

College Avenue Presbyterian Church  
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## Welcome to CAPC Oakland!

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.

If you've never celebrated with us, you can follow along using this paper or the projection on the screen. Hymnals and Bibles are in the pews. We invite you to join us for a moment of community connection afterwards with a drink and simple snack.

### CHILDREN

We have a quiet play area for children in the front of the sanctuary with toys and coloring sheets that can be played with during services. We also have a lounge, off the entryway, where the service is broadcast if you need more space.

We invite children 3 years old to 6<sup>th</sup> grade to depart for Godly Play following our second song. You can gather your child(ren) after worship upstairs in the GP room.

### PRAYER CARDS

You're invited to share your prayers of concern or gratitude by filling out the cards, located in the pews, and placing them in the glass vase on the table. We'll use them during today's service.

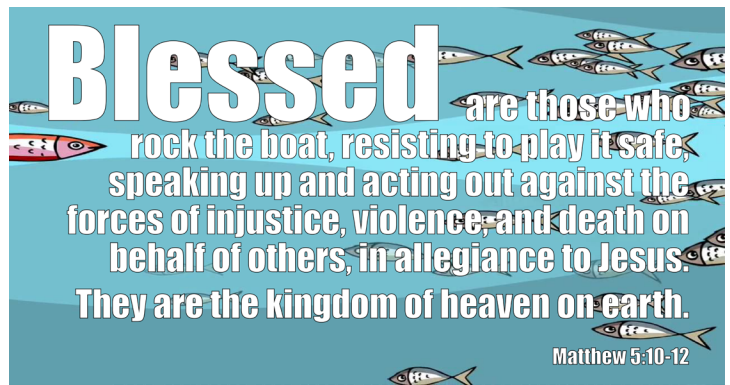
### WIFI & SOCIAL MEDIA

2wire927 is our open wifi. The password is 7304088568. If you do social media during the service we invite you to add #capcoakland to include others.

### NESTLÉ PARKING LOT

We're able to park in the lot behind the church. They ask us to enter and exit off of Chabot Road, using the pedestrian door there near Crossroads Trading.

CCL #1137062



November 25, 2018

GATHERING SONG

"Ancient Words"

- Insert

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE

"Dig A Little Deeper"

- Insert

*Children from 2 years to 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to gather at the front of the sanctuary and depart for our Godly Play time. You can collect your child(ren) after the service upstairs.*

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Luke 4:16-30; Matthew 4:23-5:12

*Pew Bible, pp. 995, 936*

SERMON

"Go Against the Flow"

- Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Jesus Is the Answer"

- Insert

ACT OF CONFESSION. *OPENING OURSELVES TO BEING UNDONE, THAT WE MIGHT BE REDONE*

SUNG RESPONSE

"Softly And Tenderly"

- Insert

DECLARATION OF GRACE. *THE IN-BREAKING OF GOD'S GRACE DISRUPTS OUR HUMAN CONDITION OF SIN*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Leader: God, in your mercy.

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*To pray with someone after the service, look for today's liturgist after today's service*

GIVING OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS TO EMPOWER THE WORK OF GOD IN THE CHURCH

OFFERTORY SONG

"Blest Are They"

- Insert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING CALL AND RESPONSE

Leader: God is good!

Leader: And all the time!

**People: All the time!**

**People: God is good!**

EXHORTATION & BLESSING

PASSING THE PEACE OF GOD

"עֲלֵיכֶם שְׁלוֹם" or "Shalom Aleikhem"

(Hebrew)

*We pass the peace weekly using languages native to the cultures of our church community as an audible sign of the Dominion of God at work towards the healing transformation of the world.*

**Thoughts on Today's Scripture**  
**Luke 4:16-30; Matthew 4:23-5:12**

Resistance is a big word in our culture today. Some are for it, some are against it. Our cries to resistance usually has to do with what, or whom, one is resisting.



