

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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If a picture is 1,000 words, how many pictures are in a word?



Sunday • July 30, 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.

As a community we are committed to inclusivity and mutual empowerment which is why all our community gatherings are hybrid. *(both in person and via Zoom).*

This allows us to gather together and be consistent with our values and commitments.

In our community, face masks are not required, but always welcome. We want you to do to what you need to do for you! Masks are available in the entry.

CHILDREN

We have Godly Play – “Sunday School” for children during our service. It’s a Montessori-like approach to teaching children language to use to learn to express faith through the telling of Bible Stories. The Godly Play group and leaders leave for their arranged learning space after the 2nd song.

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.’

WI-FI

Want Wi-Fi during our gathering?
Select our network - Capc1.
Our password is 5106583666

CCL #1137062

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

PRELUDE “What A Friend We Have In Jesus”

GATHERING SONG “Leaning On The Everlasting Arms” - *Glory to God #837*

CALL TO WORSHIP - *Sharon Nelson*

SONG OF PRAISE “Precious Lord Take My Hand” - *The Blue Hymnal #404*

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

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

HEARING SCRIPTURE Luke 10:25-37 - *Sharon Nelson*

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD “The Road Less Traveled” - *Rev. Monte McClain*

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE “Make me a channel of your peace” - *Glory to God #753*

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 “We Cannot Measure How You Heal ” - *Insert, v2*

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG “How Firm A Foundation” - *The Blue Hymnal #361*

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 “La Paix du Christ” - *French*

POSTLUDE “Keep Your Lamp Trimmed And Burning”

Reflections on Today's Readings

Luke 10:25-37

We continue our summer series wrestling with the three words we've used to describe our church mission and ethos. It's *both* who we are *and* who we aspire to become. Today were talking about SAFE. What does it mean for the church to be a safe place or space? For whom is it safe? From what/whom is it safe? Is safety even a Christian value?



Our scripture today is famously known as the parable of the Good Samaritan. Jesus is asked a question by a theological scholar who probably already knows the correct answer. He's asking to test or embarrass Jesus in public. Yet the scholar gets more than he bargained for when he is challenged to leave behind the safety of the way that he sees God, the world, and even himself.

He asks Jesus about eternal life. Jesus answers saying if you do this then you will live not just in the future, but fully today – here and now. Love God with all of who you are and love your neighbor in that same way is the answer. But the scholar reveals his innate racism and sense of superiority in insisting on defining who is neighbor is and isn't.

For the Israelites of Jesus' age the Samaritans were sort of bastard cousins, they were the butt of all the jokes, deemed to be impure because they didn't worship God in the right place, used some imperfect texts and were racially impure – having mixed with foreign populations during the Exile.

In Jesus' parable it's the most unlikely person who is the hero, who does God's will. It should be the priest or Levite – the most religious or esteemed to be holy people in society. But instead, it's the outcast, the foreigner, the reject who is strong, courageous, and faith-full. Jesus invites the scholar – who seemingly knows God's word and thus knows God – to surrender, admit his lack of sight, to let go of his pride, to trust God's vision of a larger community. In a way Jesus is teaching him to be willing to die in order to live, to let go in order to receive. How can the scholar know God when he expects God to hate all the same people that he does?

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged, enraged, or surprised you in these texts?
- Jesus' story is so familiar that we don't see that for the Jewish people of that day it was impossible for a Samaritan to be good. What keeps us, or you, today from extending hospitality and safety to others outside of our circles? How is Jesus calling us to be like the Samaritan?
- 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? What invitation do you hear the Spirit of God speaking to you – *or to us* – through this word of scripture?

July Birthdays

11 Dave Eagle	11 Gloria Lim
11 Ann Iverson	13 Alana D'Attilio
15 Chris Olson	21 Chickwendu Okereke
22 Kaya Ramirez Blake	24 Maya Patil
27 John LaMotte	31 Lisa Wu

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

Quilters Club (a new small group!) Mondays 10a-12p, in the library. No experience required.

Community Bible Study – Tuesday 7:00-8:00PM on Zoom. We're wrestling together with the book of 1 Samuel. This week we're reading 1 Samuel 2:13-3:19. Resources & info online at www.capcoakland.org/wrestling-with-scripture



National Night Out – Tuesday, August 1st – everywhere! The first Tuesday in August is annually the NNO – a time to gather with neighbors to be out in our neighborhoods for potlucks, meet-ups, fun designed to help us know one another and be community. You can find the list of NNO street parties in Oakland with this QR Code.



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

Sign up online to help with set-up, serving, and clean-up – this -or *any* Friday! This coming Friday Gary Yee is heading up the cooking team!

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

Theology on Tap– Talk to Monte about helping to choose a monthly meeting date/time.

Process Theology Reading –Process Theology is one of the newer ways of thinking about Christian faith. Pick up a reading today (or find it online in our newsletter) We'll discuss it in early August!

Staff Vacation News Pete Feltman will be on vacation Sundays, August 6th and 13th.

Thank You to Today's Leadership:

Godly Play: Beth Beatty

Liturgist-Prayer: Myrna Shadley

Liturgist-Reader: Sharon Nelson

Music: Pete Feltman, Dave Eagle, Josephine Hass, Tom Beyer.

