

College Avenue Presbyterian Church  
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# METAMORPHOSIS



## Welcome to CAPC Oakland!

We are a reformed, multicultural, 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 simple drink and 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

February 26, 2017

GATHERING SONG

"Immortal Invisible"

- insert

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE

"Great is the Lord"

- insert

A LITURGY OF DOUBT

TIME OF CONFESSION

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

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Forgive Us Lord"

- 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 in the lounge off the entryway.*

CELEBRATING THE DIVERSE BEAUTY OF GOD'S GOOD CREATION: BLACK HISTORY MONTH

- Sharon Nelson

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

OFFERTORY SONG

"Lift Every Voice And Sing"

- insert, v.3

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Luke 9:28-45

- Daniel Geary

- Pew Bible, p. 1004

SERMON

"God's Yeses to the World's Nos"

- Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Be Thou My Vision"

- insert

MOMENT FOR DEACONS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Jeff Trowbridge

SENDING CALL AND RESPONSE

Leader: God is good!

**People: All the time!**

Leader: And 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 at work towards the healing transformation of the world.*

## Thoughts on Today's Bible Text

### Luke 9:25-48

Last week we read of Jesus challenging the status quo in society, the fear of the "other" who didn't fit it, or behave according to tradition. Such fear led to an exclusivist vision of God who seemed to see creation not as children but as divided among friends and adversaries. We jump a few chapters to this seminal story in the gospel, located at its center point. The closest friends of Jesus see him for who is truly is, and are silenced in their desire to advise him, as he turns from traveling through the villages preaching to focus on the city of Jerusalem: capital of politics, theology, culture and Jewish identity.

This story is commonly called "The transfiguration [of Jesus]." In the other gospels, the Greek word for transformation (*"metamorphothe"* from where comes our English word of *metamorphosis*) is used to describe Jesus on the mountaintop. It's a radical change and shift, an event that transforms those who go through it. Throughout the Hebrew Scriptures we see that the Hebrew people concerned mountaintops to be holy or sacred spaces upon which God had at times been encountered. Here the disciples don't know what to do. The voice from the heavens points us back to the voice which thundered at the baptism of Jesus in Luke 3:22. It underlies the text affirms that Jesus changes, becomes "other" while still being the same.

Come down from that mountaintop experience we witness the disciples unable to exorcise an evil spirit. That expression can also be translated as an unholy spirit, or a breath contrary to the breath of God breathed into humanity at creation. Once again it's in prayer that Jesus becomes, or is witnessed to be, "other" : able to do what no one else can.

As I read the story I'm struck by the yeses of God and the nos of the world. The disciples are terrified, not wanting to leave the mountaintop. The voice of God tells them to listen, obey, to follow. Later the other disciples and crowd say that healing this boy is impossible, perhaps not wanted, that the child is helpless or unworthy of healing. God say yes to the father through Jesus. In our world we often are told no – in terms of freedom, possibility, our identity, God's call for us and touch upon us. Jesus is the divine yes – encouraging, empowering, liberating, redeeming us.

### Questions for the practice of Examen & Contemplation

\*What strikes you in this passage ? How does it interact with what you're living these days, or thinking about?

\* Have you ever been transformed, awestruck, or afraid, in an eyewitness experience of God's presence? When have you had an unquestionable sense of God's presence? Glory? Voice?

\*How do you hear the Spirit of God speaking through this text, giving you hope?; extending an invitation to act, become or speak?

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

### March Birthdays

1 Al Barnes	
6 Jeff Trowbridge	Chris Wenzler
9 Emily Wenzler	12 Kristy McClain
17 Louise Hirschman	22 Ellen Brylawski
24 Marda Stothers	28 Lucian Haynes (2010)
31 Gordon Laverty	

### March Anniversaries

3 Mike and Lori Castner (1979)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Faith in the public square** | EDUCATIONAL TABLE AT BART REGARDING THE NATIONAL DAY OF UNPLUGGING  
Come help Monte staff a table at BART Monday from 5-7pm during rushhour to engage our community.

