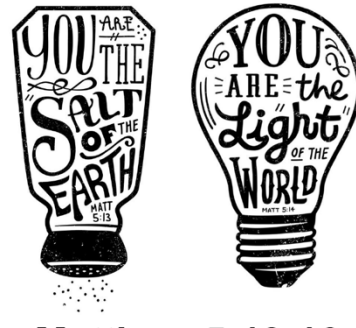


College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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Matthew 5:13-16

Sunday • September 17, 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 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 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 “Keep Your Lamp Trimmed And Burning”

GATHERING SONG “Christ Be Our Light” - Glory to God #314

CALL TO WORSHIP - Fredora Darmstadt

SONG OF PRAISE “This Little Light Of Mine” - insert
 Children are invited to depart for Godly Play upstairs with today’s Story-Teller

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

HEARING SCRIPTURE Matthew 5:13-16 - Fredora Darmstadt

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD “Our Living Matters” - Rev. Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE “A Little Bit Of Salt” - Insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER - Monte McClain

BLESSING OF THE QUILTS

WE USE A CALL AND RESPONSE LITURGICALLY PRAYED AT THE CONCLUSION OF SHARING A PRAYER.

Leader: God, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

OFFERING SONG “We All Need A Little Salt Need A Little Light” - Insert

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG “Go Make A Difference” -Insert

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 “出入平安” | “chū rù píng ān” - Cantonese

POSTLUDE “Salt Creek”

Reflections on Today's Reading Matthew 5:13-16

The main recorded teaching of Jesus is commonly called the Sermon on the Mount. It's recorded in Matthew 5-7. Today we hear the second section, which refers to the first (5:1-12). Jesus has offered a radically different vision of the world – one that is disruptive and transformative – through nine simple beatitudes or sayings. Here Jesus talks of how those who live out the Beatitudes, who embrace that way of being together, with God and within the world are portrayed as the “Light of the World” and the “Salt of the Earth.”

Saying that those that are part of this radical community of service, justice and love are “the light of the world” is a prophetic turn of poetry about salt which was the common, daily used and extremely important resource that preserved food, gave taste to food, was used in worship, to purify water, and to symbolize or “seal” covenant agreements. As salt of the earth, the community of disciples of Jesus, not the ruling elite or the synagogue, is to live this flavoring, purifying, sacrificial way of life committed to the world's well-being and loyal to God's purposes.

Saying that those that are part of this radical community of service, justice and love are “the light of the world” is a riff, and expansion upon words from the prophet Isaiah, that Israel is called by God to be “a light to the nations” (Isaiah 42:6 & 49:6). Jesus also could possibly have been contrasting the community of faith that he's gathering to the established imperial rule of the Roman Empire which the classic philosopher and writer Cicero described as a “light to the whole world”. As we saw last week, Rome's power and peace was built upon peace through violence and war, stability through colonial occupation, and economic prosperity for the elite.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged, enraged, or surprised you in these texts?
- Salt and Light are powerful images. Jesus warns that light can be dimmed or hidden, and that saltiness can be overcome by foolishness – by mixing in non-salty stuff. Jesus calls us to be different, to live an alternative lifestyle and identity in our world – living out the Beatitude vision (5:1-12) – how might that change the world?; how might the dominant world change us, keeping us from being “salty”?
- Who has been salt or light for you in your journey, showing and teaching you the Way of Jesus?
- How do you tend to forget or minimize your call to be salt and light? How do you find encouragement, strength or remember that calling?
- 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?



September Birthdays

2 Betty Trowbridge	9 Diana Geary
3 Mercy Beatty	11 Linda Davis
7 Michael Mendonca	19 Sylvan Zappin
8 Monte McClain	28 Lisa Ko

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 Mondays 10a-12p, in the library. No experience required. Today in worship we're blessing 2 quilts they've made for our sisters: Lina Foltz and Patt Schroeder.

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 19-20. Resources & info online at 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 Friday our Monte McClain is heading up the cooking! Our FNM Leadership is finalizing a new expression of norms and behaviors for our volunteers and guests. This is intended to make our FNM as safe, real, and open as possible for all.

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

Baby Shower today after worship @12:15pm Our Deacons are hosting a baby shower for Jasmine, Adam, and Suraya !

