

**College Avenue Presbyterian Church**  
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**CAPCOAKLAND**

## 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 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



The Second Week of Lent  
 March 12, 2017

GATHERING SONG

"Come Thou Fount"

- Blue Hymnal #356

CALL TO WORSHIP

- Psalm 23

SONG OF PRAISE

"I Sing The Mighty Power Of God"

- Blue Hymnal #288

*Those going to Godly Play are invited to come forward and depart through the double doors on the left at the conclusion of this song.*

TIME OF CONFESSION

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

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Come and Find the Quiet Center"

- 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.*

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

OFFERTORY SONG

"In the Lord"

- insert

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Luke 13:1-9, 31-35

- Margaret Smith  
 - Pew Bible, p. 1010

SERMON

"Sometimes Life Just Stinks"

- Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

CALLED AS DISCIPLES TO A COMMUNITY THAT CONFIRMS OUR CALL TO SERVICE

ELECTION OF DEACONS, ELDERS & THE 2017 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

SONG OF RESPONSE

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

- Blue Hymnal #172

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

"La Paz de Dios"

(Spanish)

*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 13:1-9, 31-35

The gospel of Luke is written with a Gentile or Greek-speaking cultured people in mind. To them the author writes an account, composed using eyewitness accounts, of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. As Jesus has continued to teach and heal, he has frequently defied people's expectations about how a holy man behaves. In today's text the Pharisees warn Jesus to "get away from here" because King Herod has it in for him. We might expect Jesus to take the hint and high-tail it out of there. However, Jesus is not on a journey to get away from it all. He is on a journey to get into it all, specifically into the midst of Jerusalem, into the heart of the people of God -- even when they are determined to destroy him out of fear of his mission.

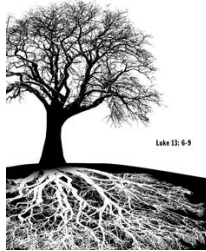
Is the Pharisees' warning friendly or hostile? Modern readers too readily assume that Pharisees were legalistic, oppressive, religious authorities out to "get" Jesus because he violated Torah and taught the love of God. However, Luke's portrays a mixed attitude among the Pharisees. They do question his ministry and scriptural interpretation. Yet it's likely, that some of them were genuinely interested in learning from him. Here while teaching Jesus is interrupted with tragic news of the massacre of Galilean citizens killed while offering sacrifices in the temple, possibly during a riot. While responding to the timeless question of theodicy (why bad things happen to good people), Jesus recalls another local tragedy: the random collapse of a local tower and subsequent inexplicable loss of many lives. Jesus refuses to say that those who died did so to suffer the consequences or punishment of their sin. He turns from a philosophical discussion in the third person to a directed invitation to repent, convert, make a U-turn in how we live. No one can escape the possibility of bad things, or evil. So how then will we live today, not to gain an advantage, or to avoid a threat, but to truly live?

Jesus later tells a parable about an unfruitful fig tree. It needs fertilizer, manure, in order to grow, be nourished and hopefully produce fruit. Yet if it doesn't it will eventually be chopped down. Everything is done to encourage and empower a fruitful life. But the consequences of producing no fruit is destruction, in order for a new tree to be planted which might grow fruit. Jesus then mourns prophetically over Jerusalem: the capital city in terms of religion, social identity and economics. It seems to be unfruitful in the eyes of Jesus, in need of conversion, transformation, a good pruning and plenty of manure. Sometimes life stinks, whether you've earned it or not. Yet sometimes the stink of manure is a necessary, unavoidable, part of the fullness of life. In the same way, paradoxically, the darkness and pain of random tragedy and loss can be part of the life-giving light or transformative hope and gracious abundance.

### 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?

\* How do you hear this parable and teaching impacting your life, our life, together today? How does it give you hope or direction?



