



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

College Avenue Presbyterian Church

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The First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2016

GATHERING SONG

"O Come O Come Emmanuel"

- Blue Hymnal #9

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

SONG OF PRAISE

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

- Blue Hymnal #2

TIME OF CONFESSION

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

- Marda Stothers

Children are invited to gather at the front of the sanctuary and depart for the Godly Play program at the conclusion of this song.

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Rain Down"

- insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

- Marda Stothers

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

"Give Thanks"

- insert

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 2:1-5 ; Matthew 24:36-44

- Marda Stothers

- Pew Bible, p. 664, 960

SERMON

"Time is what we want most, but... what we use worst."

- Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Soon And Very Soon"

- insert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 CHRIST

"المسيح سلام" or "Salam almasih"

(Arabic)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

November Birthdays

3	Nenna Okereke	15	Pete Feltman
5	Harry Hussian (Jr.)	16	Ruth Ann Friedland
11	Al Hussian	16	Elodie McClain
13	Elaine Price	19	Radman Beatty

UPCOMING EVENTS

CAPC CHOIR | Wed 6-7pm and Sun at 11:50am. Talk to Pete!

Friday Night Meal | Friday 6-7pm. Talk to Ellen Brylawski to help: ellenbry@comcast.net

The Vocabulary of Faith Bible Study | Sunday 9:30-10:15a

Celtic Prayer Mid Week Small Group | Wednesday 7-8:30pm, meets near CAL campus | Contact Marda @ 540.7173

Women's Group | 1st, 2nd & 3rd Saturdays of the month 8:30-10am in the library. Currently discussing Acts of the Apostles.

Join us for our first Advent Family Dinner. Tonight 11/27, 6-8pm at the home of Fredora Darmstadt (9 Eton Ct, Berkeley 94705) Bring a dish to share in our potluck dinner.

Session Meeting : Thursday, December 1, 7:30pm (library)

Youth Group | Sunday, December 4, 5-7pm For middle & high schoolers.

Potluck & Movie Night: Thursday, Dec 8th 7:00pm Bring a favorite dish to share in our potluck dinner as we watch a movie

Coffee & Conversations | Tuesday, 12/13 10-11am no- host, safe, open conversation about faith on the patio in front of Safeway at Claremont @ College Avenues.

Thanksgiving Meal : a **BIG** Thank You to everyone for their help in making our annual Community Thanksgiving Meal such a collaborative reality. You can see photos on our facebook page, on our website at <http://www.capcoakland.org/thanksgiving-meal-2016/> and in today's power point slide show.

Men's Breakfast : Saturday, Decemeber 17, 8:30am. RSVP to Bill Beatty | 5653 Ocean View Drive

Winter Solstice – Longest Night Labyrinth Service : Wednesday, December 21st @ 7:30pm

Community Service Opportunity – cooking the Friday Night Meal 12/23 : Are you interested?

Christmas Eve Candlelight Celebration : Sat, 12/24, 7 pm

Thank you to Leadership today:

Ushers: Sharon Nelson, Anne Marie Adams
Liturgist: Marda Stothers
Fellowship: Fredora Darmstadt, Kristy McClain
Godly Play: Linda Davis (ST), Anne Marie Adams (DK)
Musicians: Dave Eagle, Swen Hendrickson, Roger Kim
& Pete Feltman

Leadership for next week, 12/4/16:

Ushers: Chickwendu Okereke, Joy Barnes
Liturgist: Can you help by doing it?
Fellowship: Linda Davis, Louise Hirschman
Godly Play: Children in worship

The First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5 | Psalm 122 | Matthew 24:36-44

The exact relationship between the Book of Isaiah and any such historical Isaiah is complicated. The traditional view is that all 66 chapters of the book of Isaiah were written by one man, Isaiah--possibly in two periods between 740 BCE and c. 686 BCE. One widespread view sees parts of the first half of the book (chapters 1–39) as originating with the historical prophet, interspersed with prose commentaries written in the time of King Josiah a hundred years later; with the remainder of the book dating from immediately before and immediately after the end of the exile in Babylon, almost two centuries after the time of the original prophet. Exact dating is beyond our scientific capacity, yet that changes not the word in Isaiah. He lived during the ascension of the Assyrian Empire, against which the king of Judah (Hezekiah) [2 Kings 18:7] rebelled by entering into an alliance with the king of Egypt [Isaiah 30:2-4] and the subsequent destruction of Judah, fall of kings and genocidal deportation of the Judean elites and nobility to Babylon.

