

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 6th 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.

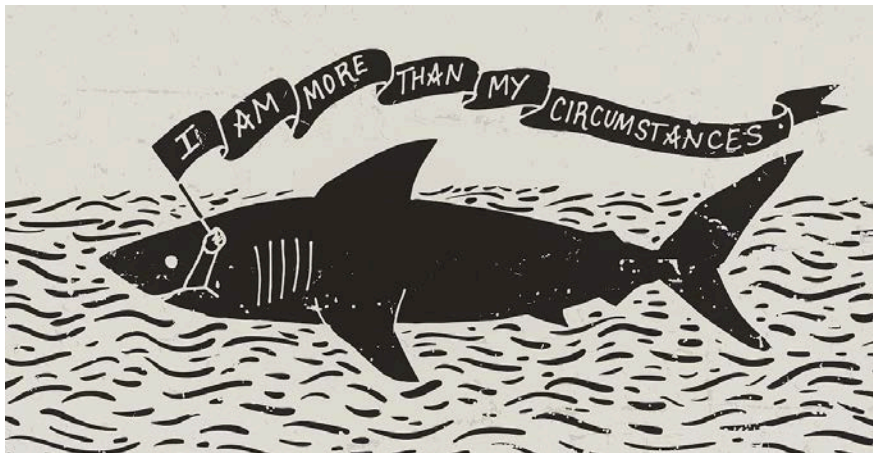
WIFI & SOCIAL MEDIA

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 26, 2017

GATHERING SONG

"Let All Things Now Living"

- Blue Hymnal #554

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE

"Come And Find The Quiet Center"

- insert

Children from 2 years to 6th 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.

TIME OF CONFESSION

Silent Prayer followed by Prayer of Forgiveness and Assurance of Pardon

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Silently We look for God"

- insert

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

"Give Thanks"

- insert

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 29:1-14; John 14:25-27

- Fredora Darmstadt
pp. 763, 1046

SERMON

"Dislocation, Disruption & No Place Like Home"

- Rev. Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONGS OF RESPONSE

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

- Blue Hymnal #260

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

"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 at work towards the healing transformation of the world.

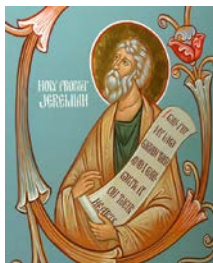
Today's bulletin picture is created by Scott Erickson, a friend of Monte's and fellow Presbyterian. See more of his work & ministry at <http://scottericksonart.com>

Thoughts on Today's Scriptures

Jeremiah 29:1-14; John 14:25-27

This week we hear from the prophet Jeremiah, who came after both Amos and Isaiah. By his day, Israel and Judah were a mess. Israel (the Northern Kingdom) is gone, conquered, vanquished and annexed by the Assyrians. Judah (the South) was threatened and eventually conquered by Babylon for having first acquiesced to their power, then sided with the Egyptians to try in vain to overthrow them. Now a conquered, vassal state, the majority of the Judean elites (educated, wealthy, leaders both religious and political) have been deported to far away Babylon. They were exiled in order to purge the people of their Israelite culture (and religion) and make them into good Babylonian citizens. That was the Babylonian imperial way, a form of what today we call cultural cleansing.

Jeremiah lived in Judah (Jerusalem) preaching from 626 BCE until after the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of Solomon's Temple in 587 BCE. In our section of the prophets testimony he talks of a letter of comfort and advice that he pens and sends to the exiles Judeans in far away Babylon. The previous chapter talks of the battle between Jeremiah and Hananiah (a false Prophet). It's referred to in verses 8 and 9. Hananiah is a false prophet for he tells the people what they want to hear: that they should resist Babylon, to not "settle in" to their new home, that God will deliver them in what we might call a Hollywood ending to the national defeat. Jeremiah says something different. He tells the people to put down roots, to settle in for a long sojourn in exile (for many the entirety of their lives) as strangers in a strange land. The wise thing to do is to adapt, not give up or give in, but look to how God is present – even in seeming defeat – and working for good.



Today, we too may encounter situations that cannot be changed. They may not be physical exile, or the threat of cultural genocide, but they can be greatly disorienting and disrupting nonetheless. Think of the dramatic changes we are undergoing in the Great Emergence in terms of technology, how we live, work, relate, communicate. We live in increasingly global world in which there is much fear, anxiety and suspicion of foreigners, refugees, those who are different, exiles. We too can feel exiled even in our "home." "The question then is how we, amidst such difficult circumstances, can live the best possible life, including daily practices that make life both possible and meaningful. Perhaps even more important than figuring out how to live amidst these less-than-perfect circumstances is the question of how we manage to find joy while being in exile." (quoted from https://www.workingpreacher.org/preaching.aspx?commentary_id=3318)

In John 14, Jesus talks with his disciples preparing them for what will seem to be his defeat, telling them of God's shalom-peace, how even in fear we can find God.

Questions for the practice of Examen & Contemplation

- What shimmers for you in this passage?
- What word, phrase or image touches your life today?
- How do you feel like an exile, a stranger in a strange land?
- How do you need (or how has God already) to find God in the dislocation and disruption that characterizes our time?
- How have you experienced the shalom-peace of God to be different than the peace of the world?

