

College Avenue Presbyterian Church  
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# NEIGHBORHOOD

## FINDING GOD IN THE WORLD

April 14, 2019  
 Palm Sunday

### 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 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

### GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

GATHERING SONG "All Glory Laud and Honor" - Blue Hymnal #88

### CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "Hosanna Loud Hosanna" - Blue Hymnal #89

*Children from 2 years to 6<sup>th</sup> 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

### 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 "Siyahamba" - Insert

READING OF SCRIPTURE John 1:1-14; 12:12-19 - Pew Bible pp.

SERMON "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" - Rev. Monte McClain

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### ACT OF CONFESSION

*OPENING OURSELVES TO BEING UNDONE, THAT WE MIGHT BE REDONE*

Our confessional response today involves coming forward and writing that from which we need God to deliver and save us on the red banners which evoke the blood spilled in ancient Hebrew sacrifice to both restore a whole and right relationship with God as well as the blood of the lamb Moses commanded to be painted on the door lintels at the Passover in Egypt.

SUNG RESPONSE "Take O Take Me" - Insert

DECLARATION OF GRACE. *THE IN-BREAKING OF GOD'S GRACE DISRUPTS OUR HUMAN CONDITION OF SIN*

SONG OF RESPONSE "Jesus is the Answer" - Insert

### 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 GOD "Tiyoox tii Ka'tal" /tea oshtea katal/ (Poqomam)

*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 1:1-14; 12:12-19



In the story of Jesus, he appears on the scene of Nowheresville, Palestine (Nazareth in Galilee), on the outskirts of the brutal Roman Empire, and announces that “the kingdom of God is at hand.” His proclamation is a bombshell or, better, a spiritual explosion of peace, hope, love, and nonviolence. Out of nowhere comes the answer to every question – nonviolent loves is the way forward – but it comes with a price: it has to be practiced.

Almost immediately, our nonviolent messenger calls the poor and disenfranchised to follow him as his disciples. In light of his loving charisma, they drop everything and follow him. Overnight, he creates a community of prayer, hope, friendship, political awareness, and nonviolent action. He builds a community of peace around him and then hits the road: he sets off walking.

He and his walking community encounter the sick and the ill, the socially banished and broken, male and female, Jewish and foreigner – preaching and practicing the transformative presence of the peaceable kingdom of God across the land. In today's selection, the story abruptly changes. He changes direction and heads toward the city of David: Jerusalem, the center of government, empire, and religion, with the announcement of God's nonviolent kingdom at hand. He is going to confront the world of systematic injustice head-on, and he's taking us with him.

Jesus plans it all out with great attention to detail. He enters the town in the opposite way of the Roman rulers who rode into the towns they conquered on war horses expecting the population of the city to come out and welcome them in a tribute of praise and adoration in fear of the full show of imperial force, power, war and military triumph. Jesus instead rides in on a donkey, a beast of burden, acclaimed by the crowds. It's a symbolic peace march, politically loaded and daring, invoking the image of the Nonviolent-King-to-Come promised by the prophet Zechariah in Zechariah 9 and the poet in Psalm 118. With this episode (and in many others) Christians are given the image of a nonviolent messiah who renounces war and violence and espouses peace and nonviolence; a ruler who seeks to build community, give meaning and make the whole world habitable. It harkens back to the image of the divine Word present at the creation of the world and still active in the world that John paints in his poetic opening of John 1.

### QUESTIONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF EXAMEN & CONTEMPLATION

- **What shimmers in your attention in this reading?**
- **The whole entry scene is well-thought out and orchestrated: rich in allusions to scripture and expectations of God's Anointed-Warrior-King to come and bring freedom and peace. If you were in the crowd, and knew the scriptures of Psalm 118 and Zechariah 9 about the promise of God's deliverance...who would you react? What is that guy doing on the donkey? What is his message...then....and for us now?**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

20 Kelechi Okereke

### COMMUNITY LIFE CALENDAR

**This morning** we're celebrating Palm Sunday and the entry into Holy Week. Special activities are planned by our community to help our youth and children hear and experience the story from the construction of the Gates of the City in the entryway, to our Palm Parade, to Egg Decorating in the library after worship.

**The Vocabulary of Faith** | Sundays 9:30-10:20a  
*No class next week because of the full day.*

**Choir Practice** | Sundays 12p & Tuesdays 5:30p

**Youth Group today – we're headed to SF!**

**Maundy Thursday** – Thursday 4/11 7:00pm  
Table Service – a meal worship service for retelling the story of the Last Supper. *Sign up to RSVP for your spot at the table this morning.*

**Good Friday** – Friday 4/12  
12:00-1:00pm **Labyrinth Walk in the gym**  
7:00pm **Service of Re-entering the Story**  
*Sign up to help read this morning.*

**Lent Small Groups & Worship – Grounded**  
In Lent) we're forming small groups to read and interact around the questions raised in the book *Grounded* by Diana Butler Bass.