Chapter 2 of Isaiah contains a vision of the last days, the future that God intends for the world. It's also recorded in Micah 4 and Isaiah 25. The vision is one that is inclusive of all nations and ethnicities, which come to Jerusalem (the Israelite capital) to know and be known by God. This radical new order is transformative. Weapons of war are turned into tools for farming. Destruction is replaced by peaceful collaboration. Beautiful. Lyrical. This vision speaks to all of us still today. It's at the heart of the charter of the United Nations. Yet it's spoken in a time of despair and defeat, speaking of a time of profound hope and promise. It doesn't evoke nostalgia, but orients the present from the future. It's not wishful-thinking but spoken truth. It might seem to be out of step with the times, yet Isaiah speaks it as the time that changes our steps.

Matthew 24 is Jesus talking of the days to come, the last days. We tend to have two approaches to apocalyptic notions. Some Christians think that the whole emphasis on Christ's second-coming (*parousia* in theology-ese) is much ado about nothing, an occasional topic to endure or avoid. Such thought can lead to perpetual apathy, an agnostic avoidance of the hope that Christ will change the world, bring to completion to the work begun in the kingdom he proclaimed. Other Christians think that Christ's Parousia is at the heart of the gospel. They look in newspapers to perceive and confirm signs of the end times talked of in the Bible and vice-versa. Focused on the last things, they can be tempted to fall into a state of perpetual anxiety. But Jesus calls us to watchful faith: neither apathetic nor anxiety-inducing. It's a faith that is alive, breathing, serving, living not from the present, but from the point of view of the future that God will bring to pass, first talked of in Isaiah 2 and more fully tasted in the person and word of Jesus.

Questions for the Practice of Examen & Contemplation

- The word Advent means appearance, pointing towards the *parousia* of the one we first knew as the manger baby. It's rooted in the notion of time: waiting, expecting, remembering. How are you anxious or apathetic as you look towards the time constraints of the Christmas season? How do you allow God's future to orient the way you use your time, in Advent and beyond? How don't you?

Call to Worship : Lighting the Advent Wreath

Reader: It's time. Thanksgiving has come and gone. Christmas is coming. Time to prepare. Anticipate. Make Lists. Get things done. Time to think of others. To think ahead. To remember the past. To dream of the future. Time to work hard. Time to kick back. Time...there isn't enough!

One: In the beginning was the Word—
spoken and breathed,
a promise made and kept.

**All: Listen and hear— God's promise is true!
For in the beginning, beyond time
The Word was, and through the Word
all things come into being.**

One: Eternal and near at hand,
Already and not-yet,
like a light in the darkness,
like a path to choose,
a way of seeing the world to put on.
God's promise is the foundation of all life.

**All: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord,
from the hope that we know in Christ,
for while time flies by,
God comes to us as our hope,
calling us to reflect that hope
in our life today.**

One: Christ is coming.

All: Christ is coming again.

~The first candle is lit~

"O Come O Come Emmanuel"

Blue Hymnal #9

Latin, c. 12th century,):

*Translators: Henry Sloane Coffin (1916) (sts. 1-2)
& John Mason Neale (1851, st 3)*

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

2. O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

(Refrain)

3. O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

(Refrain)

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Blue Hymnal #2

Charles Wesley

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

2. Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

"Rain Down"

Jaime Cortez (1991)

Rain down; rain down;
rain down your love on your people.
Rain down; rain down;
rain down your love, God of life.

"Give Thanks"

Don Moen, 1993

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich"
Because of what the Lord has done for us"

“Soon And Very Soon”

Writer: Andrae' Crouch.

Soon and very soon
We are going to see the King
Soon and very soon
We are going to see the King
Soon and very soon
We are going to see the King
Hallelujah, hallelujah,
We're going to see the king

No more crying there,
We are going to see the King

No more dying there,
We are going to see the king

Should there be any rivers we must cross
Should there be any mountains we must climb
God will supply all the strength that we need
Give us strength till we reach the other side.

We have come from every nation,
God has already signed our name.
Jesus took his blood and he washed our sins.
Yet there are those of us
who have laid down our lives
but we all shall meet again on the other side