

**College Avenue Presbyterian Church**  
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**www.capcoakland.org | www.capcoakland.me**  
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## 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

August 6, 2017

GATHERING SONG "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" - Blue Hymnal #464

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "The Lord Is My Light" - insert

TIME OF CONFESSION

*Silent Prayer followed by Prayer of Forgiveness and Assurance of Pardon*

SONG OF RESPONSE "Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive" - insert

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 Pastor Monte in the lounge off the entryway.*

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

OFFERTORY SONG "Breathe" - insert

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 139

- Joy Barnes  
Pew Bible, p.

SERMON "Knowledge: over-rated or too uncommon?" - Rev. Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "Spirit of the Living God" - Blue Hymnal #322

ONE BREAD & ONE BODY : GOD NOURISHES AND GROWS OUR FAITH

All those who are hungry for God's presence, are invited to share in our table meal today. We'll celebrate primarily by Intinction (taking a piece of bread and dipping it into a common cup). Please come forward in the center aisle and return to your seat via the side aisles. A plate of individual cups is available for those who prefer that. We also have a gluten free bread option.

COMMUNION SONG "You Are Mine" - insert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING CALL AND RESPONSE

Leader: God is good!

**People: All the time!**

Leader: And all the time!

**People: God is good!**

EXHORTATION & BENEDICTION

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST "المسيح سلام" | "Salam almasih" (Arabic)

*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 Scriptures

### Psalm 139

The Psalms are poem-songs that seek to articulate that which is beyond words, the existential truth which surpasses the power of language. Today's psalm is a prayer of orientation and reorientation – a reflection upon the omniscience of Yahweh first revealed in the mysterious encounter of Moses with the burning bush. It's a meditation upon the relationship that we can have – or can flee – with an all-knowing God.



The Psalm is radically affirming, portraying God as infinitely close, gentle, attentive, guiding, loving. Yet there is also a shadow side to the Psalm. We see it at the conclusion of the poem, beginning in 19 in which the poet sings of a desire to join in opposition of those who are adversaries of the ways of God. God is with and for all people from the heights of the heavenly dome to the ends of the Earth, even encompassing the depths of death in Sheol [Hades] (verse 8). Yet some have been turned, maybe confused, lost in the dark of the darkness that is as light to God (verse 11). If they are not with God, then they are against God. Yet it's not that black and white, for the prayer of the poet ends with radically honesty, asking to know, to be seen by God, to discover if there are dark, dishonest, divided ways within him or herself. Is it possible that the psalmist is at times an adversary of God?

The psalm alternates between assertions of who and how God is, questions of causality (such as If I.... then you....); and also entreaties of God to do or be something in particular.... "Search me..." "See if within me there is..." Where do you see these changes in tone? What do they tell you? How do you identify with them today...or maybe in the past?

The psalmist sings of God's omniscience and omnipresence, the Divine all-knowing and being-everywhere. While this is majestically encouraging, it can also be terrifying and anxiety-producing. Nothing can be hid from God, we cannot be forgotten, but God also sees all that we might want to deny, overlook or hide. Does such knowledge induce anxiety or acceptance? Maybe such knowledge, or more to the point our reaction to it, is what drives us to choose the way of the wicked or the way everlasting?

### Questions for the practice of Examen & Contemplation

- What strikes or shimmers for you in this passage?
- When have you heard this psalm before? What do you think the Psalm is saying about our freedom to choose faith?
- How do you react to the idea of God as omniscient or all-knowing? Does that invoke fear or relief; anxiety or trust; in you? Why?
- What does psalm 139 say to you about your own difficulties, and the hard times you sometimes go through?
- How does this psalm feed your soul?
- In Luke 10, the young student asks Jesus "What must I do to inherit eternal life, to live the life God wants for me?" How do you answer that question in light of the truths in this psalm?