Such "go against the flow" dynamic is inherent in today's beatitude. We read the word persecution as negative, something to avoid. But what if Jesus is exhorting us to seek it out, or at least deserve it? The original word used in the text implies persecution, but means first and foremost to be pursued, or chased or desired. Could it be that what Jesus is saying is more along the lines of live like the prophets? They were repeatedly persecuted (by believers and nonbelievers) for having the gall to continuing naming the ways in which society and the larger culture were opposed to the priorities of God. Think of Amos. Isaiah. Zechariah. Even Jesus.

The passage from Luke 4 shows us what that looks like. Jesus receives a standing ovation and then within minutes the crowd wants to lynch him because he dared to talk about what they didn't want to hear: that God loves all people (Jews and Gentiles). They, then, like us, today, lived in a culture of opposition, rooted in zero-sum-thinking of us verse them. Jesus spoke up and acted against that, pointing to a different nonviolent, redemptive way of life in God. What if Jesus is really challenging us not to seek out persecution as much as to perturb for God's good? Not to see ourselves as victims as much as to renounce and redeem the godless violence of our world and culture? What if it's less about dying on a cross than lifting the cross up, stopping in the flowing currents of our culture to reflect on who we are, what God wants for us and then acting upon such grace – even if that means not playing it safe and rocking the boat? Jesus isn't trying to create a revolution as much as reminding us to what kingdom we do in fact belong: *his*.

Bishop Oscar Romero was assassinated while leading worship in El Salvador where he spoke up and acted out for what he believed the gospel meant for his culture and people. In a journal entry of April 9, 1978 he wrote:

*"A church that doesn't provoke any crises,  
a gospel that doesn't unsettle,  
a word of God that doesn't get under anyone's skin,  
a word of God that doesn't touch the real sin of the society  
in which it is being proclaimed – what gospel is that?...  
the gospel is courageous, it's the good news  
of him who came to take away the world's sin."*

**Questions for the practice of Examen & Contemplation**

- **What strikes you in these passages?**
- **How have you experienced speaking up and acting out for the cause of the nonviolent Jesus as a blessing?**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS**

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**TODAY – Christmas Decorations** | Can you share some of your time with the church today after worship? We need help bringing down the Christmas Decorations from storage in the gym.

**Decorating for Christmas** | Come help us decorate the sanctuary this Tuesday, 11/27 from 8a-12pm

**No Youth Group Today**

**ESL Class Ministry** | Monday, 7-9pm at Primera Iglesia (1945 High Street, 94605). Info in entryway. *Our last class of this term is December 10<sup>th</sup>. The regular end of term ESL Fiesta for all is Wednesday, 12/12 at 7pm.*

**Choir Practice** | Tuesday, 5:30-6:30pm (Sanctuary)

**Celtic Prayer Mid Week Small Group** | Wed 6:45-8:15pm, near CAL | Call Marda @ 540.7173

**Friday Night Meal** | Friday, 6-7pm!  
*Talk to Ellen Brylawski to help.*

**Women's Group – 1,2, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays, 8:30a**

**Letter Ministry** | Encourage another with a hand-written note. Find cards on the back wall!

**The Vocabulary of Faith** | Next Sunday 9:30-10:15a | our last session on the Beatitudes

**Advent starts next Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>** – we'll have a special craft that day after worship for children, youth and adults to begin the season.

**Our first Advent Family Dinner** is 12/2 from 7-9pm at the home of Cam and Mercy Beatty. It's a potluck dinner that begins with the lighting of the Advent Wreath.

**Harbor House Christmas Store** | Participate in our effort to work with these partners to provide self-empowerment for the poor of Oakland at Christmastime by buying and donating gifts for children. Find a purple flyer in the entryway. *Hurry it all has to happen before December 10<sup>th</sup>!* Talk to Linda Davis for more info.

