

John 21:1-25

- *John LaMotte*

#### PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

"What is the Good?"

- *Rev. Monte McClain*

#### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

#### ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF DEACONS & ELDERS

#### SONG OF RESPONSE

"You Hear The Lambs A-Cryin"

- *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

#### OFFERING SONG

"More Love To Thee, O Christ"

- *Blue Hymnal #359*

#### THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

#### SENDING SONG

"On The Sea Of Life"

- *Insert*

#### SENDING CALL AND RESPONSE

Leader: God is good!

Leader: And all the time!

**People: All the time!**

**People: God is good!**

#### EXHORTATION & BENEDICTION

#### PASSING THE PEACE OF GOD

- *Traditional Easter Greeting*

**"Christ is Risen. "He (Christ) is risen indeed!"**

#### POSTLUDE

"I'm Sitting On Top Of The World"

## Reflections on Today's Readings

### John 21:1-25

Today's scripture is contains a story about a failed fishing trip that echoes the story of the calling of the disciples in Luke 5. Jesus calls them from their life as fishermen to a vocation of fishing for people. Then Jesus has a fish-fry sort of meal with his friends, followed by a fireside come-to-Jesus chat with Peter. Known as the leader of the disciples, he was also the leader in their failing. Jesus talks to him following his brazen and boisterous denying of knowing Jesus, let alone following Jesus around the fire outside the meeting of the Sanhedrin where Jesus was condemned. Jesus reminds him of his vocation, and identity not through retribution and anger but through redemptive love. The same love that he – and all of us by extension – are to show for the lambs and sheep that belong to Jesus: everyone.

The German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche (*the person you've never hear of who has most shaped your life & our culture*) wrote about human identity and mastery. The son and grandson of pastors, he took issue with Jesus' approach to leadership and personhood.

In his famous treatise "The Anti-Christ" §2 he wrote:

"What is good? Everything that heightens the feeling of power in man, the will to power, power itself.

What is bad? Everything that is born of weakness.

What is happiness? The feeling that power is *growing*, that resistance is overcome.

The weak and ill-constituted shall perish: first principle of *our* philanthropy. And one shall help them to do so.

What is more harmful than any vice? – Active sympathy for the ill-constituted and weak – Christianity..."

Jesus in talking with Peter says that helping others, tending to his sheep is what life is about. Nietzsche thought that rather than be other-centered a truly alive person was self-focused, self-realized, a master of one's own destiny. Looking at the history of the Church, seeing the damage and destruction caused through colonialism, imperialism and sexual abuse scandals (among many things) one has to wonder if the Church has more often followed the philosophical advice of Nietzsche than the vocation of Jesus.

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged, enraged, or surprised you in this text?
- John alone includes these stories about this fish-fry & fire-side chat with Peter. Why? Do we need them?
- What does it mean to care for the lambs and sheep of Jesus? Is this also our vocation? What might that look like in today's (post) Covid world?
- How do you hear the Spirit of God speaking to you – or to us, as a church, through this word of scripture?

## April Birthdays

12 Chuck Marut

13 Toni Proulx

18 Carol Dolezal

20 Kelechi Okereke

25 Dann Wilkens

### 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.

**Godly Play:** we're beginning in person Godly Play today! Our Godly Players will stay with us in worship through the second song then head up to do their work and fun together in the Godly Play room.

### This Week at & around CAPC Oakland

**Community Bible Study (Wrestling with Scripture) – Tues 7pm on Zoom |**

**Friday Night Meal – Fridays 6:00-7:00PM.**

Sign up online to help with set-up, serving, and clean-up – this -or *any* Friday!

**Ann Iverson Sharing about work at the border – Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup> @6pm on Zoom**

Ann just returned from a trip to the Texas border to volunteer with Team Brownsville, an organization dedicated to assisting those seeking asylum on both sides of the border. Hear about her experience – and consider going next year!

**Women's Group:** Saturday 9:30-10:30am on Zoom.

**R U a Heretic ? Wednesdays at 7pm on Zoom. –** Thinking through your own faith as we look at the historic heresies. This week we're looking at syncretism & Tatian as we contemplate the relationship between faith/the Church & science/the Academy. No burning or torture will take place in this class. *More info online.*

**Next Sunday we're celebrating newlyweds Gary Yee & Louise Waters – in worship and after!**

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

Godly Play: Jesus appears to Thomas

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

Prayer Liturgist:

