

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



Sunday • August 6, 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 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 Goldy Play group and leaders leave for their arranged learning space after the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 you 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

GATHERING SONG “We are the Family of God” - Insert

CALL TO WORSHIP - Louise Waters

SONG OF PRAISE “Crowded Table” - Insert

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

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

HEARING SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 11:17-34; 12:12-14, 25-31; 13:1-13  
 - Louise Waters

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD “Choosing Not to Play it Safe”  
 - Rev. Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

COMING TO THE TABLE

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.**

COMMUNION – BEING NOURISHED IN OUR JOURNEY OF FAITH

AS WE CELEBRATE THE COMMUNION MEAL YOU ARE INVITED TO COME FORWARD TO RECEIVE BREAD AND A CUP FROM OUR SERVERS IN THE CENTER SPACE. WE WELCOME ALL WHO HUNGER FOR THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TABLE SONG “One Body, One Bread” - Glory to God #530

OFFERING SONG “They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love ” -Insert

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG “The Summons” - Glory to God #726

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

## Reflections on Today's Readings

### 1 Corinthians 11:17-34; 12:12-14, 25-31; 13:1-13

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 we were talking about SAFE. We've lived in a time of intense focus on safety. Not just through the years of intense COVID contagion, but back to 9/11 and the first foreign terrorist attack in our country, when we our national psyche began to ask if we are actually safe?

The dictionary defines safety as "the condition of being safe from undergoing or causing hurt, injury, or loss." But being safe isn't just about not having negative or threatening risks, it's also about being fulfilled, contented, alive. This summer our national (*and global*) culture has been intensely flavored by the Eras concert tour of Taylor Swift. A recent article in the NY Times talked about why that concert series (and other concerts and movies – think Barbie and Oppenheimer) have been so massive in our collective psyche.

In these concerts - both performers and audiences are finding a cathartic rush - and *"as I've experienced on multiple occasions, it's a chance to step outside of life and feel overwhelmed in the best possible way. For all the extravagance of this year's tours, I think our concert summer is being powered by a simpler idea: a reminder of just how good it feels to be in the presence of one another once again."* [Read more of the NY Times opinion piece by Elamin Adelmahmoud with this QR Code.]



Another article making the rounds this week is by Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber. It too reflects upon safety both in and from the church. Writing about what the church – and the decreasing attendance numbers in community of those following the Way of Jesus – might be like if we knew we only had 5 years she says, *"...people don't seem to leave the church because they no longer believe in the beauty of Jesus and his teachings. People leave the church because they believe in the beauty of Jesus and his teaching so much that they can no longer stomach being part of an institution that says it's about that and so clearly is not."* [Read the whole of piece by Bolz-Weber with this QR Code.]



Paul writes to the church in Corinth to tell them to stop playing it safe, according to the values of culture – to risk it all and surrender themselves to the fiercely transformative power of being loved by Jesus and loving other in return.

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged, enraged, or surprised you in these texts?
- 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?

## August Birthdays

5 Lori Castner  
12 Sharon Nelson  
22 Patrice Trowbridge  
5 Amber Beatty 2011  
12 David Kittams  
25 Margaret Smith

## August Anniversaries

10 Thom and Tina Faulkner 2002  
30 Monte and Kristy Parsons McClain 1997

## 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

**TODAY ~ Community Organizing Training** – right after service with Chris Moreno of Faith in Action (East Bay) – *in the Library* • 30 minutes.

**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 4:1-7:1. Resources & info online at [www.capcoakland.org/wrestling-with-scripture](http://www.capcoakland.org/wrestling-with-scripture)



**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 our partners of 3 Crosses Meal Ministry are heading up the cooking team!

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

**Thinking Theologically** – Process Theology is one of the newer ways of thinking about Christian faith. Pick up a reading today (or find it on our Thinking Theologically web page with this QR Code.) *Vote in the survey to help us choose a date to meet and talk.*



**Staff Vacation News** Pete Feltman will be on vacation Sundays, August 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Campus News** – This Tuesday 8/8 the Presbytery votes on approving our Synod Loans which will enable us to move forward with the new roof and solar system.

