

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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The Fourth Sunday of Easter • April 21, 2024 at 10:30am
 in Person & on Zoom

**Welcome to
 CAPC Oakland!**

We are a reformed, multicultural, community of followers of Jesus. Together we are committed to vigorously living our faith in our words, actions, and relationships in the East Bay.

In our community, face masks are not required, but always welcome. Masks are available in the entry.

As a community we are committed to being safe, open and real. We'd love to know you better. Use this QR Code to share your contact info or questions with our staff so we can follow up. We will not sell, share or abuse your personal info.



CHILDREN

We are moving towards restarting 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. Until then we have quiet toys, and activity sheets around today’s scripture in the play area up front.

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 – Capc-net. Our password is 5951CAPC

CCL #1137062

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

PRELUDE “Wayfaring Stranger”

WORDS OF WELCOME

GATHERING SONG “All Are Welcome” - *Glory to God #301*

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE “Christ In Capernaum” - *Insert*

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

HEARING SCRIPTURE Mark 1:21-39

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD “a cage went in search of a bird” - *Rev. Monte McClain*

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE “Beautiful Things” - *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 “Just As I Am” - *Blue Hymnal #370*

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG “Jesus Savior Pilot Me” - *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 “Udo diri gi” - *Udo, spoken in Nigeria*

POSTLUDE “The Ways Of The World”

Reflections on Today's Readings Mark 1:21-39

Pseudo-Dionysius the Areopagite was a Greek author, Christian theologian and Neoplatonic philosopher of the late 5th to early 6th century. He taught that demons come from their source as Good. However, he said, "They are evil insofar as they have fallen away from the virtues proper to them. They have changed in the domain of what was permanent in them. A weakness has appeared in the angelic perfection suitable to them. They have changed in the domain of what was permanent in them. A weakness has appeared in the angelic perfection suitable to them. They too desire the Good, at least to the extent that they have a wish for existence, for life, and for understanding, and their desire for what has no being is proportionate to their lack of desire for the Good. Indeed this latter is not so much a desire as sin against real desire."

This understanding of demonic came from the neoplatonic world view as well as the biblical naming of a demon-possessed human as a person who is fused with an unclean (or unholy) spirit. The expression points to the spirit (the divine breath put into humanity at creation by God – Genesis 2:6) that has been turned from its holy intent, reflecting creation in the image of God, to something else, less perfect, un-holy, profane, turned from its intended goal (the root meaning of sin).

In this vein then we all become "demon possessed" or house an "unclean spirit" when we are turned from what God wants for and with us.

Australian Theologian William Loader writes " The central thing [in life and ministry] is enabling people to be how God made them to be." But we are "possessed" by all kinds of distractions obscuring our true selves. Our culture not only enables this but magnifies it.

Contrasted with this demon-possessed man we see the healing story and transformation of Peter's mother-in-law. She is healed and starts to serve, not in the traditional female role, but rather in the example of Jesus. To serve is the same word as to minister in Greek. Jesus will say later in 10:45 that he came to be served, but to serve. She is healed, raised again to who she was created by God to be – a new creation!

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged, enraged, or surprised you in this text?
- Starting with this thought, you might try to spend some time thinking about how our collective surroundings, and our way of life. What kind of resistance do you meet when you seek authenticity and truth?; to live how God calls and intends you to live?
- 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?



April Birthdays

12 Chuck Marut 13 Toni Proulx
18 Carol Dolezal 20 Kelechi Okereke
25 Dann Wilkens

Today at & around CAPC Oakland

Post Service Sanctuary 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 Sunday Edition

(Sundays 9:30-10:20am). Discussing the text used in our gathering each Sunday.

Quilters Club Mondays 10a-12p, in the library.

Community Bible Study Wednesday Edition

Wednesdays at 7pm on Zoom. *Mark 1:21-45*

Session Meeting – this Thursday, 7pm on Zoom

Friday Night Meal – Fridays 6-7:00pm.

Sign up online to help with set-up, serving, & clean-up! *Our partners of Troop 15 Piedmont Scouts are cooking. Tim Hsu is hosting the meal.*



Book Clubs Options - We're looking at our next Book Club Options. We're going to read Man's

Search for Meaning by Viktor Frankl and Everything Good about God is True: by

Bruce Reyes-Chow. Sign up online (using this QR Code to let Monte know if you plan to read and want to discuss one, or both, books.



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

Support our ministry for the next 100 years! – Pick up a flyer in the entryway today about how you can continue to – or begin to – partner with us!