Presbytery Day – Saturday, 9/23, 10a-2:30pm @ First Pres. Berkeley – come hear Dr. William Yoo's author of *What Kind of Christianity: A History of Slavery and Anti-Black Racism in the Presbyterian Church*. More info online at www.presbyteryofsf.org.

Building News – We signed the paperwork for our loan from the synod to fund our new roof. We're waiting for an inspection from PG&E before moving ahead with our solar system work. Our Capital Campaign Team is organizing and preparing to launch our fund-raising efforts.

Thank You to Today's Leadership:

Liturgist-Prayer: Monte McClain
Liturgist-Reader: Fredora Darmstadt
Music: Pete Feltman, Dave Eagle, Josephine Hass, Talitha Amadea Aho, Ben Kramaz
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.

“Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness (Christ, Be Our Light)”

Bernadette Farrell (1993) | Glory to God #314

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.

3. Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

5. Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

Call to Worship Opening litany

*Psalms 104:24-35 (The Voice) adapted by Nancy E. Hall in
The New Manual of Worship. Judson Press, 2018.*

The people read the bold text

One: There is so much here, O Eternal One,
so much You have made.
By the wise way in which You create,
riches and creatures fill the earth.
And all of these look to You
to give them food when the time is right.

**ALL: When You feed, they gather what You supply.
When You open Your hand, they are filled with
good food.**

One: When You withdraw Your presence,
they are dismayed.
When You revoke their breath,
the life goes out of them,
and they become, again, the dust of the earth
from which You formed them at the start.

**ALL: When You send out Your breath,
life is created,
and the face of the earth
is made beautiful and is renewed.**

One: May the glorious presence of the Eternal
linger among us forever.
And may God rejoice in the greatness
of these works.

**ALL: I will sing to the Eternal all of my life;
I will call my God good as long as I live.**

“This Little Light Of Mine”

Traditional Spiritual

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

2. Hide it under a bushel NO! I'm gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel NO! I'm gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel NO! I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

3. Won't let Satan blow it out I'm gonna let it shine
Won't let Satan blow it out I'm gonna let it shine
Won't let Satan blow it out I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

4. Every where I go I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

5. Jesus gave it to me I'm gonna let it shine
Jesus gave it to me I'm gonna let it shine
Jesus gave it to me I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

"A Little Bit Of Salt"

LEONI 6.6.8.4 ("The God of Abraham Praise") © 2017 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. | New Hymns: www.carolynshymns.com/

1, A little bit of salt will quickly show its worth;
A little bit of faithfulness will change the earth.
God, make us worth our salt —
a church that's glad to be
The change that you desire in each community.

2. A lamp that's in a house gives safety,
warmth and light;
It's set upon a table where it shines so bright.
God, make your church a light
that bravely takes a stand
To bring your love and justice into all the land.

3. A garden is a place where so much beauty grows,
Where flowers bloom and food
is raised and water flows.
When worship leads us out to care for the oppressed,
O God, you say we're like a garden at its best.

4. When worship leads us out to love
and serve the poor,
To welcome in the immigrant at our own door,
O God, then we'll be called "repairers of the breach,"
And we your church will be "restorers of the streets."

5. It's tempting to remain well-hidden, quiet, bland —
Yet, God, you make us salt and light
to change this land.
You send us out to love, to build and to repair,
Till peace and justice flourish here and everywhere.

"We All Need A Little Salt Need A Little Light"

Author: Amy Delaine
Gary Chapman, Amy Grant & Jim Dineen

We all need a little salt
Need a little light
Need a hopeful word
Shining bright
We can be a little salt
Be a little light
In this darkened world
We can shine, oh, oh, shine so bright
Shine, oh, oh, just like the starlight
Shine, oh, oh, shine
Shine, oh, oh, shine the light

Chorus

This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

"Go Make A Difference"

© Steve Angrisano and Tom Tomaszek, 1997.

Refrain

Go make a diff'rence.
We can make a diff'rence.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.
Go make a diff'rence.
We can make a diff'rence.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.

1. We are the salt of the earth,
called to let the people see
the love of God in you and me.
We are the light of the world,
not to be hidden but be seen.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.

2. We are the hands of Christ
reaching out to those in need,
the face of God for all to see.
We are the spirit of hope;
we are the voice of peace.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.

3. So let your love shine on,
let it shine for all to see.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.
And the spirit of Christ
will be with us as we go.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.

Refrain

Go make a diff'rence in the world.
Go make a diff'rence
In the world.