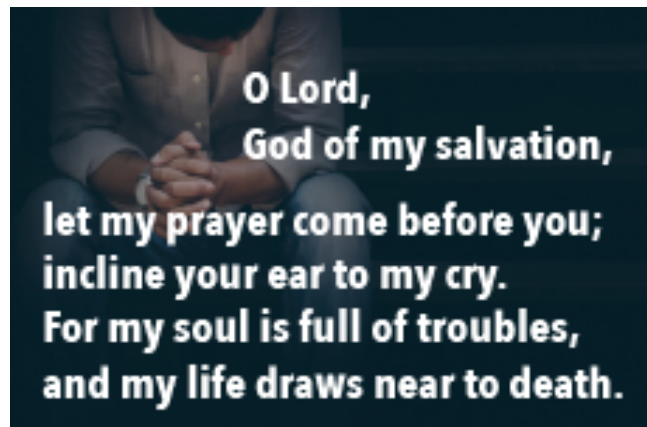


College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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 Pastor Monte: Cell 510.520.0746
 montemclain@gmail.com



June 7, 2020

**Welcome to
 CAPC Oakland ONLINE!**

We are a reformed, multicultural, politically purple, community of followers of Jesus seeking to live our faith seriously in word, deed and relationships in the East Bay.

We usually celebrate 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 don't have a quiet play area or Godly Play for kids via ZOOM – but we do have online coloring sheets, activities and even recorded Godly Play Stories that you can access 24/7 online at our website at

<http://www.capcoakland.org/worshiponthego>

PRAYER CARDS

We can't do prayer cards but we can do live chat on ZOOM while we meet. Rev. Karl Shadley is being our digital Deacon who will responds to any chats during the service. Look for the chat box in the lower right hand corner of your ZOOM screen..

CCL #1137062

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD VIA ZOOM

GATHERING SONG

“Thy Word”

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE

“When the Storms of Life are Raging”

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE

Psalm 88

(Contemporary English Version)

SPEAKING OF FAITH

“And yet...”

- Rev. Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE

“Our Darkness/Jesus Remember Me”

COMMUNION: FINDING GOD AROUND OUR DIGITAL TABLE
 WORDS OF WELCOME

Today we'll celebrate this foundational meal by intinction wherever you are. Monte will begin with a prayer – during which you're invited to put your screen to “speaker view” – and then as we share the meal together please reset your screen to “gallery view.”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Deacon 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

SUNG RESPONSE

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

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)

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 an living sign of the Dominion of God at work moving us toward the healing transformation of the world.

Thoughts on Today's Reading Psalm 88

The Book of Psalms is the prayer book of the Bible. Eugene says that it provides us with the language for prayer: our responding to the God who speaks to us. "Untutored we tend to think that prayer is what good people do when they are doing their best. It is not. Inexperienced, we suppose that there must be an 'insider' language that must be acquired before God takes us seriously in our prayer. There is not. Prayer is elemental, not advanced, language. It is the means by which our language becomes honest, true, and personal in response to God. It is the means by which we get everything in our lives out in the open before God." (from the introduction to the Psalms in *The Message*).

Psalm 88 is a challenging prayer as it's wholly dark and bleak. It speaks of unending despair. The final word of the psalm is "darkness". It is often assumed that the poet praying this song was sick, immobilized by a disease, possibly leprosy or another unclean illness as per the Torah which would mean that the person had to live outside of their community, unable to return home, to eat with others, to be touched, or to even pray with the community. Leviticus 13:45-46 tells us that just such an ill person, "must tear their clothes, leave their hair uncombed, cover the lower part of their face, and go around shouting, "I'm unclean! I'm unclean!" As long as they have the disease, they are unclean and must live alone outside the camp." Wow! Talk about despair and hopelessness without respite, reconciliation and reversal.

While bleak, this psalm is also a song of faith. It may end in seemingly all-encompassing darkness, but it begins in a sure remark of faith that the Lord is the God of salvation. This song of hope is woven through the comments and complaints of the prayer. There is no doubt that God does miracles, rather God doesn't do them for this poet. God is faithful, but this person feels forgotten, overlooked and cursed. Their pain is too big. The grief too consuming. The injustice too brutal. The darkness is inescapable.

We've all been there. In theology we talk about this with the metaphor of the "Dark Night of the Soul." Such darkness can be both individual and communal. Without minimizing such pain, Bishop Desmond Tutu reminds us that "Hope is being able to see that there is light *despite* all of the darkness."

QUESTIONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF EXAMEN & CONTEMPLATION

- **What part of today's texts grab you?**
- **We are in a bleak time in our nation, when many say they're without hope. How does this prayer-poem speak to such challenge and pain?**
- **Has the poet lost faith in God? How do you know?**
- **How do you struggle to identify, and to speak, of God's purposeful presence in our world, and our live, today? Talk with God about what you need, want, & long for.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

12 Daniel Trowbridge	13 Lina Foltz Careaga
14 Patt Schroeder	15 Brian Trowbridge
24 Beth Beatty	29 Sophie McClain 2002

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

26	Bill & Beth Beatty	1965
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Coronavirus & CAPC Oakland – We are using our website as the center for all information. WWW.CAPCOAKLAND.ORG. You can find an update their about re-opening of worship on our campus.

Coffee Hour Today - is taking place wherever you are. Call someone else up and say hello, catch-up and check in! – you can also join us for Zoom coffee hour at 12pm – on the same Zoom channel.

WEEKLY CALENDAR DURING THE PANDEMIC

Daily Zoom Calls – every day at 12pm.

