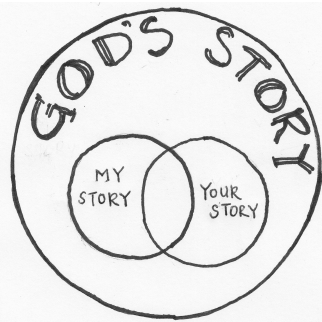


# GOING BACKWARDS MOVING FORWARDS



College Avenue Presbyterian Church  
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yadnuS sdrawkcaB | April 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.

## TODAY IS DIFFERENT!

We're having a backwards Sunday, doing our liturgical or worship service order backwards, to take a fresh look at faith and how we live it together.

## CHILDREN

Today we're communion in worship so we involve our children as participant by having them stay with us in worship.

## 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

## POSTLUDE

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST "Selamat Hariminggu" (Indonesian)

*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.*

## EXHORTATION

## SENDING CALL AND RESPONSE

Leader: God is good! Leader: And all the time!  
People: All the time! People: God is good!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

## CELEBRATING GOD'S GRACE FROM THE COMMUNION TABLE

All who seek to be disciples and followers of Jesus 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

SONG DURING COMMUNION "For All the Saint Who From Their Labors Rest" - Blue Hymnal #526

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

## READING OF SCRIPTURE

Acts 1:1-14

- Ben Bencomo  
Pew Bible, p. 1055

## SERMON

"We are People formed by a Story"

- Rev. Monte McClain

## SONG OF RESPONSE

"As I Went Down to the River to Pray"

- insert

## GIVING OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

## SONG DURING THE OFFERING

"My Tribute"

- Red Hymnal #3

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Ben Bencomo

*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.*

## SONG OF RESPONSE

"Jesus our Divine Companion"

- insert

## TIME OF CONFESSION

- Ben Bencomo

Silent Prayer followed by Prayer of Forgiveness and Assurance of Pardon

## SONG OF PRAISE

"Wait for the Lord"

- Blue Hymnal #123

## CALL TO WORSHIP

## GATHERING SONG

"Sihayumba"

Blue Hymnal #258

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

### April Birthdays

8	Andrea Rondini	20	Kelechi Okereke
13	Toni Proulx	24	Anh Nguyen
19	Pat Price	27	Sally Schmidt

### PRAYERS & PRAISE

*Prayers of praise and gratitude for:* Those we love who gave us much and who now share every day with Christ/God in heaven; Sonia's baptism at St. Columba's last night; being here at church, healthy with my family and Dianna's parents (Laura and Ray); a wonderful 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party for Lois who afterwards was hospitalized and is in the ICU, pray for her; while I slept last night, we were robbed and in our house, but we were not hurt; the healing of Patricia who is stronger and body and spirit each day; the message of Easter may it be felt all around the world today and every day. *Prayers for God to intervene for:* A successful IVF for our precious baby; Candace to overcome breast cancer; The Miller family; Kaitlin's grandfather, in the hospital and struggling; Harry who is having shoulder replacement surgery on Tuesday; Tyler Conant Martin and his dad to find a new place to live; healing for Cecilia Jackson who has mild pneumonia, Terry Joseph and Jewel Sierra; Lisa's digestive issues; Katie who is traveling in Ireland this week; Stepfather Cal whose foot is infected; Barbara will be having surgery on her leg soon. Please pray for speedy recovery; My mom to live long.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**TODAY : yadnuS sdrawkcaB** Church like you've never seen it before. If the promise of resurrection turns our world upside down, how do we process it? We're also sharing communion together in worship and collected canned food items, and cash donations, for our food closet.

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

**CAPC CHOIR** | Sunday 12:00-1:00pm & Wednesday at 6pm. Choir is on a post-Easter Vacation until April 17<sup>th</sup>!

**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. Talk to Ellen Brylawski to help

**The Vocabulary of Faith** | Sunday 9:30-10:15am

**Women's Group** | Saturday 8:30-10:00 am

**One Great Hour of Sharing:** annual offering to benefit the poor, hungry and oppressed through our nation-wide church. Pick up information in the entryway or online at <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/oghs>.

**Coffee & Conversations** | Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 10-11am

**Recreation VBS Camp** : August 15-19<sup>th</sup>  
[www.recreationvbs.org](http://www.recreationvbs.org)

### Thank you to Leadership today:

Ushers: Jeff Trowbridge, Bob Brylawski  
Liturgist: Ben Bencomo  
Fellowship: Michael Mendonca, Toni Proulx  
Godly Play: Communion – children stay in worship

### Leadership for next week, 4/10/16:

Ushers: Emma Fleming, Anne Marie Adams  
Liturgist:  
Fellowship: Al & Joy Barnes  
Godly Play: Linda Davis, David Kittams

## Acts 1:1-14

Easter. It's the big holiday, holy day or feast day in our Christian practice. The resurrection. The end of the story of Jesus. The beginning of new life. Is it really all that? How is it that a story that tells us of a new beginning, has become somehow more about being an ending than a new creation? If this story of resurrection is also our story, how do we recognize it? How does it shape us? How are we helping to retell, live out and rewrite the story as a community today?

