

**Presbyterian Church**  
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June 27, 2021

**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're figuring out how to do our Godly Play program with our new normal. We'll restart that program after July 11<sup>th</sup>.

**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 cards and share it with the liturgist or to share you requests in the chat on ZOOM labeling it with 'prayer.'

CCL #1137062.

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

GATHERING SONG "All Are Welcome"

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "Oh Happy Day"

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE Psalm 95, Matthew 25:31-40

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD "Resisting Collective Amnesia" – Rev. Monte McClain

SONG OF RESPONSE "If Not For Your Grace"

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

AS WE SING OUR SONG OF RESPONSE YOU ARE INVITED TO COME UP AND PARTICIPATE IN A LITURGICAL ACTION THROUGH WHICH WE CAN RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD THROUGH CONFESSION AND PRAYER.

YOU CAN:

1. TAKE SOME SALT – SYMBOLIZING THE BITTERNESS OR HARDNESS – WE WANT TO LET GO OF – AND DROP IT INTO THE WATER.
2. REACH INTO THE WATER AND TAKE OUT A STONE AS AN EBENEZER REMINDER OF WHAT YOU WANT TO HOLD ON TO AND NOT FORGET ABOUT THE PAST YEAR.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER** - Monte

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 - "The Water God Gives Us"

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG "We Are Your People"

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 "The Peace of Christ"

*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.*

**Reflections on Today's Readings**  
**Psalm 95, Matthew 25:31-40 (or to 46)**

June Birthdays

24 Beth Beatty. 29 Sophie McClain 2002

*Weekly Calendar*

Life seems to be re-starting nearly every day after the longest year ever. Many of us have brain fog, struggling with memory... *was that last week or six months ago?* What seemed normal is often now unimaginable. It seems like we can declare a victory over COVID-19 and yet...new variants are spreading, more than 30% of our population is not protected with vaccines, and children of God who live in other – poorer- countries continue to struggle with massive deaths and infections due to lack of resources and great inequality. Some of us may feel both a sense of relief and gratitude, as well as one of guilt and unease.

In the past weeks we've noticed a surge in outbursts of rage in airplanes, grocery stores and public places. Rates of un violence and crime are going through the roof. A recent article in The Guardian surmises that "In our hurry to return to life as we knew it before 2020, some of us have begun to behave as if nothing unusual or disturbing had occurred. On Saturday nights, in bars and restaurants, the massive collective traumas that our nation has just experienced –the pandemic and the 6 January Capitol insurrection – might almost seem like figments of our collective imagine... at moments it seems as if we, as a nation, are suffering a societal nervous breakdown, a mass episode of amnesia."

Today's scriptures address just such a nervous breakdown and mass episode of amnesia. Psalm 95 echoes the worship-full language found in Psalm 95 to 100. But it also continues a stern warning to not harden your heart. The psalmist recalls the story of collective amnesia among the Israelites in the wilderness when they struggled to find water. Told in Exodus 17, we see that in the blink of an eye they turned on Moses and God, forgetting all of God's faithfulness. And so they named this place both Meribah (*which means quarreling*) and Massah (*which means testing*). How could they simply forget how God delivered them from slavery in Egypt and through both the sea and the desert?

The parable in Matthew 25 is part of Jesus' reply to questions posed by the disciples about the future. *It's a teaching that is the mission statement for the national Presbyterian Church (USA)*. It seems to be a different sort of amnesia, maybe more of an unawareness due to hard-heartedness. Jesus draws a direct connection between how we love our neighbor and how we love God.

**QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:**

- 1. What engaged, enraged, or surprised you in these texts?**
- 2. How are you touched by the outbursts of rage (*due maybe to hard-heartedness*) in these days?**
- 3. How is the Spirit of God inviting you to act, speak, or be through this word?**

**Today is our first hybrid service – both in person and online.** It's been a long time since we've gathered. As we do so, we're embracing a new normal, which means undoubtedly we'll have snafus. Each week we'll get better at what we're learning together. May grace abound!

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

**Race Matters Zoom Meeting** Mon 6/28 @ 6pm  
info at [www.capcoakland.org/race-matters](http://www.capcoakland.org/race-matters)

**Friday Night Meal - Friday, July 2<sup>nd</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. Trinity Fellowship of Berkeley is preparing the meal.

