

Presbyterian Church  
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# KOINONIA COMMUNITY WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?



THE SIX GREAT ENDS OF THE CHURCH  
 Don't Just go to Church, BE the Church

July 11, 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.

PRELUDE: "Swing Low Sweet Chariot"

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD IN PERSON & VIA ZOOM  
 GATHERING SONG "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "What A Friend We Have In Jesus"

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE Mark 2:1-13; Acts 2:42-47

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD "E Pluribus Koinonia" – Rev. Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "Servant Song"

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 - Song Mash -Up  
 As The Deer & As the Windsong

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG "Say Yes "

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 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 "Billy In The Lowground"

## Reflections on Today's Readings

Mark 2:1-13; Acts 2:42-47

This week we turn to the second of what we as Presbyterians we call the Six Great Ends of the Church. ***The shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God*** Book of Order (F-1.0304),

Community (*spiritual fellowship* in the Greek word *koinonia* used in Acts 2:42) is both a buzz word and a huge problem for us these days. It's what everyone wants, and claims to either know or foster. And yet we are in a time of great division and misunderstanding about what community means and who is a part of it. As a nation we're struggling with the hard facts that Black people more than three times as likely as white people to be killed during a police encounter. Roughly 1 in 3 women over 15 years of age have been subjected to intimate partner violent, non-partner sexual violence or both at least once in their lives. Historically White evangelicals were the largest religious faction in the country number 23 percent of the population in 2006 to 14.5 percent last year. In 2020, as in every year since 2013, the largest religious group in the United States was the religiously unaffiliated. Some of those facts (and countless others) may be familiar to us. While some may come as a shock. We're not always who we think that we are.

The passage of Acts 2 paints the portrait of what true, vibrant inclusively liberating Christian community can look like. Some see this as a goal to pursue. Others may say it's a pipe dream, a fiction that can never truly be known on Earth. In the Mark 2 passage we see Jesus confront the barriers that prevent such a notion of inclusively liberating community. These barriers are physical, relational, emotional, spiritual and religious.

The word for community, or fellowship, in the New Testament is the Greek word *koinonia* means "what is shared in common as the basis of fellowship (partnership, community)." It implies mutual participation – giving and receiving in a relational dynamic. The past 15 months of our life together as a faith community has been one of rich *koinonia* even in the midst of the fear and isolation of the pandemic. We're rallied around and been infused by the power and purpose of the weekly community care packages and Friday Night Dinners – and all that they have represented. What have we learned from pursuing this end in this way?

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:

- What engaged you, enraged you, or surprised you in the text?
- The texts tell of how people responded to the good news (proclaimed and enacted) of Jesus. They responded in part by overcoming barriers to embrace healing and freedom. What barriers are overcome? How are they overcome? What does such healing cost?
- When, if ever, have you experienced such Christ-centered *koinonia*-community? Did you participate as a giver or receiver, or both? What *sense of awe* did you experience in it?

## July Birthdays

11 Dave Eagle                      Gloria Lim  
13 Alana D'Attilio    15 Chris Olson  
17 Rachel Brylawski 21 Chickwendu Okereke

## Weekly Calendar

**Today is our second hybrid service – both in person and online.** As we meet, 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. We all are adjusting in diverse and different ways to our new normal. This includes doing communion in a different way with individual servings. May grace abound!

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

**Race Matters Zoom Meeting** We are taking a break in July; meeting next on July 26th.

**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. Bright & Remya David are 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 TODAY - Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 12:15pm on Zoom or in person.

**We need HELP hosting & serving Coffee Hour!** Talk to Monte today to help out.

**Thank you to Today's Worship Leadership:**

Chat Master: Kristy & Sophie Parsons McClain  
Greeters: Fredora Darmstadt & Margaret Smith  
Music: Pete Feltman, Dave Eagle, Ben Kramarz  
Preaching: Monte McClain  
Video Tech: Thom Faulkner

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



## LYRICS & RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

### “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

*Thomas O. Chisholm (1923)*

*Tune: FAITHFULNESS (Runyan)*

*The Blue Presbyterian Hymnal #276*

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father.\*  
There is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not.  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand hath 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 a 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!

**Call to Worship Litany** – *adapted from Psalm 23*  
*from re-worship.blogspot.com*

One: We rejoice in the One

who leads us beside still waters,

**PEOPLE: and gives us refreshment of soul.**

One: Christ our Shepherd shows us the way  
we should go,

**PEOPLE: so that the name of God  
will be glorified.**

One: Though all manner of evil befall us,  
we will not be afraid,

**PEOPLE: for the Great Shepherd of our souls  
is with us.**

One: We are never away from the love  
and mercy of the Lord,

**PEOPLE: and we shall be with him  
forever and ever. Amen!**

### “What A Friend We Have In Jesus”

*Joseph Medlicott Scriven (1855)*

*The Blue Presbyterian Hymnal #403*

What a friend we have in Jesus  
All our sins and grief's to bear  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer

What peace we often forfeit  
what needless pain we bear  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations  
Is there trouble anywhere  
We should never be discouraged  
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share  
Jesus knows our every weakness  
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Are we weak and heavy laden  
Cumbered with a load of care  
Precious Savior still our refuge  
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Do thy friends despise forsake thee  
Take it to the Lord in prayer  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee  
Thou wilt find a solace there

### **"The Servant Song"**

*Author: Richard Gillard*

© 1977, Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing  
*Glory to God #727*

Will you let me be your servant  
Let me be as Christ to you  
Pray that I may have the grace  
To let you be my servant too

We are pilgrims on a journey  
Fellow travelers on the road  
We are here to help each other  
Walk the mile and bear the load

I will hold the Christ-light for you  
In the nighttime of your fear  
I will hold my hand out to you  
Speak the peace you long to hear

I will weep when you are weeping  
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
Till we've seen this journey through

When we sing to God in heaven  
We will find such harmony  
Born of all we've known together  
Of Christ's love and agony

Will you let me be your servant  
Let me be as Christ to you  
Pray that I may have the grace  
To let you be my servant too

### **"As The Deer"**

*Martin J. Nystrom (1984)*

*Glory to God #626*

As the deer panteth for the water  
So my soul longeth after Thee  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship You

You alone are my strength, my shield  
To You alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship Thee

### **"As the Windsong"**

*Shirley Erena Murray (2004)*

*Glory to God 292*

1 As the wind song through the trees,  
as the stirring of the breeze,  
so it is with the Spirit of God,  
as the heart made strangely warm,  
as the voice within the storm,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.  
Never seen, ever known  
where this wind has blown  
bringing life, bringing power to the world,  
as the dancing tongues of fire,  
as the soul's most deep desire,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.

2 As the rainbow after rain,  
as the hope that's born again,  
so it is with the Spirit of God,  
as the green in the spring,  
as a kite on a string,  
so it is with the Spirit of God,  
making worlds that are new,  
making peace come true,  
bringing gifts, bringing love to the world,  
as the rising of the yeast,  
as the wine at the feast,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.

### **"Say Yes"**

*Michelle Williams*

When Jesus say Yes nobody can say no  
When Jesus say Yes nobody can say no  
When Jesus say Yes nobody can say no  
When Jesus say Yes nobody can say no

I'm not worried about a thing  
cause I know you are guiding me  
Where you lead me Lord I will go  
I have no fear cause I know who's in control  
There's no limit to what you can do  
Cause it all belongs to you; yes it all belongs to you  
You're almighty and all powerful  
And it all belongs to you, yes it all belongs to you