ZOOM Worship Next Sunday at 10:30am,

Community Care Package Team Meeting |
Monday at 1:00pm on our Zoom channel

Covenantal Restoration, Monday night 6/8 Discussion by Zoom at 7pm. Our final video based discussion on race and faith. More info online at www.capcoakland.org/covenantal-restoration-class

Friday Night Meal Next Friday, June 5 | 6-7pm on the sidewalk at church. We need help to cook and serve. Talk to Monte.

Women's Group – Saturday Mornings on Zoom. Contact Anne Marie Adams for info about joining - amadams44@gmail.com

Bible Study – on the text for Sunday – next Saturday at 5pm on Zoom.

Tamales por Oakland – Order tamales from our Primera Iglesia partners to help them work and you enjoy a great meal! www.capcoakland.org

Godly Play – Sundays from 9:45-10:25 am on Zoom. Come to play and learn, then grab some coffee or tea before we start worship at 10:30am.

Thank you to this Week's Leadership:
Deacon Liturgist: Myrna Shadley
Chat Master: Karl Shadley
Music: Pete Feltman, Andre Schoch

CONTACT MONTE TO HELP WITH WORSHIP NEXT WEEK.

LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

"Thy Word"

(Grant/Smith)

Chorus:

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path

1. When I feel afraid and I think I've lost my way
Still you're there right beside me
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near
Please be near me to the end

2. I will not forget, Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering
Jesus be my guide, and hold me to Your side
I will love You to the end

CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING

Written by Monte inspired from scripture The Black Lives Matter movement, and St. Patrick's Breastplate prayer.

The People read the BOLD print

One: In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. And God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

Genesis 1:1-3

**ALL: God you speak to us,
inviting us to be and become in relationship with
you and with each other.
And yet,... how we talk to and about each other is
often unjust - rooted in fear and mistrust, foolishly
inherited notions of superiority and false idols.**

One: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The Word was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through the Word, and without the Word not one thing came into being. What has come into being in the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

John 1:1-5

**ALL: Jesus you speak to us,
calling us disciple, friend, beloved.
You seat us at the table with you, listening to our
thoughts and prayers. And yet...
we often refuse to hear certain voices that we
deem marginal, unimportant, that seem to just not really matter.**

One: Now at the wedding in Cana there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons of water. Jesus said to the wedding attendants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. Jesus said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the wedding coordinator." So they took it. When the coordinator tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), he called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."

John 2:6-10

**ALL: Holy Spirit, Breath of Life,
you break us out of the shackles of our
history and the small boxes constructed
with our expectations. Where we see a void,
you bring fullness. Where we see all that's
broken you make all things whole. Where
we see only death, you bring new life.
And yet,...
we are quick to build walls to protect us, to
polarize to feel better about ourselves, to
overlook the least of these because we're
afraid of losing what we already have.**

One: Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth;...And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals. God will dwell with them; they will be the peoples of the Lord, and God himself will be with them; God will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

Genesis 1:1-3

**ALL: Three-in-One God who is relationship,
who invites us to join in the divine dance of
co-creation, bind us unto you today:**

**ALL: your power to guide us,
your wisdom to teach us,
your eye to watch over us,
you ear to hear us,
your word to give us speech,
your hand to guide us,
your way to lie before us,
your shield to shelter us,
your host to secure us,
Against the snares of the forces of death,
the seductions of immediate pleasures that
distract,
the lusts of nature for power and position
Against everyone who meditates injury to us and
our neighbor,
Whether far or near,
Whether few or with many.**

“When the Storms of Life are Raging”

Charles Albert Tindley (1905)

1 When the storms of life are raging,
Stand by me (stand by me);
When the storms of life are raging,
Stand by me (stand by me);
When the world is tossing me
Like a ship upon the sea,
Thou Who rulest wind and water,
Stand by me (stand by me).

2 In the midst of tribulation,
Stand by me (stand by me);
In the midst of tribulation,
Stand by me (stand by me);
When the hosts of hell assail,
And my strength begins to fail,
Thou Who never lost a battle,
Stand by me (stand by me).

3 In the midst of faults and failures,
Stand by me (stand by me);
In the midst of faults and failures,
Stand by me (stand by me);
When I do the best I can,
And my friends misunderstand,
Thou Who knowest all about me,
Stand by me (stand by me).

Continued next column...

4 In the midst of persecution,
Stand by me (stand by me);
In the midst of persecution,
Stand by me (stand by me);
When my foes in battle array
Undertake to stop my way,
Thou Who savèd Paul and Silas,
Stand by me (stand by me).

5 When I’m growing old and feeble,
Stand by me (stand by me);
When I’m growing old and feeble,
Stand by me (stand by me);
When my life becomes a burden,
And I’m nearing chilly Jordan,
O Thou “Lily of the Valley,”
Stand by me (stand by me).

“Jesus, Remember Me”

Taizé Community 1981,

Jacques Berthier

Glory to God Hymnal # 227

Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom
Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.

“Our Darkness is Never Darkness”

Taizé Community 1981,

Jacques Berthier

Glory to God Hymnal #678

Our darkness is never darkness
in your sight:
the deepest night is clear
as the daylight.

"Lift Every Voice And Sing"

James Weldon Johnson (1900)

The Blue Hymnal #563

1 Lift every voice and sing Till earth and heaven ring
Ring with the harmonies of liberty
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on till victory is won

2. Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our parents sighed
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered
We have come treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered
Out of the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast

3. God of our weary years, God of silent tears
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way
Thou who hast by thy might led us into the light
Keep us forever in the path we pray
Lest our feet stray from the places our God where we meet thee
Lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world we forget thee
Shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand
True to our God, true to our native land