Construction Update – The gym roof has been removed and replaced. The stantions (solar panels foundational holders) are installed. The roof of the rest of the campus (sanctuary, back side and preschool area) has all be removed. A special thank you to our neighbors JCC for their help with their parking lot – and Rockridge Little School Director Cindy. Look for video updates on our social media channels and also on our blog.

Thank You to Today's Leadership:

MUSIC: Pete Feltman, Kate Rose

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

“All Are Welcome”

Marty Haugen | © 1994, GIA Publications. | Glory to God #301

1. Let us build a house Where love can dwell
And all can safely live A place where
Saints and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive
Built of hopes and dreams and visions
Rock of faith and vault of grace
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions
All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak
And words are strong and true
Where all God's children dare to seek
To dream God's reign anew
Here the cross shall stand as witness
And a symbol of God's grace
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus
All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place

3. Let us build a house where love is found
In water, wine and wheat
A banquet hall on holy ground
Where peace and justice meet
Here the love of God, through Jesus
Is revealed in time and space
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us
All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen serve and teach
and live the word they've known
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face
Let us bring an end to fear and danger
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place

5. Let us build a house where all are named
their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured taught
and claimed as words within the word
Built of tears and cries and laughter
Prayers of faith and songs of grace
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Call to Worship Opening Litany

Psalm 62: 5-12 | Joan Stott

<http://www.thetimelesspsalms.net>

One: Holy God, we come together, in the silence of your constant and reliable presence.

Many: We come to be still in the silence of this sacred place, to learn who God is for us.

One: Sacred Presence, we come together in the silence; for you, O God, are our Security.

Many: We come to be involved in the noise of this blest place, to worship our Lord and God.

One: Unshakable God, we come together in all the activities of worship, for you are our Rock, our Fortress, and our Refuge at all times, for in God we find the real home of our heart.

Many: We come to be still in the silence of this sacred place, to recognize and acknowledge that God is indeed our hope, our peace, our joy – for all the changing times of our lives. Amen.

“Christ In Capernaum”

(“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”)

Text: Copyright © 2015 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette.

1. Christ, in Capernaum,
people were awed by your preaching.
You had authority
many could hear in your teaching.
In you they saw
Love that informed all their law —
Truth that was kind and far-reaching.

2. Into that place came a man
who was troubled in spirit.
He cried aloud so the worshiping
people could hear it.
Awe mixed with fear!
God's loving reign had come near!
Evil could simply not bear it.

3. Lord, you rebuked all that kept him
from knowing God's healing;
You countered evil with power
that sent spirits reeling.
God has control!
God wants our lives to be whole!
This was what you were revealing.

4. Still there is evil that tries to destroy
and enslave us,
Still, by your grace, we encounter
your power to save us.
You heal our pain,
Showing the joy of God's reign.
This is the teaching you give us!

"Beautiful Things"

Author: Michael & Lisa Gungor
© 2009 Capitol CMG Publishing

1. All this pain
I wonder if I'll ever find my way
I wonder if my life could really change at all
All this earth
Could all that is lost ever be found
Could a garden come up from this ground at all?

Chorus

You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of the dust
You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of us

2. All around
Hope is springing up from this old ground
Out of chaos life is being found in You

Chorus 2 times

Bridge

You make me new, You are making me new
You make me new, You are making me new

Chorus

Just As I Am

Lyrics: Charlotte Elliott | Blue Hymnal #370

1. Just as I am without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that thou biddest me come to Thee
O lamb of God I come I come

2. Just as I am though tossed about
With many a conflict many a doubt
Fightings and fears within without
O lamb of God I come, I come

3. Just as I am Thou wilt receive
Wilt welcome pardon cleanse relieve
Because Thy promise I believe
O lamb of God I come, I come

4. Just as I am Thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down
Now to be Thine yea Thine alone
O lamb of God I come I come

Jesus Savior Pilot Me

Author: Edward Hopper (1871)
Tune: PILOT (Gould) | Songs of Zion #49

1. Jesus savior pilot me
over life's tempestuous sea.
Unknown waves before me roll,
Hiding rock and treacherous shoal. Chart and
Compass come from thee,
Jesus savior pilot me.

2. As a mother stills her child,
thou can hush the ocean wild.
Boisterous waves obey thy will,
when you say to them be still. Wondrous
Sovereign of the sea, Jesus savior pilot me.

3. When at last I near the shore,
and the fearful breakers roar
twixt me and the peaceful rest,
then while leaning on thy breast,
may I Hear you say to me.
Fear not I will pilot thee.

4. Chart and compass come from thee
Wondrous Sovereign of the sea
May I hear you say to me,
Fear not I will pilot thee