

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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January 16, 2022
 at 10:30am 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 is our new normal.

It's something that we'll get better at each time we gather, allowing 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) are not yet vaccinated.

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.

POST-SERVICE GARDEN PARTY

We are serving a light snack and coffee after worship in the garden throughout the summer. You can enjoy that mask-free. We ask you to not touch any of the food or drink, instead let us serve you.

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.'

CCL #1137062.

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

PRELUDE

"Jesus Savior Pilot Me"

GATHERING SONG

"The Summons"

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

HEARING GOD'S WORD

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE

John 2:13-25

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

"The Path of Least Resistance" - Rev. Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Long Ago God Reached In Love "

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

"Jesus Christ Is Waiting"

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG

"Did You Feel The Mountains Tremble"

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 paz de Christo"

(Spanish)

In the season of a pandemic new normal, you're invited to pass the peace of God however and to whoever you can this day as we live our lives of disciples of Jesus sheltering-in-place, as a living sign of the Dominion of God at work moving us toward the healing transformation of the world.

POSTLUDE

"Jerusalem Ridge"

Reflections on Today's Readings John 2:13-25

The gospel of John one of the four stories of the good news of Jesus (Gospel means good news) which tells his life, actions, words and mission. It's believed that John's account is the last one written as his retelling of the story reflects considerable theological reflection and uses metaphors and poetic language. One example is the play with light and darkness throughout the story. John's account also contains only seven miracles – or signs as they're called. A symbolic number in Jewish tradition that represents the divine and also recall the days of creation in the foundational story of Genesis.

Last week (in John 2:1-12) we read of the first of these signs – water being turned into wine at a wedding to keep the party going. Seemingly trite a richly metaphorical statement about God being actively and creatively present in the world, inviting us into an ongoing process – or conversation – of creation.

Here we see Jesus flabbergasted at the profane and unjust business he sees transpiring at the Temple. Where all should be able to mix and mingle as they come to talk with God (worship) at the Temple, he sees what we might describe as a mini-mall atmosphere of hawking wares and swindling deals. We might argue that animals were needed for sacrifices – the way in which God was worship according to the Hebrew Scriptures. The merchants and money-changers are just doing what they should, providing a much-needed service to those coming to the Temple to seek God. Shouldn't they make a living off their work? At same time, Jesus seems to be saying that the Temple should look different than the rest of the world, then a normal market place. For the Temple was thought of as the place where heaven (the realm of God) and earth (the realm of humanity) met and intersected. It's not just any house. It's God's House.

In her book *The Great Emergence*, Phyllis Tickle argues that Christianity is currently undergoing a massive upheaval as part of a regular pattern that occurs every 500 years, in which old ideas are rejected and new ones emerge. We see that the forms of stability in our culture and society aren't able to provide the same authoritative stability that they used to. Think of how few people now interact with church communities, or are even literate in terms of the Christian story. Think of the division over our government – national, state and local. In the first century of our era we know the Israelites were also in a time of great transition, adapting to rule under the Roman Empire and the large economic inequality in their society. Rather than remaining silent about this, Jesus seems to speak prophetically with his actions. What might that imply for us in our situation today?

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged you, enraged you, or surprised you in the text?
- How do you think those people selling the animals reacted to Jesus? How about the money changers? Imagine the people who had come to the Temple to make sacrifices and prayers to God....how might they have responded to Jesus' actions and words?
- Why do you think Jesus was really so indignant and irritated?
- 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?

January Birthdays

18 Gary Yee	Dick Street
20 Daniel Geary	25 Joy Barnes
29 Bill Beatty	

Weekly Calendar

COVID-19 and Omicron. We have paused in-person worship gatherings due to the Omicron surge of COVID-19 cases. This variant is much more contagious, although mild for most who have been vaccinated. We've paused meeting together as tests are scarce and the projection is that our hospitals will be stretched past their limit. We will evaluate at the end of January about re-starting in-person gatherings at that point.

Connection Calls Mondays & Fridays 12-12:30pm a time for holy conversation (Mondays) and the practice of Lectio Divina (Fridays). On our regular Zoom channel.

Race Matters Group Mondays - 6pm on Zoom This week we're talking about what the article "The Power of Reclaiming My Asian Name" by Marian Chia-Ming Liu. Find it at www.capcoakland.org/race-matters

Friday Night Meal – Friday, January 21st 6:00-7:00PM. Our partners at Montclair Presbyterian are making burritos Want to help? Sign up online with set-up and serving, and clean-up.