*Group 1 meets Tuesdays 12-1pm at the church.*

*Group 3 Thursday 3-4pm – at the church.*

**Friday Night Meal**, Friday 6:00-7:00pm

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

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

**Holy Week eDevotions** | Monte is posting daily video devotions this week on his FB page and also his blog at [montemcclain.com](http://montemcclain.com)

### Thank you to Today's Leadership

Fellowship: Fredora Darmstadt, Kristy McClain  
Godly Play: Ellen Brylawski ST, Joy Barnes DK  
Counters: Richard Harvey, Patt Schroeder

### Leadership for next week, 4/21/19:

Fellowship: The Women's Group  
Godly Play: Patt Schroeder ST, Elaine Price DK

## LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

### "All Glory Laud and Honor"

*Theodulph of Orleans; John Mason Neale (1851; alt. 1859)  
Blue Hymnal #88*

#### *Refrain*

All glory laud and honor  
to Thee redeemer king  
To whom the lips of children  
made sweet hosanna's ring

1. Thou art the king of Israel  
Thou David's royal son  
Who in the Lord's name  
comest the King and blessed one

2. The people of the Hebrews  
with palms before Thee went  
Our praise and prayers and anthems  
before Thee we present

3. To Thee before Thy passion  
they sang their hymns of praise  
To Thee now high exalted  
our melody we raise

4. Thou didst accept their praises;  
accept the prayers we bring  
Who in all good delightest  
Thou good and gracious king

### "Hosanna Loud Hosanna"

*Jennette Threlfall (1873); Blue Hymnal #89*

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna  
the little children sang  
Through pillared court and temple  
the joyful anthem rang  
To Jesus who had blessed them  
close folded to His breast  
The children sang their praises  
the simplest and the best

2. From Olivet they followed  
mid an exultant crowd  
The victor palm branch waving  
the chanting clear and loud  
The Lord of earth and heaven  
rode on in lowly state  
Nor scorned that little children  
should on his bidding wait

3. Hosanna in the highest  
that ancient song we sing  
For Christ is our Redeemer  
the Lord of heaven our king  
O may we ever praise Him  
with heart and life and voice  
And in his blissful presence  
eternally rejoice

## CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING

*Today's response contains selections from Psalm 118*

One: Hosanna!

**All: Blessed is the One  
who comes in the name of the Lord!**

One: Hosanna!

**All: Rejoice for the Lord is in our midst.**

One: He comes with joy and hope.

**All: He comes to set us free from fear.**

One: Save us Lord!

**All: Hosanna!**

One: Praise the Lord!

**All: Alleluia!**

### "Siyahamba"

*South African Traditional Song*

*English; Xhosa | Glory to God Hymnal #853*

*© 1984, Utryck, Walton Music Corporation,*

We are marching in the light of God  
We are marching in the light of God  
We are marching, we are marching oh  
We are marching in the light of God  
We are marching, we are marching oh  
We are marching in the light of God

Siyahambay kookay nyen kwen kos

We are living in the love of God

We are moving in the power of God

## RESPONSIVE ACT OF CONFESSION

*OPENING OURSELVES TO BEING UNDONE, THAT WE MIGHT BE REDONE*

*Today's response involves not just our thoughts and words, but also our bodies and actions. We confess today the ways in which we need God to save us from sin, not merely our personal sins but those which have led to the ways in which our world is broken and yearning to be redeemed by the Loving God of All.*

*Our confessional response today involves coming forward and writing that from which we need God to deliver and save us on the red banners which evoke the blood spilled in ancient Hebrew sacrifice to both restore a whole and right relationship with God as well as the blood of the lamb Moses commanded to be painted on the door lintels at the Passover in Egypt.*

### **"Take O Take Me"**

*John L. Bell*

*© 1995 Iona Community*

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

### **"Jesus is the Answer"**

*Andraé Crouch*

*Chorus*

Jesus is the answer,  
for the world today  
Above him there's no other,  
Jesus is the way  
Jesus is the answer,  
for the world today  
Above him there's no other,  
Jesus is the way  
Jesus is the way,  
Jesus is the way

1. If you have some questions  
in the corners of your mind  
Traces of discouragement,  
the peace you cannot find  
Reflections of your past,  
seem to face you everyday  
But this one thing I do know,  
that Jesus is the way

*Chorus*

2. I know you've got mountains,  
that you think you cannot climb  
I know your skies have been dark,  
the think that sun won't shine  
But in case you don't know  
that the word of God is true  
Everything he's promised  
he will do it all for you

*Chorus*

