

**College Avenue Presbyterian Church**  
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July 7, 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 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

"It Is Well With My Soul"

- Insert

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Responsive Reading*

### SONG OF PRAISE

"O Freedom"

- Insert

### LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

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

### SUNG RESPONSE

"Don't Be Afraid"

- 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

#### INCLUDING A CELEBRATION TIME OF THE LIFE OF RAMBO

*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

"For The Beauty Of The Earth"

- Blue Hymnal #473, v.3

### READING OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 137

*Pew Bible, pp. 608*

### SERMON

"Haters Gonna Hate. Prayer in 2019"

- Rev. Monte McClain

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### SONG OF RESPONSE

"Ain't No Grave"

- Insert

### COMMUNION: FINDING GOD AROUND THE TABLE

*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

"Taste and See"

- Insert

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MOMENT FOR DEACONS

-Fredora Darmstadt

### 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

"Ping An"

(Chinese, Mandarin)

*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 Psalm 137



I've heard it said that the stories of the Bible aren't realistic. If anything, today's Psalm contradicts that view, showing the deepest, realist aspects of humanity in the testimony of faith in the prayer we call Psalm 137.

'We want to be at our best before God. Prayer, we think, means presenting ourselves before God so that he will be pleased with us. We put on our "Sunday best" in our prayers. But when we pray the prayers of God's people, the Psalms, we find that will not do. We must pray who we actually are, not who we think we should be. Here is a prayer that brings out not the best but the worst in us: vile, venomous, vicious hate. Can God handle our hate?' (*Eugene Peterson*)

In life, in the psalms, hate, retribution, and justice are inextricably woven together. Here the poet-psalmist sings of the horror of the Exile: when the Israelites were threatened with genocide, cultural effacement and total annihilation when the Babylonians conquered Jerusalem in 597 BCE. Here along the shores of the great rivers of Babylon, the Babylonian Captors, mock the poet, asking him/her to sing one of the great songs of Jerusalem, probably of the Temple, praising God the Eternal - to entertain him in his work. It'd be like if a guard at Auschwitz asked a Jewish prisoner to dance a traditional wedding dance. Or like Hernan Cortés asking for an Aztec prisoner to come and sing him to sleep with a ballad sung at the birth of a child. The idea might give you chills.

Texts like Ps 137 confront us with the tensions that humans feel between things like morality, compassion, and vengeance. Hearing and "getting" the Psalm can make us feel both sympathy and outrage. Likewise, when you hear of a life wasted on death row, a child working in a factory, of families choosing to sell their daughters into the sex trade in order to be able to eat, you may feel both sympathy and outrage. . . . Being human and being human with God, when it's "real," is often not pretty, and we learn a lot about ourselves from such texts if we pay attention.

Jesus taught nonviolent peace, saying "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also" (Matthew 5). Rev. Dr. ML King Jr talking about nonviolence said "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. Hate multiplies hate, violence multiplies violence, and toughness multiplies toughness in a descending spiral of destruction ... The chain reaction of evil - hate begetting hate, wars producing more wars - must be broken, or we shall be plunged into the dark abyss of annihilation." The psalmist wants to bash the brains of babies Babylonians against rocks. A horrible image, but is it that removed from what we feel, think, maybe even pray, in our own lives?

### QUESTIONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF EXAMEN & CONTEMPLATION:

- **How does this psalm touch your (our) life today?**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

### JULY BIRTHDAYS

7 James Dillard	11 Dave Eagle
Gloria Lim	13 Alana D'Attilio
15 Chris Olson	17 Rachel Brylawski
21 Chickwendu Okereke	22 Kaya Ramirez Blake
24 Maya Patil	2002 27 John Fonua
John LaMotte	31 Lisa Wu

### COMMUNITY LIFE CALENDAR

**Youth Group.** Tonight 7:00pm.

**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! More info at [www.capcoakland.org/esl-ministry](http://www.capcoakland.org/esl-ministry)

**Coffee & Conversation** Tuesdays 10-11a, BYO safe conversation around a theological question - on the Safeway patio at Claremont @College Aves.

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

**Celtic Prayer Group,** Wednesdays 6:45-8:15pm Meets this week at the church in the sanctuary.

**Friday Night Meal,** Friday, 6:00-7:00pm Talk to Ellen Brylawski if you'd like to help out.

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

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

**Recreation VBS 2019 Edition:** Monday, July 29 through Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. More info online at [www.recreationvbs.org](http://www.recreationvbs.org)

**2019 Church Retreat: September 6-8<sup>th</sup>** with First Presbyterian Church of Alameda. This year our speaker is Rev. Matt Prinz talking about Christian Community & Community-building practices. - Registration info soon!