**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** is on a vacation hiatus through mid-July. Come to the Visioning Focus Group on Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 12:15pm on Zoom or in person.

**The Global Church.** Come hear about the studies and envisioned ministry of Bright & Remya David in India. Today 3-5pm at the home of Marda Stothers. *3500 Warring St. Berkeley*

**Next Week** – we are having communion in worship. We'll be serving it individually wrapped servings. We're also starting a new series on the Great Ends of the Church as we look to where we want to go together as a community of faith.

**Thank you to Today's Worship Leadership:**  
Coffee Hour: David Kittams & Marian Kohlstedt  
Music: Pete Feltman, Dave Eagle, Ben Kramarz  
Preaching: Monte McClain  
Reader:  
Video Tech: Thom Faulkner, Albert Hussian

Scan this QR Code to share with us how today was for you via our online feedback survey



**"All Are Welcome"**

Marty Haugen

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 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  
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** – *written by Monte*

One: O come, let us sing to the LORD

**People: Let us make a joyful noise,  
Make a moving beat,  
Usher a hallelujah holler,  
For the creator is worthy of praise and honor.**

One: O come, let us give thanks to the LORD.

**People: who loves and looks after us  
like a shepherd who will leave a flock of 99  
to seek on the one lost lamb.**

One: O come, let us speak to the LORD.

**People: for there is plenty to say,  
We have traversed a wild sea of pandemic,  
We are in a boat amidst the storm  
of racial reckoning and societal transformatio  
we are hungry for wisdom in how to live.**

One: O come, let us listen to the LORD

**People: The Ancient of Days  
continues to speak  
Words of wisdom and truth,  
Words of challenge and conversion,  
Words of love and grace,  
That we need to hear and digest**

One: O come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

**People: For the LORD is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of her hand.**

## **“Oh Happy Day”**

*Edwin Hawkins*

Oh happy day (oh happy day)  
Oh happy day (oh happy day)  
When Jesus washed (when Jesus washed)  
When Jesus washed (when Jesus washed)  
When Jesus washed (when Jesus washed)  
He washed my sins away (Oh happy day)  
Oh happy day (oh happy day)

He taught me how to walk,  
fight, and pray, fight and pray  
And live rejoicing every day,  
every day

## **“If Not For Your Grace”**

*Israel Houghton & New Breed*

*Verse*

Where would I be if not for your grace  
Carrying me in every season  
Where would I be if not for your grace  
You came to my rescue  
and I want to thank you for your grace

*Chorus*

Grace that restores, grace that redeems,  
grace that releases me to worship  
Grace that repairs, visions and dreams,  
grace that releases miracles  
Your grace, Your grace

*Bridge*

Grace that restores, grace that redeems,  
grace that releases miracles  
Grace that restores, grace that redeems,  
grace that releases miracles

## **“We Are Your People”**

*Brian A. Wren (1973)*

*The Blue Presbyterian Hymnal #436*

1. We are Your people Lord by your grace  
You dare to make us Christ to our neighbors  
Of every nation and race

## **“We Are Your People” *continued...***

2. Called to portray You help us to live  
Closer than neighbors, open to strangers  
Able to clash and forgive
3. Glad of tradition, help us to see  
In all life's changing where You are leading  
Where our best efforts should be
4. Joined in community breaking Your bread  
May we discover gifts in each other  
Willing to lead and be led.
5. Lord, as we minister in different ways  
May all we're doing show that You're living  
Meeting Your love with our praise

## **“The Water God Gives us”**

*Tune: Traditional American melody (“How Firm a Foundation”)*

*Text: Copyright © 2011 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette.*

1. The water God gives us in wondrous supply  
Is water that's living and never runs dry.  
For everyone drinks and is thirsty again,  
But God's living water gives life without end.
2. God, we confess that we seek empty things;  
We strive after wealth and the comfort it brings.  
We buy things in hopes that our spirits will soar  
Yet still we are thirsty and left wanting more.
3. Then just like that woman who went to the well,  
We hear you, O Christ, and the truth that you tell.  
You know who we are and you know what we've been;  
You know us and love us in spite of our sin.
4. The gift that you give is the greatest of wealth;  
You give living water! You give us yourself!  
May we, like that woman, go back where we live  
And tell those we know of the life that you give.