**Thank you to Today's Leadership**  
Fellowship: Bob & Ellen Brylawski  
Godly Play: Ellen Brylawski (ST); F. Darmstadt (DK)

**Leadership for next week, 12/2/18:**  
Fellowship: David Kittams, Marda Stothers  
Godly Play: *children in worship with a special craft!*

## LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S SERVICE

### "Ancient Words"

Lynn DeShazo

1 Holy words long preserved,  
For our walk in this world  
They resound with God's own heart,  
O let the ancient words im--part  
Words of life, Words of hope,  
Give us strength, Help us cope  
In this world where e'er we roam,  
Ancient words will guide us home

#### **Chorus:**

Ancient words ever true,  
Changing me and changing you  
We have come with open hearts,  
O let the ancient words im--part

2 Holy words of our faith,  
Handed down to this age  
Came to us through sacrifice,  
O heed the faithful words of Christ  
Holy words long preserved,  
For our walk in this world  
They resound with God's own heart,  
O let the ancient words im--part

(chorus)

### GATHERING WORDS | CALL TO WORSHIP

(based on Isaiah 61: 1-4, Luke 4: 18-19)

© Moira Laidlaw, posted on her Liturgies Online website.

**People read the bold font.**

One: The prophet Isaiah proclaimed  
—and Jesus embodied—

**ALL: God's call to reach out and care for those who  
are brokenhearted and those who mourn,**

One: people who are abused and oppressed,

**ALL: who are powerless to make changes  
for good in their lives.**

One: The Spirit of the Lord empowers and anoints us  
to proclaim and to live out that same message—

**ALL: to lift up those who are downtrodden,**

One: to comfort those who mourn,

**ALL: to be bearers of the gospel in word and deed.**

### "Jesus Is The Answer"

Andrae Crouch

#### **Chorus**

Jesus is the answer, for the world today  
Above him there's no other, Jesus is the way  
Jesus is the answer, for the world today  
Above him there's no other, Jesus is the way  
Jesus is the way, Jesus is the way

1. If you have some questions  
in the corners of your mind  
Traces of discouragement,  
the peace you cannot find  
Reflections of your past,  
seem to face you everyday  
But this one thing I do know,  
that Jesus is the way

#### **Chorus**

2. I know you've got mountains,  
that you think you cannot climb  
I know your skies have been dark,  
the think that sun won't shine  
But in case you don't know  
that the word of God is true  
Everything he's promised  
he will do it all for you

chorus.

+

**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
BE  
JESUS FREAK**

### **"Dig A Little Deeper"**

*African-American spiritual*

You got to live,  
you ought to dig  
I want to dig a little deeper  
in the storehouse of his love, eternal love  
I hope to shine and love sublime  
I want to dig a little deeper  
in the storehouse of his love, eternal love

(chorus)

I want to dig a little deeper in God's love  
I gotta Dig a little deeper down in God's love  
I wanna Dig a little deeper in the storehouse  
of his love, eternal love  
I want to talk a little moment like Jesus would  
I wanna walk just like a good Christian should  
I wanna dig a little deeper in the storehouse  
of his love, eternal love

I want to do what's always true  
I want to dig a little deeper  
in the storehouse of his love, eternal love  
Each passing hour, I want more power  
I want to dig a little deeper  
in the storehouse of his love, eternal love

chorus

### **"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"**

*Author: Will L. Thompson*

*Glory to God Hymnal #418*

1 Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
calling for you and for me.  
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,  
watching for you and for me.

*Refrain:*

"Come home, come home!  
You who are weary, come home."  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
calling, "O sinner, come home!"

2 Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,  
pleading for you and for me?  
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,  
mercies for you and for me?

### **"Blest Are They"**

*Author: David Haas*

*Glory to God Hymnal #172*

1. Blest are they, the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of God.  
Blest are they, full of sorrow;  
They shall be consoled.

*Refrain:*

Rejoice and be glad!  
Blessed are you; Holy are you!  
Rejoice and be glad!  
Yours in the kingdom of God!

2. Blest are they, the lowly ones;  
they shall inherit the earth.  
Blest are they who hunger and thirst;  
they shall have their fill.

3. Blest are they who show mercy,  
mercy shall be theirs.  
Blest are they the pure of heart,  
they shall see God.

4. Blest are they who seek peace  
They are the children of God.  
Blessed are they who suffer in faith,  
the glory of God is theirs.