

College Avenue Presbyterian Church  
 5951 College Avenue | Oakland | 94618  
 www.capcoakland.org | www.capcoakland.me  
 Office : 510.658.3665 | capc1@sbcglobal.net  
 Pastor Monte: Cell 510.520.0746  
 montemcclain@gmail.com



**Welcome to  
 CAPC Oakland ONLINE!**

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

We usually gather in person, but cannot during this season of COVID-19. So instead, we're worshipping together via ZOOM. While imperfect, and something that we'll get better at each time we gather remotely, it will allow us to gather together even in observing social distancing. We can't do coffee hour but you can call or connect with someone else by phone to share a moment together after worship.

**CHILDREN**

We have Godly Play for kids via ZOOM at 9:45am on Sunday. Find info and links at <http://www.capcoakland.org/zoom-worship-virtual-gatherings>

**PRAYER CARDS**

We can't do prayer cards, but we can do live chat on ZOOM while we meet. Myrna Shadley is being our digital Deacon. She'll use the prayer requests you may share in the chat during our visual gathering to shape our Prayers of the People time. Look for the chat box in the lower right hand corner of your ZOOM screen.

CCL #1137062.

May 23, 2021

**GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD VIA ZOOM**

GATHERING SONG

"Let Us Build A House"

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE

"Veni Sancte Spiritus"

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Acts 2:1-21

SERMON

"The Church of the Future"

- Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Dem Bones"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Myrna Shadley

*You can share your prayer requests for the good and the new using the Chat function on Zoom. Call and response liturgically prayed at the conclusion of sharing a prayer.*

Leader: God, in your mercy.

**People: Hear our prayer.**

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

COLLECTION OF OUR OFFERINGS AND GIFTS

SENDING SONG

"Pentecost Had Come"

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

**"The Peace of Christ"**

*In the season of COVID-19 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.*

## Reflections on Ezekiel 37:1-14; Acts 2:1-21

Today is Pentecost. It's the remembrance of the day in which the early Church grew exponentially. New people heard a living word in the testimony of the Apostle Peter who got up and preached to a large crowd gathered from around the known world for a festival in Jerusalem. We're told that folks heard this message in their own language – breaking through their diverse contexts, histories, and journeys, to unite them in a common shared hope of life in the Way of Jesus. Only God's living, invigorating presence among the people could have made possible such a transformational moment. Such unity embodied hopeful justice, and a new beginning.

The Hebrew prophet Ezekiel, lived in the 6<sup>th</sup> century BCE. His era ended with the invasion of Israel by the armies of Nebuchadnezzar of Babylonia's armies in 598 BCE. Before this invasion Ezekiel seemed to see what was coming – either by a revelation from God and/or observation of the corruption and immorality of his own society. He was eventually banished from his own country by the king as that was the only way to stop Ezekiel from talking about the impending destruction of Jerusalem, and the restoration to the land of Israel. Today we read of an ecstatic vision that the prophet had seeing the grisly remains of a massive battle or genocidal event. Standing in a mass unmarked grave, enveloped by death he has a vision of hopeful justice, transformation, & a new beginning.

We've been talking about legacy – which can be both what you leave behind to your heirs (the inheritance or gift) and the bad stuff that passes on from generation to generation (the effect, the outcome, the awful consequence of a personal or family way of being in the world)."

We are in a time of great change in the ending of shelter-at-home orders and are able to re-open our society due to the COVID vaccine. This week also marks the one year anniversary of the murder of George Floyd (May 25) which unleashed a fiercely expanded global civic conversation about who is considered a equal human being and who isn't in the way that our institutions and we as people related to each other. Like Ezekiel and the early Church we too wonder what hopeful justice, transformation and new beginnings will look like for us.

As the church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century we also face great challenges and change. "Church" isn't on the top of people's minds when they think of using their time & building relationships. Is that because it's outdated, irrelevant, corrupt, or because society and culture have moved on? How are we called Pentecost-new beginning?

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

1. **What engaged, enraged, or surprised you in these texts?**
2. **What questions do you find in these texts for us as we re-open and re-start...as a church? As individual people?**

## May Birthdays

18 Marge Harvey    23 Rebecca LaMotte  
27 Paulette Leston    31 Avery Haynes

## Weekly Calendar

**Deacons Meeting– today after worship at 11:50am** on our zoom channel.

**Daily Zoom Calls – every day at 12pm.**

**Community Care Package Team Meeting**  
Monday 5/24 at 1:00pm on Zoom.

**Race Matters, Monday 5/24 @ 6:00pm** on Zoom – discussing an article about the creative cross-community solutions to fear and violence in Oakland's Chinatown. [www.capcoakland.org/race-matters](http://www.capcoakland.org/race-matters)

**Session Meeting,** Thursday at 7:00pm on Zoom

**Community Care Package Workshop – Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30pm** in the sanctuary. Please register in advance to come help.

**Friday Night Meal - Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm.** Sign up online at <http://www.capcoakland.org/friday-night-meal> or contact Monte to help with set-up and serving, and clean-up.

**Women's Group – Saturdays at 9:30am** on Zoom. Contact Anne Marie Adams for info about joining - [amadams44@gmail.com](mailto:amadams44@gmail.com)

**Godly Play – Sundays 9:45-10:25 on Zoom.**

**Looking to re-open for in person worship:** Our Session leadership is meeting Thursday to further talk about key re-opening questions and needs articulated by our advanced small group team and then will make a decision about our next steps. *Stay tuned for more info.*

**Next week in worship:** A sermon conversation with Chaplain Carol Dolezal about memento mori (remembering that we will die) and end-of-life decisions.