## 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

1 Cameron & Mercy Beatty (2002)  
3 Mike and Lori Castner (1979)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**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 Bible as an Open Book (Bible Study)** | Sunday 9:30  
Find the text we study together online & copy in the entry

**Letter Writing on behalf of the Golden Squirrel** | Our neighbors are looking for community letter-writing support. If you're willing, look for the blue how to aid in the entryway.

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

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

**Coffee & Conversations** | Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> 10-11am on the patio in front of Safeway at College @ Claremont. Safe, Open Real conversation about faith & ethics.

**Men's Breakfast** | Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> 8:30am at 5653 Ocean View Dr. 94618. RSVP to Bill at (510) 851-2237

**Annual BYO St Patrick's Day Lunch** | Brennan's Sports Bar and Restaurant Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm  
700 University Ave, Berkeley, 94710

**Taizé Song & Prayer for Lent:** Wednesdays, 7:30pm

**Accompanying Immigrants:** Are you interested? Listen for Louise's announcement. Tell her if you'd like to help.

**Discovering and Deepening Spiritual Practices:** a bi-weekly cohort meeting during Lent. Talk to Monte.

### Thank You to Today's Leadership:

Ushers: Chickwendu Okereke, Joy Banres  
Liturgist: Margaret Smith  
Fellowship: Michael Mendonca, Toni Proulx  
Godly Play: Bill Beatty (ST); Elaine Price (DK)  
Musicians: Dave Eagle, Swen Hendrickson, Roger Kim & Pete Feltman

### Leadership for next week, 3/19/17 :

Ushers: Albert Hussian, Jeff Trowbridge  
Liturgist: Fredora Darmstadt  
Fellowship: Margaret Smith  
Godly Play: Linda Davis (ST); Cameron Beatty (DK)

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 23, The Modern English Translation

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

Leader: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**All: Making me lie down in green pastures;  
Leading me beside still waters.**

Leader: The Lord restores my soul;  
leading me in paths of righteousness  
for the name's sake.

**All: Even though I walk  
through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;  
for You are with me;  
Your rod and Your staff,  
they comfort me.**

Leader: You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup runs over.

**All: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

## SONG LYRICS

### “Come Thou Fount”

*Robert Robinson (1758, alt.)*

1 Come, thou Fount of every blessing;  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
mount of God's unchanging love!

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
hither by thy help I'm come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.

3 O to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart; O take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

### “I Sing The Mighty Power Of God”

*Isaac Watts*

1 I sing the mighty power of God  
that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad  
and built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
the sun to rule the day.  
The moon shines full at God's command,  
and all the stars obey.

2 I sing the goodness of the Lord  
who filled the earth with food.  
God formed the creatures through the Word,  
and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,  
where'er I turn my eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread,  
or gaze upon the sky!

3 There's not a plant or flower below  
but makes thy glories known.  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
by order from thy throne,  
while all that borrows life from thee  
is ever in thy care,  
and everywhere that we can be,  
thou, God, art present there.

### “Come and Find the Quiet Center”

*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.

*continued on back....*

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!

**“In the Lord, I'll be Ever Thankful”**

*Taizé Community*

In the Lord, I'll be ever thankful,  
In the Lord, I'll rejoice.  
Look to God, do not be afraid,  
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;  
Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

**“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”**

*Isaac Watts*

1. My shepherd will supply my need;  
Jehovah is his name.  
In pastures fresh he makes me feed,  
beside the living stream.  
He brings my wandering spirit back  
when I forsake his ways,  
and leads me, for his mercy's sake,  
in paths of truth and grace.

2. When I walk through the shades of death  
your presence is my stay;  
one word of your supporting breath  
drives all my fears away.  
Your hand, in sight of all my foes,  
does still my table spread;  
my cup with blessings overflows;  
your oil anoints my head.

3. The sure provisions of my God  
attend me all my days;  
O may your house be my abode,  
and all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest,  
while others go and come;  
no more a stranger, or a guest,  
but like a child at home.