

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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February 24, 2019

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

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

GATHERING SONG "All Are Welcome (let us build a house)" - *Insert*

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "Though I May Speak" - *Blue Hymnal # 335*

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

CELEBRATING GOD'S GOOD CREATION IN BLACK HISTORY MONTH - *Sharon Nelson*

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

SUNG RESPONSE "Piedad" - *Blue Hymnal #395*

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.**

Celebrating the Life of Tim Nuveen during 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 "Lift Every Voice And Sing" - *Blue Hymnal #563*

READING OF SCRIPTURE 1 John 4:1-19 *Pew Bible, pp. 1184*

SERMON "I Am Because We Are & When It Falls Apart" - *Monte McClain*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE Mash Up of "Take O Take Me & Thuma Mina" - *Insert*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATING GOD'S GOOD CREATION AT LUNAR NEW YEAR THROUGH THE LIFE STORY OF Rev. Frank Mar - *Gary Yee*

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 GOD "Ping An" (Mandarin, Chinese)

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
1 John 4:1-19

I AM
BECAUSE
WE ARE

Human nature is by nature one of striving. It's what the creation story of Genesis points to when God condemns Adam and Eve to great toil in bringing forth and sustaining life. Yet it's also one of great creativity, passion and collaboration. This is pointed to in the theological notion of the *missio dei* when God creates humanity in the divine image in Genesis 1:27. Like God, we are made for creative, mutual life-in-community.

In the ancient world this paradox was understood through the worldview that human beings were part divine but which had been tainted, soiled, or corrupted by the flesh, life in the physical world. It sounds quite different, and yet it also resonates with the conception of sin and what Augustine called the notion of "original sin." The extreme belief in this disparity between spiritual or divine was the philosophy of docetism. It was the major theological problem which was dividing the church to which our letter is written.

The author writes that the person of Jesus the Christ (not the idea of him) embodies both the highest human spirituality and the fullness of the presence of God. Jesus is the center of faith. Faith is confessing Jesus and the balance of divine and human, spiritual and physical incarnate with him as the image of God. The veracity of that confession is demonstrated in a life that consequently and necessarily reflects actively the Love that God is and gives because of life in God.

Yet, all too often we transform faith in Christ from loving actions to a feeling of superiority because we uphold the correct beliefs or state faith in the most appropriate way. Words do matter, but if they're not accompanied, or embodied in action then they're merely a clanging symbol making noise but changing nothing. 1 John remind us that love is not a commandment, rather the commandment is to love. We are because Jesus is.

While the author of 1 John is addressing a long-gone church facing the ancient theological problem of docetism, the letter also addresses the role which we are called to play *today*, the word we are invited to incarnate, the love we are commanded to root ourselves in and pay forward.

QUESTIONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF EXAMEN & CONTEMPLATION

- **What shimmers in your attention in this reading?**
- **Inherent in the text today is the evocation of a debate, division or dispute within the community. How are we called to love as Christ loves even in divisive disputes?**
- **Right belief is demonstrated by active love of others as God loves us. How does that play out in our community life?; your own personal life in terms of hard relationships, that may need forgiveness, expressions of gratitude and in which may it's hard to say – and do – I love you?**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY LIFE CALENDAR

Happy Lunar New Year – *which we celebrate today with special liturgy and coffee hour.*

The Vocabulary of Faith | Sundays 9:30-10:20a

Youth Group tonight 7-8:30p for Middle & High School Students

ESL – Immigrant Ministry | We teach English as a Second Language classes at Primera Iglesia of Oakland (High Street) Mondays from 7-9pm. *It's a great way to love our neighbors and join in what God's doing right here in Oakland.*

Choir Practice | Tuesdays 5:30pm

Celtic Prayer Group | 6:45-8:15 every Wednesday. Light meal. Meets near CAL.

Friday Night Meal this week, Friday 6-7pm.
Contact Ellen Brylawski if you'd like to help.

