



College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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January 3, 2016

Welcome to College Avenue Presbyterian Church!

We're glad you're here with us today and look forward to worshipping together and getting to know each other.

Children's Coloring Sheets & Quiet Toys are located at the table area in the front to the left of the stage. We also have a lounge, off the entryway, where we broadcast the service if you need more space. We share a small snack and coffee after the service to connect, reconnect and make new connections. Please come join us.

CHILDREN

We invite children 3 years old to 6th grade to depart for Godly Play (our Sunday School) during the song of praise. You can gather your child(ren) after worship upstairs in the GP room.

CAPC WORSHIP 101 PRAYER CARDS

You're invited to share your prayers of concern and gratitude with the community by filling out the cards, located in the pews, and leaving them in the glass jar on the left of the communion table before the end of the call to worship. We'll use them later in the Prayers of The People time using a call and response prompt.

WIFI

2wire927 is our open wifi access. The password is 7304088568. If you tweet or instagram we invite you to use hashtag #capcoakland

NESTLÉ PARKING LOT

We are able to park in the lot. They ask us to enter and exit off of Chabot Road, and to access the lot via the pedestrian door on Chabot.

CCLI #1137062

GATHERING SONG

"We Three Kings"

Blue Hymnal, #66

CALL TO WORSHIP :

SONG OF PRAISE

"Good Christian Friends Rejoice" Blue Hymnal, #28

Today our children will remain in worship with us as we share in the communion meal.

TIME OF CONFESSION

Silent Prayer followed by **Prayer of Forgiveness and Assurance of Pardon**

SONG OF RESPONSE

"He Came Down"

- insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Call and response liturgically prayed at the conclusion of sharing a prayer card

Liturgist: God, in your mercy.

Community: Hear our prayer.

To pray with someone after the service, look for today's liturgist in the lounge off the entryway.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

SONG DURING THE OFFERING

"Still, Still, Still"

Blue Hymnal, #47

HEARING GOD'S WORD

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 60:1-9 & Matthew 2:1-12

Pew Bible, p. 723 & 934

SERMON

"The Christmas Story: an Epiphany"

Rev. Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE

"What Child Is This"

Blue Hymnal, #53

CELEBRATING GOD'S GRACE FROM THE COMMUNION TABLE

All who seek God's presence and love are invited to join in our table celebration

In our effort to welcome all to the table we have nut free & gluten free bread available

Sung during communion

"God Rest You Merry Gentlemen"

- insert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING CALL AND RESPONSE

Leader: God is good!

Leader: And all the time!

People: All the time!

People: God is good!

BENEDICTION

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

"السلام عليكم" or "Salam almasih"

(Arabic)

We pass the peace week using languages native to the cultures of our church community as an audible sign of the Empire of God working for the healing transformation of the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

January Birthdays

1	Margie Laverty	18	Gary Yee
1	Scott Darmstadt	25	Joy Barnes
8	Bill Bryant	29	Bill Beatty
10	Thom Faulkner		

PRAYERS & PRAISE

Prayers of praise and gratitude for: all is healing well with my tendon; the efficacy of the trial drug that is helping Ward with his Parkinsonism; for David Kittams getting good care for his infected thumb. Prayers for God to intervene for: Vacation rest and blessed family time with family this week of vacation for Pete; Those missing and mourning loved ones this Christmas season; My sister's in-laws, their father died on Christmas morning; Friends that are fighting drug addiction, and myself as well; Our troops overseas; The father of Laura LaMotte, Dan, recovering from a fall and broken leg; Peace among families during this joyous but stressful season; Candace with metastasized cancer; All the children, the big and small ones, of our church including ourselves; Tyler Conant Martin; friend Ronnie who had neck surgery and is recovering in rehab; healing for Cecilia Jackson, Terry Joseph and Jewel Sierra.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Walking through the Bible | Thursdays at 11:30am in the Library Emma Fleming: 510-653-6536

CAPC CHOIR: Sundays 12:00-1:00pm & Wednesdays at 6pm

Mid Week Small Group Gathering Wednesdays 7:30-9 pm
Meets near CAL campus | Questions: call Marda 510.540.7173

Friday Night Meal | Friday 6-7pm There is a meal being served January 8th. Talk to Ellen Brylawski to get involved.