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

### August Birthdays

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

### 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

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**CAPC Choir** | Rehearsals : Sunday after worship and Wednesday nights starting at 5:30pm

**Celtic Prayer Mid Week Small Group** | Wednesday 7-8:30pm, meets near CAL campus | Call Marda @ 540.7173

**Friday Night Meal** | Friday 6-7pm. Talk to Ellen Brylawski to help: [ellenbry@comcast.net](mailto:ellenbry@comcast.net)

**The Vocabulary of Faith** | Sunday 9:30 in the Library  
Find the text we study copied in the entry or online.

**Women's Group** | 1st, 2nd & 3rd Saturdays of the month 8:30-10am in the library.

**Coffee and Conversations** | Tuesday, 8/8 @ 10:00am - On the Safeway terrace at College @ Claremont

**Theology on Tap** | Tuesday, 8/8 @ 7:30pm @ The Golden Squirrel Pub- Safe conversation about faith, ethics & life over a BYO pint or another treat. *Across the street!*

**Church Retreat Registration Forms** are both online at [www.capcoakland.org](http://www.capcoakland.org) and in the entry!

**Today** : we're having communion in worship. Pete Feltman is absent leading worship for a PCUSA national conference on Church Planting.

**Recreation VBS 2017** : our annual VBS art-infused day camp. August 14-18<sup>th</sup>. You can register & find more info online at [www.recreationvbs.org](http://www.recreationvbs.org). Talk to Monte to help!

### Thank You to Today's Leadership:

Ushers:	Bob Brylawski, Jeff Trowbridge
Liturgist:	Joy Barnes
Fellowship:	Chris Olson, Elaine Price
Godly Play:	Children stay in worship for communion
Musicians:	Dave Eagle, Kevin Goldberg

### Leadership for next week, 8/13/17:

Ushers:	Bill Beatty, Sharon Nelson
Liturgist:	Joy Barnes
Fellowship:	Joy Barnes, Patt Schroeder
Godly Play:	Bill Beatty (ST); Cameron Betty (DK)

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Reader reads plain font, the people the bold.*

*(inspired by Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18)*

© 2012 Joan Stott – "The Timeless Psalms" RCL Psalm Year B, used with permission.

Leader: Creating God, we gather in your name to worship you.

**People: We give thanks that there is a small spark  
of God within us.  
Kindle that small spark into a flame of love  
and service.**

Leader: Sustaining God, we gather in your name to worship you.

**People: We celebrate the loving presence of God in our life.  
May God's loving presence be a strong influence  
in our life.**

Leader: Nurturing God, we gather in your name to worship you.

**People: We rejoice that God teaches us about  
love and forgiveness.  
As we grow in faith, trust and love for God,  
may our worship, witness and service  
bring honor to God's Holy Name.  
Amen.**

## LYRICS TO THIS MORNING'S SONGS:

### **"The Lord Is My Light"**

*Taizé Community*

The Lord is my light,  
My light and salvation,  
In God I trust.  
In God I trust.

### **"Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive"**

*(Land Of Rest Tune) Blue Hymnal #370*

1. Forgive our sins as we forgive  
You taught us Lord to pray  
But You alone can grant us grace  
To live the words we say

### **"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  
Meld 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  
Chanting 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

### **"Breathe"**

*Michael W. Smith*

This is the air I breathe  
This is the air I breathe  
Your holy presence living in me  
This is my daily bread  
This is my daily bread  
Your very word spoken to me  
And I, I'm desperate for you  
And I, I'm lost without you

### **"Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me"**

*Author Daniel Iverson (1926)*

*Blue Hymnal #322*

1 Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

2 Spirit of the living God, move among us all;  
make us one in heart and mind,  
make us one in love:  
humble, caring, selfless, sharing.  
Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love.

## **“You Are Mine”**

*Composer: David Haas, 1991.*

I will come to you in the silence  
I will lift you from all your fear  
You will hear my voice  
I claim you as my choice  
Be still and know I am here

I am hope for all who are hopeless  
I am eyes for all who long to see  
In the shadows of the night  
I will be your light  
Come and rest in me

*(chorus)*

Do not be afraid I am with you  
I have called you each by name  
Come and follow me  
I will bring you home  
I love you and you are mine

I am strength for all the despairing  
Healing for the ones who dwell in shame  
All the blind will see  
The lame will all run free  
And all will know my name

*chorus*

I am the word that leads all to freedom  
I am the peace the world cannot give  
I will call your name  
Embracing all your pain  
Stand up now walk and live

*chorus*