**CAPC Choir** | Wed 6-7pm and Sun at 11:50am. Talk to Pete for more information, or just come and join in!

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

**The Vocabulary of Faith Bible Study** | Sunday 9:30  
Find the text we study together online & copy in the entry

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

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

**Congregational Meeting** | Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> – electing new deacons, elders & a nominating committee

**Retreat Planning Meeting** | today Sunday, 2/26 @ 1:30pm at Acapulco's Restaurant (2100 Lincoln Ave | Alameda)

**Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner** | Tuesday, 2/28 @ 6pm.

**Ash Wednesday Mediation Service with Interactive Prayer Stations** | Wednesday, 3/1 @ 7:30pm

**CAPC Book Club:** Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>  
We're discussing *All the Light We Cannot See*.

**Potluck Movie Night:** Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Film: "The Motorcycle Diaries". Bring a Mexican dish to share!

### Thank You to Today's Leadership:

Ushers: Anne Marie Adams, Sharon Nelson  
Liturgist: Daniel Geary  
Fellowship: Beth & Bill Beatty  
Godly Play: Joy Barnes (ST); Fredora Darmstadt (DK)  
Black History Month Sharing: Sharon Nelson  
Musicians: Dave Eagle, Swen Hendrickson, Roger Kim & Pete Feltman

### Leadership for next week, 3/5/17 :

Ushers: Albert Hussian, Jeff Trowbridge  
Liturgist: Can you help?  
Fellowship: David Kittams & Marda Stothers  
Godly Play: Children in worship for Communion  
Black History Month Sharing: Gary Yee

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 36, New Revised Translation

Reader reads plain font, **the people the bold.**

Leader: Transgression speaks to the wicked  
deep in their hearts;  
there is no fear of God before their eyes.

**All: For they flatter themselves in their own eyes  
that their iniquity cannot be found out and hated.  
The words of their mouths are mischief and deceit;  
they have ceased to act wisely and do good.**

Leader: They plot mischief while on their beds;  
they are set on a way that is not good;  
they do not reject evil.

**All: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,  
your faithfulness to the clouds.  
Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,  
your judgments are like the great deep;  
you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.**

Leader: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!  
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**All: : they feast on the abundance of your house,  
you give them drink from the river of your delights.  
For with you is the fountain of life;  
in your light we see light.**

Leader: O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,  
and your salvation to the upright of heart!

**All: Do not let the foot of the arrogant tread on me,  
or the hand of the wicked drive me away.  
There the evildoers lie prostrate;  
they are thrust down, unable to rise.**

## SONG LYRICS

### “Immortal Invisible”

Walter C. Smith (1867)

based on 1 Timothy 1:17

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes  
Most blessed, most glorious the ancient of days  
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise

2. Unresting unchanging and silent as light  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might  
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love

3. To all life Thou givest to both great and small  
In all life Thou livest the true life of all  
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree  
Then wither and perish but naught changeth Thee

Continued....

4. Thou reignest in glory, Thou rulest in light  
Thine angels adore Thee all veiling their sight  
All praise we should render O help us to see  
Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee

### “Great Is The Lord”

Debbie and Michael W. Smith (1982)

Great is the lord, he is holy and just  
By this power we trust in his love  
Great is the lord, he is faithful and true  
By his mercy he proves he is love  
Great is the lord and worthy of glory  
Great is the lord and worthy of praise  
Great is the lord now lift up your voice  
Now lift up your voice Great is the lord  
Great is the lord

### Forgive Us, Lord (Pardon, Señor)”

Author: Jorge Lockward (1995)

Translator: Raquel Mora Martínez (1995)

Glory to God Hymnal #431

Forgive us, Lord. Forgive us, Lord.

1. For grievance and injustice:  
Forgive us, Lord.  
Aloofness and indifference.  
Forgive us, Lord.

2. For weakness and transgression:  
Forgive us, Lord.  
Resistance and rebellion:  
Forgive us, Lord.

3. In your eternal mercy:  
Forgive us, Lord.  
In your sustaining grace:  
Forgive us, Lord.

### “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

Author: James Weldon Johnson (1921)

3. God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who hast 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 met 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.

## **“Be Thou My Vision”**

*Mary E. Byrne; translated the Old Irish Hymn,  
"Bí Thusa 'mo Shúile," into English in 1905.*

1. Be thou my vision O lord of my heart  
Nought be all else to me save that thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light
2. Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word  
I ever with thee and thou with me lord  
Thou my soul's shelter and thou my high tower  
Still be my vision O ruler of all
3. Riches I heed not nor vain empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance now and always  
Thou and thou only first in my heart  
Great God of heaven my treasure thou art
4. High King of heaven my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys O bright heaven's sun  
Heart of my own heart whatever befall  
Still be my vision O ruler of all