

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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August 4, 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 "Oh Love that Will Not Let Me Go" - Blue Hymnal # 457

CALL TO WORSHIP - Insert

SONG OF PRAISE "Hear O Lord My Plea for Justice" - Insert

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 "For The Beauty Of The Earth" - Blue Hymnal #473

READING OF SCRIPTURE Psalm 49 & Luke 12:13-21 - Pew Bible, pp. 554, 1009

SERMON "What Gives you Comfort?" - Rev. Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

ACT OF CONFESSION

OPENING OURSELVES TO BEING UNDONE, THAT WE MIGHT BE REDONE WITH THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM (1563)

SUNG RESPONSE "Don't Be Afraid" - Insert

DECLARATION OF GRACE IN THE PROCLAMATION OF THE BELIEF THAT UNITES US

THE IN-BREAKING OF GOD'S GRACE DISRUPTS OUR HUMAN CONDITION OF SIN, PUTTING A NEW SONG IN OUR MOUTHS

SONG OF RESPONSE "This Little Light of Mine" - 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 "I'm Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table" - 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 "Christhuvinte Samadhanam" (Malayalam Kerala)
 [spoken in Southern India]

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 Psalm 49 & Luke 12:13-21

"You can't take it with you." This seemingly timeless warning against materialism that alludes to the fact that you can't keep your money or possessions when you die is at the root of today's scripture. The expression dates from an early 19th century book by Frederick Marr (1841) and gained even wider use when George Kaufman and Moss Hart used it as the title for one of their great comedies on Broadway (1937) - later made into a successful movie. (*Wikipedia*).



A 2010 study by Daniel Kahneman and Angus Deaton at Princeton's Center for Health and Well-being, showed that income had a positive effect on both people's emotional well-being and their life evaluation. This isn't really surprising given that we tend to assume that poverty is likely to exacerbate the struggles of life and therefore lead to greater rates of unhappiness. Yet, it feels crass, maybe even un-Christian to make the inverse claim that more money will necessarily lead to greater happiness.

Today's Psalm is a form of *Wisdom Literature*, seemingly more like a proverb than a classic psalm. The wisdom, or spiritual advice of psalm 49 is pretty straightforward. It can be summed up in classic sayings of: "You can't take it with you!" and "you cannot use your money to buy your way out of death." We are all laid bare before the stunning verdict of death that unites us all as mortals (v 12).

The psalm also seems to have a differentiated audience: some who hear it are rich, some poor. Therefore, the psalm can have a different impact depending on one's sense of his or her wealth. The poor are afraid and don't need to be. The rich don't appear to be afraid but ought to be. The message for the poor is that they ought not to fear troubles brought on by the sins of the rich and powerful (verses 5-6, 16). The message for the rich is that no amount of wealth can ransom them from death (verses 7-9, 16-17).

In the reading from Luke 12, Jesus says the same existential truth in the telling of a parable. No matter how many treasures, whatever they may be, that you store up, you can't take them with you, and they can't save your life. Both readings reassure the poor and oppressed that God will see to everyone's ultimate fate. But we must be cautious about assuming that modern America Christians easily match up with the poor and lowly of Psalm 49. For the painful reality of global economics reveals that even moderate-income folks in the West have incredible wealth compared to 99% of the world's population.

QUESTIONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF EXAMEN & CONTEMPLATION

- What word, phrase or image grabs your attention?
- What is the psalmist saying about wealth and poverty, about happiness and satisfaction?
- How do the word of this story touch - your life and our life as the church today?

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

5	Lori Castner	Amber Beatty (2011)
8	Anne Marie Adams	12 Sharon Nelson
	David Kittams	22 Patrice Trowbridge
24	Bob Brylawski	25 Margaret Smith

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

5	Jeff and Linda Trowbridge	1978
8	Bob and Ellen Brylawski	1987
9	Thom and Tina Faulkner	2002
30	Monte and Kristy McClain	1997

COMMUNITY LIFE CALENDAR

Worship Today our liturgical order is changed today, and this month, to allow for a confession-based response to our reading of the psalms.

Our Worship Space this Morning is decorated with poems, planets and pictures from this past week's Recreation VBS organized around the theme of Home. Be sure to check out our public art installation on the fence down College Ave.

Youth Group tonight

There is no ESL Class this week.