Reader-Liturgist: John LaMotte

Video Tech: Thom Faulkner, Dann Wilkens, Albert Hussian

## 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*

### “Called As Partners In Christ's Service”

*Jane Parker Huber (1981)  
Glory to God Hymnal #761*

1. Called as partners in Christ's service  
Called to ministries of grace  
We respond with deep commitment  
Fresh new lines of faith to trace  
May we learn the art of sharing  
Side by side and friend with friend  
Equal partners in our caring  
To fulfil God's chosen end
2. Christ's example Christ's inspiring  
Christ's clear call to work and worth  
Let us follow never faltering  
Reconciling folk on earth  
Men and women richer poorer  
All God's people young and old  
Blending human skills together  
Gracious gifts from God unfold
3. Thus new patterns for Christ's mission  
In a small or global sense  
Help us bear each other's burdens  
Breaking down each wall or fence  
Words of comfort words of vision  
Words of challenge said with care  
Bring new power and strength for action  
Make us colleagues free and fair
4. So God grant us for tomorrow  
Ways to order human life  
That surround each person's sorrow  
With a calm that conquers strife  
Make us partners in our living  
Our compassion to increase  
Messengers of faith thus giving  
Hope and confidence and peace

**Call to Worship Opening litany** ~ adapted from a prayer by the United Methodist Church

One: Jesus calls us from the distractions of our hurried lives, saying, “Come to me.”

**ALL: Christ speaks to us in the comfort of our settled lives, saying, “Follow me.”**

One: We are among those who have heard the call, and have dared to respond to Jesus.

**ALL: We have been changed by his love, and want to walk with our risen Lord, Faithfully serving with him in the world.**

One: Let us worship God who has called each of us as his disciples.

**ALL: May we be filled, fed, and resurrected today.**

### “Lord You Have Come To The Lakeshore”

*Cesareo Gabarain*

1. You have come up to the lakeshore  
Looking neither for wise nor for wealthy  
You only wanted that I should follow

*chorus*

O Lord with Your eyes you have searched me  
And while smiling You have called out my name  
Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me  
Now with you I will seek other seas

2. You know that I own so little  
In my boat there's no money nor weapons  
You'll only find there my nets and my labor  
*chorus*

3. You need the caring of my hands  
Through my tiredness may others find resting  
You need a love that just goes on loving  
*chorus*

4. You who have fished other oceans  
Ever longed for by souls that are waiting  
My dear and good friend as thus You call me

## You Hear The Lambs A-Cryin

*Traditional spiritual | Songs of Zion #128*

*Refrain:*

You Hear the lambs a cryin ,  
hear the lambs a cryin  
Hear the lambs a cryin  
Oh shepherd feed a my sheep

1. My savior spoke these words so sweet  
Oh shepherd feed a my sheep  
Saint Peter if you love me feed a my sheep  
Oh shepherd feed a my sheep  
My lord I love thee thou dost know  
Oh shepherd feed a my sheep  
Oh give me grace to love thee more  
Oh shepherd feed a my sheep

## More Love To Thee, O Christ

*Elizabeth Payson Prentiss (1856)  
Blue Hymnal #359 | Glory to God #828*

1. More love to Thee, O Christ,  
More love to Thee!  
Hear Thou the prayer I make  
On bended knee.  
This is my earnest plea:  
More love, O Christ, to Thee;  
More love to Thee,  
More love to Thee!

2 Once earthly joy I craved,  
Sought peace and rest;  
Now Thee alone I seek,  
Give what is best.  
This all my prayer shall be:  
More love, O Christ to Thee;  
More love to Thee,  
More love to Thee!

3 Then shall my latest breath  
Whisper Thy praise;  
This be the parting cry  
My heart shall raise;  
This still its prayer shall be:  
More love, O Christ to Thee;  
More love to Thee,  
More love to Thee!

## On The Sea Of Life

*Melody: TS Sloan*

*Lyrics: George Sebren*

1. We are on the sea of life  
sailing to a better home  
where the saved of all of the earth shall abide  
we've got all our trials here many pleasures  
wait us there  
when we cross the foam  
and reach the other side

*chorus*

(sailing on)

we are sailing onward sailing  
sailing on a foam

we are talking to the captain  
as the angry billows hum

(sailing to)

soon, yes soon we'll reach the harbor  
and be safely o'er the tide

we are going onward, to the other side

2. We've a captain brave and true  
who will guide us o'er the blue  
And will shield us when the storms hover nigh  
He can still the angry wave  
and from evil he can save  
If we'll trust Him and His loving promise try
3. Many millions now abide  
in that home beyond the tide  
where the ransomed pilgrims  
wade free from care  
there is room on board for all  
who will heed the captains call  
and take ship for heaven's country  
bright and fair