Women's Group, Saturday 8:30am | in the church library (meets 1st, 2nd, 3rd Saturdays)

Session Meeting | Thursday, 7:30pm

Give a Relational Tithe | Encourage another with a hand-written note. Cards on the back wall!

Pick up a copy of a letter written by Ross Laverty to the church community | in the entry

Faith in the Public Square | You can join in!
Sign up to help with current events this am.

National Day of Unplugging March 1-2. Take the pledge to disconnect for 24 hours from your devices to better connect with the world around you! *Talk to Monte to get involved!*

Lent Small Groups & Worship – Grounded
In Lent (starting March 6th) we're forming small groups to read and interact around the questions raised in the book *Grounded* by Diana Butler Bass. *Sign-up to join a group and order a book this morning.*

Thank you to Today's Leadership
Fellowship: Gary Yee & Patt Schroeder
Godly Play: Beth Beatty (ST); F. Darmstadt (DK)
Black History Month Sharing: Sharon Nelson

Leadership for next week, 3/3/19:
Fellowship: David Kittams & Marda Stothers
No Godly Play
Black History Month Sharing: Chickwendu Okereke

LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

"Let Us Build A House"

*Marty Haugen (1994); Glory to God Hymnal #301
Text © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc.*

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

3. Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

5. Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.

Continued next column...

Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING

Today's response comes from a litany taken from Ubuntu Day of Service at <http://www.ministrywith.org/>

One: Awesome God, we thank you for creation, the beauty of its interdependence, and the mystery of wholeness.

All: God of the universe, we have come here to celebrate the connectedness of creation and face-to-face encounters with each other.

One: Emmanuel, God-with-us, you assure us of your enduring presence and relationship.

All: God of unity, inspire us with new ways of being in community with each other.

One: God who bears our pain, enable us to connect with the pains of people.

All: Jesus, Lamb of God, connect us with the pain of each other and with the pain of God.

One: Holy Spirit who revives us and accompanies us, equip us with the possibility of sharing our burdens and lightening the load each of us carries.

All: Ever-abiding Holy Spirit, lead us on with a spirit of solidarity, listening, and joy.

One: Relationship-bestowing God, we are because of each other. Bless and inspire our celebration of your love in community.

All: God who cares for the whole, anoint us with your spirit. Give us traction in our journey so that we can experience the truth that if one suffers, we all suffer.

One: Behold, the mutual love between God and neighbor. How sweet it is!

All: Behold the love of God urging us to love in action!

"Though I May Speak"

*Hal H. Hopson (1972) | Tune: O WALY WALY
Blue Hymnal #335*

1. Though I may speak with bravest fire
And have the gift to all inspire
And have not love my words are vain
As sounding brass and hopeless gain
2. Though I may give all I possess
And striving so my love profess
But not be given by love within
The profit soon turns strangely thin
3. Come spirit come our hearts control
Our spirits long to be made whole
Let inward love guide every deed
By this we worship and are freed
4. And as we talk of things in our world
Help us to hear your word unfurled
That we may live beyond compare
Until that day we meet you there

"Piedad (Have Mercy, Lord, on Me)"

Author: Marcelino Montoya

*Translator: George Paul Simmonds (1968)
Blue Hymnal #395*

1. Take pity, Lord, I pray Thee,
Thy mercy show to me,
My sins and my wrongdoing
I now confess to thee, hear my prayer;
From all of my transgressions
Thou, Lord, Hast set me free,
Thy blood so precious shedding
Upon the cruel tree.

Refrain:

Have mercy, Lord, A sinner cries to Thee,
Have mercy, Lord, Have mercy, Lord, on me.

2. O holy Lord Almighty,
My need to Thee I bear,
Although undone, unworthy,
I pray Thee, hear my prayer;
O Lamb for sinners wounded,
Redeemer of mankind,
Eternal life and pardon
My soul in Thee doth find.