Godly Play for Children Sundays 9:30-10am on Zoom

We have up-to-date information about vaccination sites and testing options (and much more) on our website –search at www.capcoakland.org/covid19-virus.

Thank you to Today's Leadership:

Godly Play: Beth Beatty
Music: Pete Feltman, Dave Eagle, Ben Kramarz, Gabe Szilardi-Tierney, Roger Kim
Preaching: Monte McClain
Video Tech: Albert Hussian, Dann Wilkens

LYRICS & RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

We affirm that God is neither male or 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 using gender inclusive language.

“The Summons”

*tune: Kelvingrove | lyrics: John Bell
Glory to God #726 © 1987, Iona Community*

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.

Call to Worship

*Ruth Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi, eds., Touch Holiness:
Resources for Worship (written for Dr. ML King Jr. Day*

One: We worship the God who inhabits our world
and indwells our lives.

ALL: We need not look up to find God,

One: We need only look around:

**ALL: within ourselves, beyond ourselves,
into the eyes of another.**

One: We need not listen for a distant thunder
to find God,

ALL: we need only listen to the music of life,

One: the words of children,

ALL: the questions of the curious,

One: the rhythm of a heartbeat.

**ALL: We worship the God who inhabits our world
and who indwells our lives.**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Thomas O. Chisholm (1923) | Glory to God #39

1. Great is thy faithfulness O god Creator
There is no shadow of turning with thee
Thou changest not thy compassions they fail not
As thou hast been and forever will be

chorus

Great is thy faithfulness Great is thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed thy hand has provided
Great is thy faithfulness lord unto me

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness mercy and love

3. Pardon for sin and peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside

“Long Ago God Reached In Love ”

JESUS LOVES ME 7.7.7.7 (“Jesus Loves Me”)

Text: Copyright © 1999 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette.

1. Long ago, God reached in love,
sending Noah back a dove,
Promising a world made dry,
with a rainbow in the sky.

Refrain:

God, you are faithful,
God, you are faithful,
God, you are faithful:
Your covenant is love!

2. Abraham and Sarah heard
God's surprising, joyful word:
God would give them land and more:
children they had long hoped for.

3. Ten Commandments were the way
God called people to obey,
For God wanted us to see:
In obeying, we are free.

4. Jeremiah came to know:
God would help us change and grow;
So God's law would fill each heart,
giving us a fresh, new start.

5. Jesus came to show the way
we can have new life today;
God fulfilled that loving plan,
made for us when life began.

Refrain

“Jesus Christ Is Waiting”

John L. Bell; Author: Graham Maule

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Ancient and Modern: hymns and songs for refreshing worship #563

1. Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets;
no one is his neighbor, all alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am lonely too.
Make me, friend or stranger, fit to wait on you.

2. Jesus Christ is raging, raging in the streets,
where injustice spirals, and real hope retreats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am angry too.
In the Kingdom's causes, Let me rage with you.

Continued in the next column...

3. Jesus Christ is healing, healing in the streets;
curing those who suffer, touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I have pity too.
Let my care be active, healing just like you.

4. Jesus Christ is dancing, dancing in the streets,
where each sign of hatred he, with love, defeats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I should triumph too.
On suspicion's graveyard, let me dance with you.

5. Jesus Christ is calling, calling in the streets,
“Who will join my journey? I will guide their feet.”
Listen, Lord Jesus, let my fears be few.
Walk one step before me; I will follow you.

“Did You Feel The Mountains Tremble ”

words & music by David Strasser

Glory to God #525

Did you feel the mountains tremble,
Did you hear the oceans roar
When the people rose to sing of
Jesus Christ, the risen one
Did you feel the people tremble?
Did you hear the singers roar?
When the lost began to sing of
Jesus Christ the saving one
And we can see that God, You're moving
A mighty river through the nations
And young and old return to Jesus
Fling wide You heavenly gates
Prepare the way of the risen Lord

chorus

Open up the doors and let the music play
Let the streets resound with singing
Songs that bring Your hope and songs that bring
Your joy
Dancers who dance upon injustice

Do you feel the darkness tremble,
When all the saints join in one song
And all the streams flow as one river,
to wash away our brokenness
And here we see that God
You're moving, A time of Jubilee is coming
When young and old will turn to Jesus
Fling wide you heavenly gates,
Prepare the way of the risen Lord

chorus