The Vocabulary of Faith: Sunday 9:30-10:15am (library)

Women's Group | Sat, 8:30-10:00 am

CHANGE TO CHANGE LIVES: We've collected over \$625 in our annual offering to benefit Dalit children in India through Witnessing Ministries. This amount nearly covers the costs of education and board for two children for a year.

Christmas Eve Celebration | see photos online on our website at www.capcoakland.org/photos

Nestlé Parking Lot: We are able to park in the lot. You must re-enter the lot from the entrance on Chabot near Crossroads.

Preparing for El Niño | information and resources for winter storm preparedness are available at (510) 444-CITY or www.oaklandnet.com/ElNino.

Deacon's Food Pantry Collection next week in worship.
Bring canned goods or financial gifts to contribute to our effort to feed the hungry.

Thank you to this morning's

Ushers: Bob Brylawski, Jeff Trowbridge

Liturgist:

Fellowship: Chickwendu Okereke and family

Godly Play: Children in worship

Today's Musicians: Dave Eagle (Drums), Roger Kim (Guitar) & Pete Feltman (a bit of everything)

Leadership for next week (January 10th, 2015)

Ushers: Chickwendu Okereke, Joy Barnes

Liturgist:

Fellowship: Bob & Ellen Brylawski

Godly Play: Bill Beatty, Maya Patil

Epiphany – Día de los Reyes
Isaiah 60:1-9 & Matthew 2:1-12

epiphany



Our English language doesn't really have its own word to say what the Greek word "ἐπιφάνεια" depicts. Perhaps that's why rather than translate it, our language simply adopted and re-uses it.

Epiphany! Some would say that it's a word which merits an exclamation point when written. It's always something surprising, unexpected, exciting, even startling. Translating it as "manifestation" or "appearance" kind of kills the power of the word. It's a word that should grab and shake us, like a tag line at the end of a reality or cooking show: **"Bam!" "You're fired!" "The tribe has spoken!"**

We don't have any single word for this in English, but the borrowed one, "Epiphany!" Maybe about the briefest equivalent we might have is something like, "Sudden, surprising happening that changes everything completely."

In Isaiah 60 the prophet is writing to the people of Israel standing in ruins. They've returned to their home, which no longer feels or looks like home sweet home. "Arise, shine for your light has come! The glory of the Lord is risen upon you!" **EPIPHANY!** Bam! God is here. You think you're in darkness, that all is lost, that you're nothing and forgotten. But the nations will come to you for hope! **EPIPHANY!**

The selection from Matthew 2 tells the story of the magi coming to worship the baby Jesus. They worship in prayer and obeisance, and also with the unexpected giving of surprising gifts that seem to reveal what this child will become: Gold: riches fit for a king. Frankincense: incense used to worship the Divine. Myrrh an herb used for the embalming of the dead. This is what a true King is like! Bam! **EPIPHANY!** A true Messiah of God will be worshiped by the Israelites and Gentiles, the many and multi-cultural nations of the earth will stream to the light of the LORD. **EPIPHANY!**

In my own life I have experienced the love of God through the person of Jesus. I have felt it like a light shining in darkness. **EPIPHANY!** I have tasted a grace and forgiveness that restores, resurrects and redirects me in all of my life energy. I've tasted it like the joy of a family reunion. **EPIPHANY!** The scriptures put forward that to know God we need to look to Jesus as visible image of the invisible, sign and symbol, living Word, invincible light in darkness. Jesus makes "all of this" plain and simple. What does "all of this" mean to you? How do you reflect and retell it?

Questions for Going Deeper:

- What do you think is the message of this gospel selection?
- How have you experienced it as truth in your life?
- What invitation do you hear from God in this text to act, say, be or do?

LYRICS & READINGS FOR TODAY'S SERVICE

CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 72:1-14

O God, give your justice to the king,
and your righteousness to the son of the king.

**May he judge your people with honesty,
and your poor with godliness.**

May the mountains bring forth prosperity for the people,
and the heights your acts of justice.