"Take O Take Me As I Am / Thuma Mina"

by John L. Bell & Gabe Huck, © 1995 WGRG, Iona, admin.

*Traditional, South Africa ; Transcriber: David Dargie;
A Roman Catholic priest for many years, Fr. Dargie
observed that many priests resorted to using European or
North American melodies they knew and ignored the rich
heritage of South African music, especially the music of the
Xhosa and Zulu peoples. || Glory to God Hymnal #746*

Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me

1. Thuma mina, thuma mina,
thuma mina somandla
2. Send me Jesus, send me Jesus,
send me Jesus into the world
3. Lead me Jesus, lead me Jesus,
lead me Jesus into the world
4. Thuma mina, thuma mina,
thuma mina somandla
5. Fill me Jesus, fill me Jesus,
fill me Jesus Fill me Lord
6. Teach me Jesus, teach me Jesus,
teach me Jesus teach me Lord
7. Thuma mina, thuma mina,
thuma mina somandla
8. Save me Jesus, save me Jesus,
save me Jesus save me Lord
9. Send me Jesus, send me Jesus,
Send me Jesus into the world.
10. Thuma mina, thuma mina,
thuma mina somandla

"Lift Every Voice And Sing"

James Weldon Johnson, 1921

Blue Hymnal #563

Please stand as we sing this hymnal together.

3 God of our weary years, God of silent tears
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way
Thou who hast by thy might led us into the light
Keep us forever in the path we pray
Lest our feet stray from the places
our God where we meet thee
Lest our hearts drunk with the wine
of the world we forget thee
Shadowed beneath thy hand
may we forever stand
True to our God,
true to our native land



ubuntu

(n.) "I am what I am because of who we all are";
compassion, kindness and humanity that connect
us together by sharing ourselves with others
and caring for those around us

BANTU | wordstock

PRAYER

773

Send Me, Jesus

Thuma mina

Leader

1 Send me, Lord.

All

1 Send me, Je - sus, send me, Je - sus, send me,
Je - sus, lead me, Je - sus, lead me,
Je - sus, fill me, Je - sus, fill me,

2 Lead me, Lord.
3 Fill me, Lord.

Je - sus, send me, Lord. 2 Lead me,
Je - sus, lead me, Lord. 3 Fill me,
Je - sus, fill me, Lord.

1 *Thuma mina*
Thuma mina, thuma mina
Thuma mina, somandla

2 *Roma nna*
roma nna, roma nna
roma nna, modimo

Text: South African
Music: South African
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THUMA MINA
irregular

Let Us Build a House

All Are Welcome

Capo 3: (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (Bm) (C7) F C C F B \flat C Dm

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa-ter,
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be-yond the
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A) (F) C C Dm7 Gm C

safe-ly live, a place where saints and chil-dren tell
 strong and true, where all God's chil-dren dare to seek
 wine, and wheat; a ban-quet hall on ho-ly ground
 wood and stone-to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
 vi-sions heard and loved and trea-sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (G) (Bm) (Em) Gm C7 F B \flat Am Dm

how hearts learn to for-give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 to dream God's reign a-new. Here the cross shall stand as
 where peace and jus-tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 and live the Word they've known. Here the out-cast and the
 as words with-in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

(Em) (A) (D) (G) (Em) Gm C F B \flat

vi-sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
 wit-ness and as sym-bol of God's grace; here as
 Je-sus, is re-vealed in time and space; as we
 strang-er bear the im-age of God's face; let us
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

THE CHURCH

Refrain (Em) (Bm) (Em) Gm Dm

love of Christ shall end di-vi-sions:
 one we claim the faith of Je-sus:
 share in Christ the feast that frees us:
 bring an end to fear and dan-ger:
 house pro-claim from floor to raf-ter:

(F#m) (Em) (D) (Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D)/(A7) (F) Gm C7 F B \flat F C7

all are wel-come; all are wel-come in this place.