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

Godly Play: Beth Beatty

Music: Karl Shadley & Kristy Parsons McClain

## 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*

### “We are the Family of God”

*W&M: Jon Byron | ©1976 Jon Byron*

1. We are the family of God,  
Yes, we are the family of God,  
And God's's brought us together  
To be one in Him,  
That we might bring light to the world.

2. Go make disciples of all lives  
Go show them my way is true.  
Tell them the wonderful story  
That they might be one in me, too.

3. Let them know life in the making.  
Let them know peace from above.  
Show them by your own example  
Of Love in the family of God.

4. Bigger and better is my love  
That I have bestowed unto you.  
And now it's for each one to share of,  
That all things might now become new

### Call to Worship Opening litany

*~ written by Michael Burch in The New Manual of Worship by Nancy E. Hall. **The people read the bold***

One: God within, live through us,  
**ALL: we are the embodiment and the voice  
of the Sacred.**

One: God above, descend into our lives  
and into our hearts.  
**ALL: we are your prophets of peace and renewal.**

One: God the Invisible, be ever near,  
**ALL: we know your presence  
through kindness and generosity.**

One: God the Compassionate and Merciful One,  
**ALL: you sustain us with gratitude  
and guide us by hope.**

One: God of Mystery and Surprise,  
**ALL: empower us with vision and joyful resolve  
to be your united people. Amen.**

### “Crowded Table”

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

You can hold my hand  
When you need to let go  
I can be your mountain  
When you're feeling valley-low  
I can be your streetlight  
Showing you the way home  
You can hold my hand  
When you need to let go

I want a house with a crowded table  
And a place by the fire for everyone  
Let us take on the world while we're able  
And bring us back together when the day is done

If we want a garden  
We're gonna have to sow the seed  
Plant a little happiness  
Let the roots run deep  
If it's love that we give  
Then it's love that we reap  
If we want a garden  
We're gonna have to sow the seed

Yeah I want a house with a crowded table  
And a place by the fire for everyone  
Let us take on the world while we're young and able  
And bring us back together when the day is done

The door is always open  
Your picture's on my wall  
Everyone's a little broken  
And everyone belongs  
Yeah, everyone belongs

I want a house with a crowded table  
And a place by the fire for everyone  
Let us take on the world while we're young and able  
And bring us back together when the day is done  
And bring us back together when the day is done

### “One Body, One Bread”

*Author: John B. Foley, SJ (1978). | Glory to God #530*

1. One bread, one body,  
One Lord of all,  
One cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many,

Throughout the earth,  
We are one body in this one Lord.  
Gentile or Jew,  
Servant or free,  
Woman or man, no more

2. One bread, one body,  
One Lord of all,  
One cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many,  
Throughout the earth,  
We are one body in this one Lord.  
Many the gifts,  
Many the works,  
One in the Lord of all.

3. One bread, one body,  
One Lord of all,  
One cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many,  
Throughout the earth,  
We are one body in this one Lord.  
Grain for the fields,  
Scattered and grown,  
Gathered to one, for all.

4. One bread, one body,  
One Lord of all,  
One cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many,  
Throughout the earth,  
We are one body in this one Lord.

### **“They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love”**

*Author: Peter Scholtes © 1966, F.E.L. Publications | Glory to God #300*

1. We are One in The Spirit,  
We are One in The Lord.  
We are One in The Spirit,  
We are One in The Lord.  
And we pray that all unity  
may one day be restored.

#### *Chorus*

And they'll know we are Christians by our love,  
By our Love,  
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

2. We will work with each other,  
We will work side by side.  
We will work with each other,  
We will work side by side.  
And we'll guard each one's dignity

And save each one's pride.

### **“The Summons”**

*Author: John L. Bell © 1987, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Glory to God #726*

1. Will you come and follow me  
If I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
And never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
Will you let my name be known,  
Will you let my life be grown  
In you and you in me?

2. Will you leave yourself behind  
If I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
And never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
Should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer  
In you and you in me?

3. Will you let the blinded see  
If I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free  
And never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
And do such as this unseen,  
And admit to what I mean  
In you and you in me?

4. Will you love the 'you' you hide  
If I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
And never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
To reshape the world around,  
Through my sight and touch and sound  
In you and you in me?

5. Lord, your summons echoes true  
When you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
And never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
Where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
In you and you in me.