**Thank you to Today's Worship Leadership:**  
Chat Master: Kristy Parsons McClain  
Prayer Liturgist: Myrna Shadley  
Godly Play: Beth Beatty  
Music: Pete Feltman, Dave Eagle, Ben Kramaz  
Video Tech: Thom Faulkner, Albert Hussian

**“Let Us Build A House”**

*Marty Haugen (1994); Glory to God Hymnal #301  
Text © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc.*

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 as 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

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 Litany** – *from /lifeinliturgy.worapress.com*

**One:** The Spirit descends like a dove, bringing  
peace to unite the world in a just and caring  
community.

**People:** **The Spirit comes like a breath, bringing life to renew the people of God.**

**One** The Spirit spreads like fire, bringing energy  
for witnessing to the love of God.

**People:** **Spirit of the living God, come to us and transform our lives by your power.**

**“Veni Sancte Spiritus”**

*“Veni Sancte Spiritus” [Come, Holy Spirit] sometimes called the Golden Sequence, is a sequence prescribed in the Roman Liturgy for the Masses of Pentecost*

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Come holy spirit from heaven shine forth  
Fill our hearts with peace and show us how  
to act

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Come holy spirit lift our souls above  
The noise and harm we do to one another

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Come holy spirit show us grace and truth  
That we may know and hope in all we say  
and do

Veni Sancte Spiritus

## “Dem Bones”

James Weldon Johnson & J. Rosamond Johnson  
Recorded by The Famous Myers Jubilee Singers in 1928

### Intro 1

Ezekiel connected dem dry bones,  
Ezekiel connected dem dry bones,  
Ezekiel in the Valley of the Dry Bones  
Now hear the word of the Lord.

### Verse 1

Toe bone connected to the foot bone  
Foot bone connected to the heel bone  
Heel bone connected to the ankle bone  
Ankle bone connected to the shin bone

Shin bone connected to the knee bone  
Knee bone connected to the thigh bone  
Thigh bone connected to the hip bone  
Hip bone connected to the back bone  
Back bone connected to the shoulder bone  
Shoulder bone connected to the neck bone  
Neck bone connected to the head bone  
Now hear the word of the Lord.

### Chorus

Dem bones dem bones gon walk around.  
Dem bones dem bones gon walk around.  
Dem bones, dem bones gonna walk around.  
Now hear the word of the Lord.

### Intro 2

Ezekiel disconnected dem dry bones,  
Ezekiel disconnected dem dry bones,  
Ezekiel in the Valley of Dry Bones,  
Now hear the word of the Lord.

2. Head bone connected from the neck bone  
Neck bone connected from the shoulder bone  
Shoulder bone connected from the back bone  
Back bone connected from the hip bone  
Hip bone connected from the thigh bone  
Thigh bone connected from the knee bone  
Knee bone connected from the shin bone  
Shin bone connected from the ankle bone  
Ankle bone connected from the heel bone  
Heel bone connected from the foot bone  
Foot bone connected from the toe bone  
Now hear the word of the Lord.

### Chorus

Dem bones, dem bones gonna rise again.  
Dem bones, dem bones gonna rise again.  
Dem bones, dem bones gonna rise again.  
Now hear the word of the Lord.

### Finale

Dem bones, dem bones, dem dry bones.  
Dem bones, dem bones, dem dry bones.  
Dem bones, dem bones, dem dry bones.  
Now hear the word of the Lord.

## “Pentecost Had Come”

*Biblical Reference: Acts 2:1-47*

*Tune: Traditional Argentine melody ("Song of Hope")*

*Text: Copyright © 2010 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette.*

1. Pentecost had come and in that time of grace,  
Jesus' friends were gathered in a meeting place.  
Suddenly the Spirit came in wind and flame,  
Sending men and women out in Jesus' name.  
Spirit, come upon us, too!  
Give us gifts to share for you.  
We live in a world in need;  
Send us where you daily lead!
2. All around the city joy was in the air;  
People gathered in the streets from everywhere.  
Soon they heard some preaching  
and the news was good!  
There, in every language, they all understood.  
Spirit, move through every land  
Till all know and understand:  
Jesus died and rose — it's true!  
Now we have new life in you.
3. Peter told the crowd to turn and be baptized;  
Thousands heard the words he spoke  
and changed their lives.  
Daily they sold what they owned  
to help the poor;  
Day by day the church was growing  
more and more.  
Spirit, change the way we live.  
Teach us how to gladly give  
Guide us, as we seek to be  
Faithful in our ministry.

## **Jeremiah 18:1-6**

*the Common English Bible Translation*

<sup>1</sup> Jeremiah received the Lord's word:

<sup>2</sup> Go down to the potter's house, and I'll give you instructions about what to do there.

<sup>3</sup> So I went down to the potter's house; he was working on the potter's wheel. <sup>4</sup> But the piece he was making was flawed while still in his hands, so the potter started on another, as seemed best to him.

<sup>5</sup> Then the Lord's word came to me: <sup>6</sup> House of Israel, can't I deal with you like this potter, declares the Lord? Like clay in the potter's hand, so are you in mine, house of Israel!

## **Ezekiel 37:1-14**

*New Revised Standard Version*

<sup>1</sup> The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." <sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup> I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup> I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup> I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup> Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup> I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

## **Acts 2:1-21**

*New Revised Standard Version*

<sup>1</sup> When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> 'In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'