Video Tech: Dann Wilkens, Thom Faulkner, 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

“Leaning On The Everlasting Arms”

*tune: Showalter text: E A Hoffman
Glory to God #837*

1. What a fellowship what a joy divine
Leaning on the everlasting arms
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine
Leaning on the everlasting arms

Chorus
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms

2. Oh how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way
Leaning on the everlasting arms
Oh how bright the path grows from day to day
Leaning on the everlasting arms

3. What have I to dread what have I to fear
Leaning on the everlasting arms
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near
Leaning on the everlasting arms

Call to Worship Opening litany

*~ taken from www.ministrymatters.com
The people read the bold*

One: How are you this morning?

ALL: It would be easy for us to say “fine, thank you”, but the truth is that there are lots of things going on in your lives, lots of time crunches and pressures.

One: You have come to the right place. Rest for a minute. Take a deep breath and let it out slowly. Just relax and let your heart be open to God's word for you.

ALL: That sounds good to us.

One: Feel the healing, soothing power of God's love for you.

ALL: Lord, we rest our minds, spirits, and hearts in your compassionate love.

Amen.

“Precious Lord Take My Hand”

*Author: Thomas Andrew Dorsey (1938)
Glory to God #834 | The Presbyterian Hymnal #404
© 1938, ren. Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.*

1. Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm worn
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

2. When my way grows drear
precious Lord, linger near
When my life is almost gone
Hear my cry, hear my call
Hold my hand lest I fall
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

“Make me a channel of your peace”

Adapter: Sebastian Temple; Author (attributed to): St. Francis of Assisi | © 1967, OCP Publications. | Glory to God #753

1. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, Your pardon, Lord;
And where there's doubt, true faith in You.

Chorus

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love with all my soul.

2. Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

3. Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
In giving to all men that we receive
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

We cannot measure how you heal

*John L. Bell & Graham Maule (1989)
The Irish Presbyterian Hymnbook #367
Glory to God #797*

2. The pain that will not go away,
the guilt that clings from things long past,
the fear of what the future holds,
are present as if meant to last.
But present too is love which tends
the hurt we never hoped to find,
the private agonies inside,
the memories that haunt the mind.

How Firm A Foundation

*Tune: Foundation, American folk melody
Author: K. (1787); Author (attributed to): George Keith (1787);
Author (attributed to): R. Keen (c. 1787)
The Presbyterian Hymnal #361 | Glory to God #463*

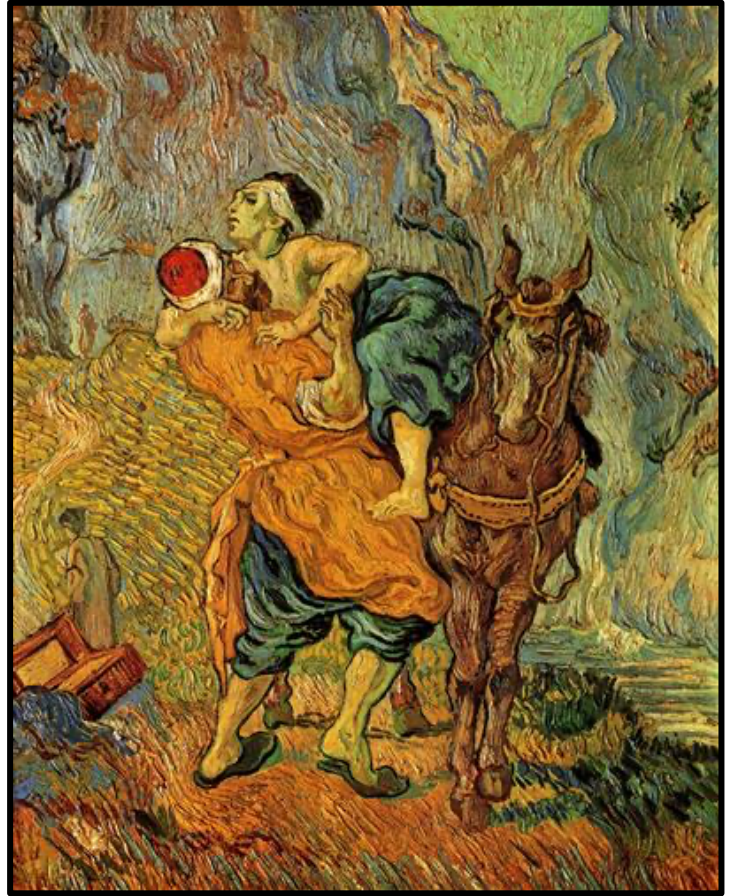
1. How firm a foundation ye saints of the Lord
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent word
What more can be said than to you God hath said
To you for refuge to Jesus have fled

2. Fear not I am with thee O be not dismayed
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid
I'll strengthen thee, help thee and cause thee to
stand
Upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand

3. When through the deep waters I call thee to go
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow
For I will be near thee thy troubles to bless
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress

4. When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie
My grace all sufficient shall be thy supply
The flame shall not hurt thee I only design
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine

5. The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to it's foes
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake
I'll never, no never, no never forsake



*"The Good Samaritan"
By Vincent Van Gogh*