

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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May 5, 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 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" - Blue Hymnal # 464

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" - Blue Hymnal # 263

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

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

SUNG RESPONSE "As The Wind Song" - Insert

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.

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 "Amen" - Insert

READING OF SCRIPTURE Colossians 1 *Pew Bible, pp. 1142*

TESTIMONY SERMON - Linda Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "Somebody's Knocking At Your Door" - Insert

COMMUNION: EATING & DRINKING TO REMEMBER THAT GOD LOVES US FIRST

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.

SONG DURING COMMUNION "Hungry" - Insert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SESSION UPDATE - Elder Joy Barnes

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

Colossians 1



Language shapes the way we think, and determines what we can think about. That's the dominant contemporary approach to linguistics today, rooted in the work of Yale Professor Benjamin Lee Whorf observed different language groups and their respective cultures during the 1930-40s, concluding that "Language is not simply a reporting device for experience but a defining framework for it." Today many linguists expand this idea describing thoughts, language, and culture as three strands braided together that make up human experience. Professor Lera Boroditsky of Stanford gave a recent TED talk on this idea which might seem too abstract to matter to daily life. The recent movie "Arrival" is based upon this idea. If how and what we speak as language and the culture in which we live shape how we experience, think and represent reality, how do we talk about God when we talk about God?

Today's scripture talks of the mystery of God's purpose made visible in the image and person of Jesus the Christ (verse 15). Today we often talk of the mystery of God's purpose and passion made visible (tangible) in the sacraments. Augustine of Hippo, the great theologian of the 4th century who has significantly shaped the practice of Christianity, defined sacrament as "the visible form of an invisible grace" or "a sign of a sacred thing."

The word *sacrament* comes from Latin word *sacer* ("holy") combined with the Greek word *mystērion* ("secret rite"). Originally the word *sacramentum* was used in Roman law to describe a legal oath in which supernatural powers were invoked and sworn by to uphold a contract. It later came to mean an oath of allegiance taken by soldiers to their commanders, sworn in a sacred place and using a religious formula.

For us today, a *sacrament* is a religious sign or symbol, in which a sacred or spiritual power is believed to be transmitted through material elements viewed as channels of divine grace. It's through communion (the sacred meal) that we are fed and nourished to continue in faith. Baptism is our "sacred birth" via death and resurrection, into the person, passion and purpose of Christ Jesus. And if we apply the notion that language shapes not only how we talk of the world but how we see and experience it, then we could say that our testimony, the scripture, our speaking of faith together is also a sacrament: an action that makes sacred, or hallows, an experience of the mystery of God's love, goodness and grace.

QUESTIONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF EXAMEN & CONTEMPLATION

- What shimmers in your attention in this reading?
- How have you experienced language and culture shaping how and what we think?
- How do baptism and communion shape the way you experience God?
- Are there other "sacraments" that shape your faith? What are they? How do you neglect or engage them?

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Biruta Vinerts | Doug Lim |
| 15 Richard Harvey | 18 Marge Harvey |
| 23 Rebecca LaMotte | 27 Paulette Leston |
| 31 Avery Haynes (2008) | |

COMMUNITY LIFE CALENDAR

TODAY: HEARING ABOUT GUATEMALA – We'll meet in the library after worship to watch a 8 minute video about what our team (and you!) helped make happen in and around Palín, Guatemala on our recent mission trip.

The Vocabulary of Faith | Sundays 9:30-10:15a
A weekly intro to learning how to read the Bible.

Youth Group. Sundays 7-8:30pm

Be "Good News" for Local Immigrants by helping us to teach a weekly ESL Class - Mondays, 7-9pm We focus on 1-1 conversation to develop both speaking skills and relationships! Find more info online at www.capcoakland.org/esl-ministry We restart this week – tomorrow 5/6!