**May he vindicate the poor of the people,
rescue the needy, and defeat oppression.**

May he live all the days of the sun,
and until the moon is no more, for all generations.

**May he be like the rain on new-mown hay,
like gentle rain on parched earth.**

May justice flourish in his days
and well-being abound until the moon passes away.

**May he rule from sea to sea,
from the River to the ends of the earth.**

May his foes shrink in his presence
and his enemies lick the dust.

**May the kings of Tarshish and the islands bring tribute,
the kings of Sheba and Seba offer a gift,**

and may all the kings bow down before him,
and all the peoples serve him.

**For he will rescue the needy crying for help
and the wretched who have no helper;**

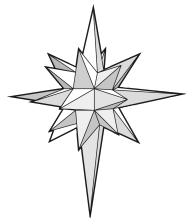
he will pity the poor and needy
and the lives of the needy he will deliver.

**He will redeem their lives from oppression and violence
and their blood will be precious in his sight.**

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

Author: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1857; alt.)
Blue Hymnal #66

1 We three kings of Orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.



Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light!

2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign. (Refrain)

3 Frankincense to offer have I:
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, we are raising,
Worshipping God Most High. (Refrain)

4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb. (Refrain)

5 Glorious now behold Him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Sounds through the earth and skies. (Refrain).

"He Came Down"

He came down that we may have love
He came down that we may have love
He came down that we may have love
Hallelujah forevermore.

"Still, Still, Still"

Austrian Carol, in German
Translator: George K. Evans
Blue Hymnal #48

1. Still, still, still,
He sleeps this night so chill!
The Virgin's tender arms enfolding,
Warm and safe the Child are holding,
Still, still, still,
He sleeps this night so chill

2. Sleep, sleep, sleep,
He lies in slumber deep,
While angel hosts from heav'n come winging,
Sweetest songs of joy are singing,
Sleep, sleep, sleep,
He lies in slumber deep.

"Good Christian Friends, rejoice"

Translator: John Mason Neale
Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO (Medieval Latin)
Blue Hymnal #28

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ was born today.
Ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

2 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

3 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!



"What Child is This"

*Author: William C. Dix, arranged 1871
English Ballad 16th century
Blue Hymnal #53*

1 What Child is this who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

2 Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come one and all, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

"God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen"

English carol, 18th cent.; English carol

1 God rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay,
for Jesus Christ our Savior
was born upon this day,
to save us all from Satan's power
when we were gone astray.

Refrain:

O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

2 In Bethlehem of Judah
this blessed babe was born,
and laid within a manger
upon this blessed morn:
for which his mother Mary
did nothing take in scorn. [Refrain]

3 From God our heavenly Father
a blessed angel came,
and unto certain shepherds
brought tidings of the same,
how that in Bethlehem was born
the Son of God by name. [Refrain]

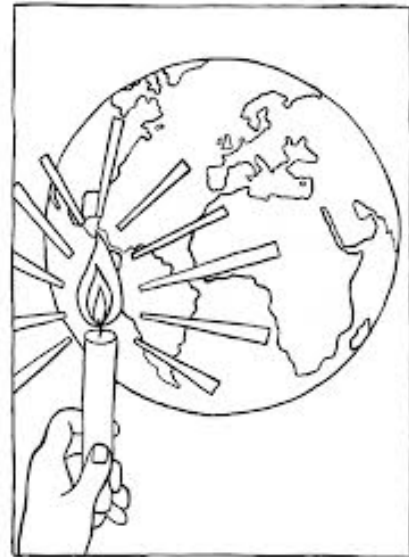
"God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen" continued...

4 The shepherds at those tidings
rejoiced much in mind,
and left their flocks a-feeding
in tempest, storm, and wind,
and went to Bethlehem straightway,
the blessed babe to find. [Refrain]

5 Now to the Lord sing praises,
all you within this place,
and with true love and brotherhood
each other now embrace;
this holy tide of Christmas
all others doth deface. [Refrain]

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Light of the world,
deep mystery of the cosmos whom we name God,
breathe through us today
that we may be
compassion to lonely,
comfort those who mourn,
company to those who have no one,
that they may not lose heart...



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