The author of Acts wrote most likely between A.D. 70 and 80 in the Mediterranean world. We know that Acts is written by the same creative theologian who composed the gospel of Luke.

Throughout both is an emphasis on the poor, women, the Holy Spirit and also a common mastery of the Greek language in which it's written. Increasingly scholars assert that the books were written together, intended as an epic work Luke-Acts. The resurrection of Jesus isn't the end. Rather it's the middle of an open-ended story that continues today in our church and world.



"It is a story worth retelling because it deals with issues which are always in season in the church: questions about the relationships between Christians and Jews, Christians and pagans; issues related to the Christian's stance within the modern state; problems with prayer; the purpose of preaching and teaching in the church; and a host of other dilemmas which press upon the contemporary church with more relevance than the headlines of this morning's newspapers." (William H. Willimon. *Acts* "introduction")

In the past, some have understood Luke-Acts as a biography, historiography and hagiography. The first tells the life of a great person/teacher/leader sharing biographical narrative and teachings. The second tells the history of a movement or person, through retelling particular formative stories or origin and development. The third is the story of the life of saints, holy ones, those that seemed to know God in a unique way. As we begin a series on Acts we need to consecrate ourselves to "do what people are supposed to do when told a good story: listen to the story, attempting to take the story itself a little more seriously and our 'modern' questions about the story a little less so. Our interpretative task is more to hear the text of Acts questioning us, rather than to come up with questions about the relevance, practicality, or historical accuracy of Acts." (William H. Willimon. *Acts* "introduction")

Today's passage tells the formation story of the community of those who followed Jesus as disciples. Gathered together by the Spirit of God, they are unified in a common identity-giving action: baptism. This literally meant a type of death, a drowning more than a washing, and a rising to a new life. In a sense they are defined by backwards living: they find life through death, move into the future through the past.

### Questions for Going Deeper:

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

### **“For All the Saints”**

*William Walsham How (1864)*

1 For all the saints, who from their labors rest,  
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,  
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

3 O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

4 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

### **“Down To The River To Pray”**

*Traditional, Spiritual*

*chorus*

As I went down to the river to pray  
Studying about that good ol way  
And who shall wear the starry crown  
Good lord show me the way

1. O sisters let's go down,  
Let's go down, come one down  
O sisters let's go down  
Down to the river to pray

*chorus*

2. O brothers lets' go down  
Lets go down, come on down  
O brothers lets go down  
Down to the river to pray

*chorus*

3. O fathers lets go down  
Lets go down, come on down  
O fathers lets go down  
Down to the river to pray

*chorus*

4. O mothers lets' go down  
Lets go down, come on down  
O mothers lets go down  
Down to the river

*chorus*

5. O sinners lets go down  
Lets go down, come on down  
O sinners lets go down  
Down to the river to pray

### **“My Tribute”**

*Andrae Crouch*

*Red Hymnal, #365, Psalm 115:1*

1. How can I say thanks  
for the things You have done for me?  
Things so undeserved,  
yet You give to prove Your love for me.  
The voices of a million angels  
could not express my gratitude.  
All that I am and ever hope to be,  
I owe it all to Thee.

[Chorus:]

To God be the glory,  
to God be the glory,  
to God be the glory  
for the things He has done.

2. With His blood He has saved me,  
with His power He has raised me.  
To God be the glory  
for the things He has done.

### **“Jesus Our Divine Companion”**

*Author: Henry Van Dyke (1909; alt.)*

Jesus our divine companion  
by Your lowly human birth  
You have come to join the workers  
burden bearers of the earth  
You the carpenter of Nazareth  
toiling for Your daily food  
By Your patience and Your courage  
You have taught us work is good

Where the many toil together  
there you are among Your own  
Where the solitary labor  
You are there with them alone  
You the peace that passes knowledge  
dwelling in the daily strife  
You the bread of heaven are broken  
in the sacrament of life

## **“Wait For The Lord”**

*Jacques Berthier, Taizé Community*

Wait For The Lord, whose day is near  
Wait for the Lord; be strong, take heart!

## **“We Are Marching In The Light Of God”**

*South African hymn written by Andries Van Tonder*

1. We are marching in the light of God  
We are marching in the light of God  
We are marching, we are marching oh  
We are marching in the light of God

2. Siyahamba kookay nen kwen kos

3. We are living in the love of God

4. We are moving in the power of God

## **Call to Worship**

Plain font read by one, **bold font read by all.**

They gathered in the upper room, waiting in the city,  
**Jesus had come and gone and come.**

They were confused, challenged and compelled.  
**What they thought was the end was a new beginning.**

What they feared was their end, was something else completely.  
**They had run in fright, hidden in fear, been immobilized by despair.**

God gave them everything  
**Asking them to look backwards to go forwards.**

God has given us everything,  
**Inviting us to retell the story that we might be one and won over.**

Jesus came laying down his life, loving as God loves us.  
**And so we are called to lay down our lives for one another.**

Come, let us worship our God  
**Let us walk together in the footsteps of Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.**