

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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April 8, 2018

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 HYMN
 CALL TO WORSHIP
 SONG OF PRAISE

"God Welcomes All"

- insert

"Be Thou My Vision"

- 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.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

READING OF SCRIPTURE
 SERMONNETTE

John 20:19-32
 "Life In Christ's Name"

pp. 1052
 - Rev. Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

CELEBRATING OUR MISSIONAL COMMUNITY THROUGH SHARING LIFE IN CHRIST

You are invited to tour through the Missional Community Celebration on the first floor of the church to engage with others, hearing personal stories of missional connections, service & organizations with which you can connect to join in the ongoing work of God in the world

- English as a Second Language, Collaborating with Local Immigrants
- Friday Night Dinner Ministry here at CAPC (Ellen Brylawski)
- Harbor House, specifically their Christmas Market (Linda Davis)
- Holy Cow(s) in Rwanda (Beth Beatty)
- La Ceiba Coffee (Karl Shadley)
- Missionary Prof. Bernard Adeney-Risakotta working in Indonesia (Gary Yee)
- Swords into Ploughshares Work with Homeless Veterans (Ben Bencomo)

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

"There is a Redeemer"

- insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, ACT OF CONFESSION & 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

COMMUNION: THE MEAL OF STRENGTH FOR THE JOURNEY OF FAITH

We celebrate by intinction, coming forward to receive the meal. If you'd prefer an individual cup or to be served at your seat, please raise your hand during our celebration as we'll attend to you.

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 "Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed!"

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 John 20:19-32



Jesus has risen from the dead. Now what? The gospel of John ends with this chapter which contains four stories around the resurrection. The first two: the empty tomb and Mary and the gardener, we read last week. They close the story told by John, which began with the majestic prologue of the first chapter retelling and reframing the story of creation (Genesis 1-2). Here, at the conclusion, we return to the garden where Mary (and we by extension as the readers) experience the living resurrected Christ, it's a re-entry into the Garden of Eden, a re-creation, all things becoming new.

Today in verses 19-32 we encounter the second scene of the last act. New creation shifts to the image of God breathing the breath of life (the spirit) into humankind to give life. It happens first in Genesis 2:7 in the garden of Eden. Here in the locked room, it's echoed like a baptism story. Jesus makes all things new. It's not just their story, but our story of faith, journey, recreation and being sent as apostles in his name as the last verse makes clear.

Thomas struggles to believe. He hasn't seen or heard for himself. He wants proof. He can't believe just on the testimony and words of others. I've always thought that he believes once he touches the wounds of Jesus with his own hands. And yet, the text doesn't say he touched him. Thomas sees with new eyes. His faith is recreated. He doesn't need to touch the wounds in order to believe. He encounters the living presence of Jesus – and falls on his knees proclaiming a profession of faith. He comes to faith when he experiences the truth of the testimony that he'd received.

"Peace be with you!" Jesus repeats it three times. Is his insistence a proclamation that peace is now here? It's what he promised to give the disciples earlier at the dinner in John 13. He wouldn't give it like the world gives. The disciples receive it with the breathing of the breath, or spirit of God. It's so close, within them so that they know it intimately, actively, personally. It's a gift that puts them in motion, sending them into the world to testify to the life that we can know, the peace we can have, the bringing-of-that-peace-into-being in the world. That's what apostles – those who are sent (for the Greek word used here *apostollein* means "to send") – to continue the work of inviting others to live life in his name, near and far, day and night, in extraordinary circumstances and in the daily grind.

Questions for the practice of Examen & Contemplation

- What shimmers for you in this story?
- John 20 gives four examples of coming to faith: With which do you identify as per your own faith journey? How?
- Resurrection is a dynamic new creation. A baptism. It's not just a static receiving, but also a consequential sending (remember that's what the word apostle means!). How are we (you) sent into the world? To do what? To be what? How do we live that out together as a faith community?

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

8 Andrea Rondini 13 Toni Proulx
20 Kelechi Okereke

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY: Mission-al Sunday: Our worship this morning is different than normal! We gather for a sermonette and end with communion. In between you can circulate among different tables of church members to hear about ways in which you can be involved in ministries of justice, grace and love!

Youth Group. Tonight! Sundays 7-8:30pm

Help Teach our ESL Class tomorrow, Mon 7-9pm

Coffee & Conversations : Tuesday, April 10th, 10-11am on the patio in front of Safeway at College @ Claremont. Safe, open, caffeinated BYO conversation around a spiritual-theological-or-ethical question.

Women's Group – 1,2, 3rd Saturdays, 8:30am

Friday Night Meal Fridays 6-7pm

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

Help Teach our ESL Class tomorrow, Mon 7-9pm
With Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana 1941 High St.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Our annual offering for PCUSA mission. Label your gift – OGHS.

Staff News | Pete Feltman is on vacation today, and will be back for worship next Sunday, 4/15.

Monte McClain will be meeting with his pastors' group for a yearly retreat Monday to Friday.

Celebrating the Life of Ward Stothers – Saturday, April 14th 4:00pm | Here at CAPC Oakland.

Free Community Concert - Sunday, April 29th 2-3:30pm. Offered by our musicians. Save the Date!!!!

Art Show Sundays in April. Our own Barbara Epstein-Eagle is showing prints of her watercolor paintings. They are available for purchase. Questions? Ask Barbara

Thank you to today's Leadership

Fellowship: Beth & Bill Beatty
Godly Play: Linda Davis (ST); Maya Patil (DK)

Leadership for next week, 4/15/18:

Fellowship: Bob & Ellen Brylawski
Godly Play: Bill Beatty (ST); Emma Fleming (DK)

LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S WORSHIP

"God Welcomes All"

John Bell, Iona Community

God welcomes all,
Strangers and friends;
God's love is strong
And it never ends.

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Inspired by John 20:19-31, Written by Rev. Martha Spong, and posted on LiturgyLink. Reader reads the normal font, the congregation responds with **the text in BOLD PRINT**.*

Christ is risen!

Now what?

The disciples clung to each other.
They huddled in the upper room, waiting.

Would the authorities come to take them, too?

Instead, Jesus himself appeared, despite the locked door.

What next?

Next came doubts and questions,
assurances and instructions, and a last word:

"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Christ is risen! Now what?

Now we come together to live life in him.

May the risen Christ bless us

as we worship what we have not seen, yet believe.

"Be Thou My Vision"

Translator: Mary E. Byrne (1905)

Versifier: Eleanor Hull (1912, alt.)

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught 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;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King 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.

"There is a Redeemer"

Melody Green (1982)

1. There is a redeemer
Jesus, God's own Son
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah
Holy One

Refrain:

Thank you, oh my father
For giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit
'Til the work on Earth is done

2. Jesus my redeemer
Name above all names
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah
Oh, for sinners slain.

Refrain:

Thank you, oh my father
For giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit
'Til the work on Earth is done

3. When I stand in Glory
I will see His face
And there I'll serve my King forever
In that Holy Place