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

November Birthdays

19 Radman Beatty

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tonight Youth Group is on the road! We're seeing the movie *Wonder* at AMC Bay Street at 4:10pm .

CAPC Choir | after worship & Tuesdays 5:30-6:30pm

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

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

The Vocabulary of Faith | Sunday 9:30 in the Library
Find the text we study copied in the entry or online.

Christmas Decorating. Today after worship! Help us Christmas-ify our church space as we enter into the Advent and Christmas Season. Monte will provide lunch for the workers.

Session Meeting | Thursday, November 30th 7:30pm

Theology on Tap | Tuesday, December 5th 7:30pm at the Golden Squirrel. Safe, Open BYO conversation.

Advent Family Dinners. We're again celebrating Advent by gathering on Sunday nights for a simple pot-luck dinner. We're looking for folks who would be willing and able to open their home to host the dinners. This doesn't mean cooking, etc., merely welcoming folks to your home from 6-8pm. We're looking for hosts for the dinner on December 17th. Sign-up today or contact Monte.

Crossroads Antiracism & Training Event Saturday, December 9th @ 9am - 5pm at Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana Flyers in the Entryway.

Thank You to Today's Leadership:

Ushers: Bill Beatty, Sharon Nelson

Liturgist: Fredora Darmstadt

Fellowship: Chickwendu Okereke & Family

Godly Play: Bill Beatty (ST); Cameron Beatty (DK)

Musicians: Dave Eagle, Eli Torrez,
Kevin Goldberg, Pete Feltman

Leadership for next week, 12/3/17:

Ushers: Bob Brylawski; Jeff Trowbridge

Liturgist: *Can you help as liturgist/reader?*

Fellowship: Fredora Darmstadt, Kristy McClain

Godly Play: Children Remain in Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP

*The community is invited to respond to each phrase in the bold font.
The reader reads the plain font. ~ prayer take from the Iona Prayer Book:
the Pattern of our Days, reflection on Pilgrimage & Journeys.*

One: The Lord says: When the time comes,
I will answer the prayers of my people.

Those seated on the Right (near the gym):
I will betroth you to myself forever

Those seated on the Left (near the garden):
With integrity and justice,
with tenderness and love.

Right: I will betroth you to myself with faithfulness,

Left: And you will come to know me.

Right: I will say: You are my people,

Left: And you will answer: You are our God.

Right: For once you were outside mercy.

Left: But not you have been given mercy.

ALL: THIS IS OUR HOPE, OUR LIVING HOPE.
WE SHALL BE GLAD.

One: The Lord says: When the time comes,
heaven and earth will answer each other
and I will love the unloved.

FOR I KNOW
FOR PLANS I HAVE THE
FOR YOU
DECLARES
THE LORD
AND PLANS TO
PROSPER YOU
NOT TO HARM YOU
PLANS TO GIVE YOU
HOPE & A FUTURE

LYRICS TO THIS MORNING'S SONGS:

"Let All Things Now Living"

Author: Katherine Davis (1939); Blue Hymnal #554

1. Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the creator triumphantly raise.
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, Pure light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night.
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished
As forward we travel from light into light.

2. By law God enforces, the stars in their courses
The sun in its orbit obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration a Song let us raise
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, Hosanna and praise!"

"Come And Find The Quiet Center"

Author: Shirley Erena Murray

1. Come and find the quiet center
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.

2 Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.

3 In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!

BLESSING AND REPENTANCE

The community is invited to respond to each phrase in the bold font. The reader reads the plain font. ~ prayer take from the Iona Prayer Book: the Pattern of our Days, reflection on Pilgrimage & Journeys.

One: God of strangeness and desire,
We bless you for enticing us
To the last place we wanted to be,
The place where we can hide no longer,
Where we must face our own emptiness
And see our false gods fall.
We bless you for the immeasurable relief
Of self-exposure,
For the miracle of survival,
And for coming to us in unexpected guises

All: Blessed are you, God of strangeness and desire.

One: But if we have turned in upon our emptiness,
Refused the risks you require of us,
Idolized our self-sufficiency,
And clung to our captivity,

**All: Have mercy on us,
God who wrestles and embraces us,
Shatter our illusions,
Refuse your comfort of angels,
Feed our hope and our hunger
With the adventurous faith
Of your Spirit
Until grace is our only sufficiency.
Amen.**

"Silently We Look with God"

John Bell

Silently We Look with God
On all that God has made
Improvised eternally
God 's wonder is displayed.

"Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart"

Don Moen

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"

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

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Author: Martin Luther (1529); Translator: Frederick H. Hedge (1852) Tune: EIN FESTE BURG; Blue Hymnal #260

1. A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
Our helper He,
amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing:
For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great,
and, armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing:
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth, His Name,
from age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.

3. And though this world,
with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear,
for God hath willed His truth
to triumph through us:
The Prince of Darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure,
for lo, his doom is sure,
One little word shall fell him.

4. That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
through Him Who with us sideth:
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
The body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is forever.