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

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

Friday Night Meal Friday, 6-7pm. Talk to Ellen Brylawski if you'd like to help out in the future.

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

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

Coffee & Conversation | This Tuesday 10-11a on the patio in front of Safeway at College @ Claremont Aves. BYO open conversation around a faith question. *A great way to connect together!*

Church Retreat 2019 | September 6-8th at St Dorothy's Rest outside of Occidental *Register online @ capcoakland.org or via paper.*

Staff Vacations | Pete is gone the next 3 weeks for a well-deserved vacation! Be sure to say goodbye!

Thank you to Today's Leadership

Fellowship: Janet Majors, Myrna Shadley

Leadership for next week, 8/11/19:

Fellowship: Patt Schroeder

Godly Play: Linda Davis (ST); Joy Barnes (DK)

LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"

*George Matheson (1882)
Blue Hymnal #457*

1 O love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.

2 O light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
my heart restores its borrowed ray,
that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.

3 O joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain
that morn shall tearless be.

4 O cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
and from the ground there blossoms red
life that shall endless be.

CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING

*Today's responsive reading was written by Rev. Kathleen Sheets, Pastor
of First Presbyterian Church of Jesup, IA.*

The People of the Assembly read the BOLD print

One: To the fisherman Jesus said:

ALL: "Follow me and I will make you fish for people."

One: To the tax collector Jesus said:

ALL: "Follow me."

One: To the rich man Jesus said:

**ALL: "Go, sell what you own,
and give the money to the poor,
and you will have treasure in heaven;
then come, follow me."**

One: At the last supper Jesus said:

ALL: "Follow me."

One: To you and to me and to all of us Jesus says:

ALL: Follow me!

"Hear, O Lord, My Plea for Justice"

*(Psalm 17) | Glory to God Hymnal #211
Michael Morgan 1995, rev. 2010*

1. Hear, O Lord, my plea for justice;
listen to my heartfelt prayer.
In your just deliberation
may I find redemption there.

2. Test my heart for its affliction;
purify my soul with fire;
let my mortal tongue speak wisdom,
righteousness be my desire.

3. Keep me, Lord, in sure protection,
as the apple of your eye.
Shelter me beneath your shadows
when my hour of death draws nigh.

4. In its wake, send vindication;
to its darkness, show your face.
Bring me to my resurrection
clothed in garments of your grace.

"Don't Be Afraid"

*Author: John L. Bell
© 1995 Wild Goose Resource Group,
Iona Community, 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.

Continued next page....

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.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Heidelberg Catechism was written 1563, rooted in the reformed Biblical understanding of Martin Luther and intended for educational use in teaching Christian Faith. While not part of our daily life today, for centuries it has been used as a tool for teaching Christian faith using a format of questions and answers.

One: What is your only comfort in life and death?

ALL: That I am not my own,
but belong with body and soul,
both in life and in death,
to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ.

Christ has fully paid for all my sins
with his precious blood,
and has set me free
from all the power of the devil.

Jesus also preserves me in such a way
that without the will of my heavenly Father
not a hair can fall from my head;
indeed, all things must work together
for my salvation.

Therefore, by his Holy Spirit
he also assures me
of eternal life
and makes me heartily willing and ready
from now on to live for him.

"I'm Gonna Sit At The Welcome Table"

(Civil Rights Version) Some say that this song was part of a play written by the students of the McComb, Mississippi, Freedom School in 1964

1. I'm gonna sit at the welcome table
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table, one of these days
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table
Sit at the welcome table, One of these days.

2. I'm gonna feast on milk and honey
I'm gonna feast on milk and honey, one of these days
I'm gonna feast on milk and honey
I'm gonna feast on milk and honey, one of these days

3. I'm gonna see my savior come home
I'm gonna see my savior come home, one of these days
(repeat)

4. I'm gonna sit at the welcome table
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table, one of these days
(repeat)

"This Little Light Of Mine"

Traditional Anonymous

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

2. Hide it under a bushel NO! I'm gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel NO! I'm gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel NO! I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine. let it shine.

3. Won't let satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine
Won't let satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine
Won't let satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine. let it shine.

4. Every where I go I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine. let it shine.

5. Jesus gave it to me I'm gonna let it shine
Jesus gave it to me I'm gonna let it shine
Jesus gave it to me I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine. let it shine.