**La Ceiba Coffee:!** For sale today \$10/bag

**Vacation News :** Monte will be on vacation July 8-19<sup>th</sup>. Call the office, Bill Beatty or Karl Shadley if you need emergency pastoral care or help.

**Thank you to Today's Leadership**

Fellowship: Margaret Smith

Counters: Bob & Ellen Brylawski

Moment for Deacons: Fredora Darmstadt

**Leadership for next week, 7/14/19:**

Fellowship: Beth & Bill Beatty

Counters: Marge & Richard Harvey

Godly Play: Beth Beatty (ST); Elaine Price (DK)

## LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

**"When Peace like a River (It Is Well with My Soul)"** *Horatio G. Spafford (1876, alt.) | Glory to God*  
#840

1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain:  
It is well with my soul;  
it is well; it is well with my soul.

2 Though Satan should buffet,  
though trials should come,  
let this blest assurance control,  
that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,  
and hath shed his own blood for my soul.  
[Refrain]

3 He lives: O the bliss of this glorious thought.  
My sin, not in part, but the whole,  
is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
[Refrain]

4 Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be  
sight,  
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;  
even so it is well with my soul.  
[Refrain]

### CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING

*Today's responsive reading comes from*  
<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com>

One: In this place, the community of faith  
is reminded of the promise:

**ALL: God's love endures forever!**

One: In spite of our impatient grumbling,  
despite our attraction to the shadows:

**ALL: Christ's light shines in us!**

One: When we think our hands are empty,  
when we have no music in our souls:

**ALL: the Spirit fills us with glad songs,  
and creates us for good works!**

### "O Freedom"

*African-American spiritual*

O freedom, O freedom  
O freedom over me (over me)

*Chorus*  
And before I'd be a slave  
I'd be buried in my grave  
And go home to see my lord and be free

No more moaning  
No more moaning  
No more moaning over me

*Chorus*

No more crying  
No more crying  
No more crying over me

*Chorus*

There'll be singing  
There'll be singing  
There'll be singing over me

*Chorus*

### "Don't Be Afraid"

*Author: John L. Bell*

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Scotland, GIA Publications, Inc.,

1 Don't be afraid my love is stronger  
My love is stronger than your fear  
Don't be afraid my love is stronger  
And I have promised,  
promised to be always near.

### **"For The Beauty Of The Earth"**

*Author: Folliott Sandford Pierpoint (1864)  
Blue Hymnal #473*

1. For the beauty of the earth,  
For the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies.

#### *Refrain:*

Lord of all, to Thee we raise,  
This our hymn of grateful praise.

2. For the wonder of each hour  
Of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
Sun and moon, and stars of light.

3. For the joy of ear and eye,  
For the heart and mind's delight,  
For the mystic harmony  
Linking sense to sound and sight.

4. For the joy of human love,  
Brother, sister, parent, child,  
Friends on earth and friends above,  
For all gentle thoughts and mild.

5. For Thy Church, that evermore  
Lifteth holy hands above,  
Offering up on every shore  
Her pure sacrifice of love.

### **"Ain't No Grave"**

There ain't no grave Can hold my body down  
There ain't no grave Can hold my body down  
When I hear that trumpet sound I'm gonna rise  
right out of the ground  
Ain't no grave Can hold my body down

#### **VERSE:**

Well, look way down the river  
And what do you think I see  
I see a band of angels  
And they're coming after me  
Ain't no grave Can hold my body down

Well, look down yonder, Gabriel  
Put your feet on the land and sea  
But Gabriel, don't you blow your trumpet  
Until you hear from me  
There aint no grave can hold my body down

Well meet me, Jesus, meet me  
Meet me in the middle of the air  
And if these wings don't fail me  
I will meet you anywhere  
There aint no grave can hold my body down

### **"I will bless the Lord at all times" (Taste and See)**

*James E. Moore  
Glory to God #520*

#### *chorus*

Taste and see  
Taste and see  
The goodness of the Lord  
(repeat)

1. I will bless the lord at all times  
Praise shall always be on my lips  
My soul shall glory in the lord  
For God has been so good to me

#### *chorus*

2. Glorify the lord with me  
Together let us all praise God's name  
I called the lord who answered me  
From all my troubles I was set free

#### *chorus*

3. Worship the lord all you people  
You'll want for nothing if you ask  
Taste and see that the lord is good  
In God we need put all our trust

#### *chorus*