Feedback on Lent/Holy Week Help us reflect on our community celebrations through an online survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/7L3KJJC

Celtic Prayer Group, Wednesdays 6:45-8:15pm
Meets near CAL. *Contact Marda Stothers for more info at mqstothers@gmail.com*

Friday Night Meal, Friday 6:00-7:00pm *Come to eat – come to serve. capcoakland.org/friday-night-meal*

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

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

Join our Choir! Tuesdays 5:30-6:30p, Sundays 12-1p | Contact Pete Feltman - petefeltman@gmail.com

La Ceiba Coffee: Buy some sustainable fair-trade coffee from Guatemalan Coffee Growers in Palín – who we know and support! For sale today \$10/bag

Thank you to Today's Leadership
Fellowship: Chris Olson & Elaine Price
Godly Play: Ellen Brylawski ST, Joy Barnes DK

Leadership for next week, 5/12/19:
Fellowship: The Men's Group
Godly Play: Linda Davis ST, Fredora Darmstadt DK

LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

"O Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Author: Henry Van Dyke (1907)

Blue Hymnal #464

1 Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the gloom of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

2 All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

3 Mortals, join the happy chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
Joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.

CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING

*Today's response is a public reading of Psalm 52.
The presider will begin the reading. You can then
read a phrase or idea as you please. Be sure to speak
loudly and clearly. In this way we'll read the psalm
together as a community gathering for worship as we – like
the poet – struggle at times to see where God is and is up to.*

¹ Why do you boast, O mighty one,
of mischief done against the godly?
All day long ² you are plotting destruction.
Your tongue is like a sharp razor,
you worker of treachery.
³ You love evil more than good,
and lying more than speaking the truth.

⁴ You love all words that devour,
O deceitful tongue.

Continued next column..

⁵ But God will break you down forever;
he will snatch and tear you from your tent;
he will uproot you from the land of the living.

⁶ The righteous will see, and fear,
and will laugh at the evildoer, saying,
⁷ "See the one who would not take
refuge in God,
but trusted in abundant riches,
and sought refuge in wealth!"

⁸ But I am like a green olive tree
in the house of God.
I trust in the steadfast love of God
forever and ever.
⁹ I will thank you forever,
because of what you have done.
In the presence of the faithful
I will proclaim your name, for it is good.

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Author: Walter C. Smith (1867)

Blue Hymnal #263

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

2 Unresting, unhasting, 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 as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish; but naught changeth Thee.

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

“As the Wind Song”

Author: Shirley Erena Murray (2004)

Translator (Chinese): Ee Suen Wong (2005)

Glory to God #292

1 As the wind song through the trees,
as the stirring of the breeze,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
as the heart made strangely warm,
as the voice within the storm,
so it is with the Spirit of God.
Never seen, ever known
where this wind has blown
bringing life, bringing power to the world,
as the dancing tongues of fire,
as the soul's most deep desire,
so it is with the Spirit of God.

2 As the rainbow after rain,
as the hope that's born again,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
as the green in the spring,
as a kite on a string,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
making worlds that are new,
making peace come true,
bringing gifts, bringing love to the world,
as the rising of the yeast,
as the wine at the feast,
so it is with the Spirit of God.

“Amen”

African-American spiritual

Blue Hymnal #299

Amen Amen

Amen Amen Amen

“Somebody's Knocking at Your Door”

African-American spiritual

Glory to God: the Presbyterian Hymnal #728

Somebody's knocking at your door;
somebody's knocking at your door;
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knocking at your door.

Continued in the next column...

1 Knocks like Jesus.
Somebody's knocking at your door.
Knocks like Jesus.
Somebody's knocking at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knocking at your door.

2 Can't you hear him?
Somebody's knocking at your door.
Can't you hear him?
Somebody's knocking at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knocking at your door.

3 Answer Jesus.
Somebody's knocking at your door.
Answer Jesus.
Somebody's knocking at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knocking at your door.

“Hungry”

Kathryn Scott, 2011

1. Hungry I come to you
for I know you satisfy
I am empty but I know
your love does not run dry
So I wait for you,
So I wait for you

(chorus)

I'm falling on my knees
Offering all of me
Jesus you're all this heart is living for

2. Broken I run to you
for your arms are open wide
I am weary but know
your touch restores my life
And so I wait for you
So I wait for you