

College Avenue Presbyterian Church
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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 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



August 11, 2019

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

GATHERING SONG "Here I Am to Worship" - *Insert*

CALL TO WORSHIP - *Insert*

SONG OF PRAISE "This is the Air I Breathe" - *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 13 & Genesis 22:1-14 - *Pew Bible, pp. 532, 19*

SERMON "Waiting for Godto" - *Rev. Monte McClain*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

ACT OF CONFESSION

OPENING OURSELVES TO BEING UNDONE, THAT WE MIGHT SEE WITH NEW EYES AND HEAR WITH NEW EARS

SUNG RESPONSE "I Lift My Eyes Up" - *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 "Hungry" - *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"

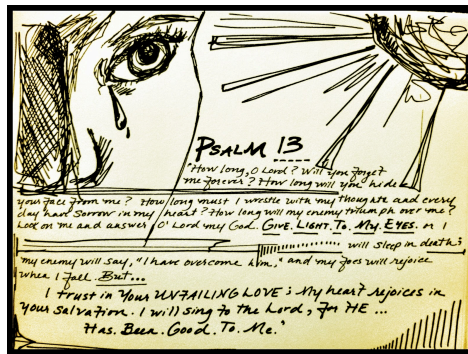
(Malayalam Kerala)
 [spoken in Southern India]

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 13 & Genesis 22:1-14

"Nothing to be done." That's what some might say when faced with evil, darkness, or the seeming silence of God. This week in the news a common response to the darkness experienced in our national culture, specifically in the wake of gun violence, has been the opposite: "Do Something!" In life, and in faith, we alternate between those two extremes: defeatist passivity and/or unrelenting activism. We don't always (easily) find meaning in and of our world. Our desire for meaning is also a desire to understand our suffering and a desire for justice. We want to understand what's happening and why it happened to us. That striving for meaning is the basis of the play "Waiting for Godot" which begins with the phrase "Nothing to be done." That striving is the force that ties our stomachs into knots in our partisan, polarized, and turbulent time when all seems out of control.

Psalm 13 is a prayer of lament in the face of God's silence. The poet prays for a response, for help, for a clear direction...for anything! Yet in the prayer we never hear the response. After many cries for help there is a silence. We easily jump over it, not noticing the utter-defeat of verse 4 "my foes will rejoice because I am shaken." And the transformational "But" that begins verse 5. How much time happens between the two moments? What happened to move the poet from despair to trust?



That same silence is in the text that tells the troubling story of God asking Abraham to sacrifice his long-awaited only son, Isaac in Genesis 22. Verse 10 ends with, "Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son." And then transitions abruptly to "But the angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven," Abraham has found meaning in life by following God, yet now God wants him to literally sacrifice everything he's striven for to make meaning of life. Between the verse 10 and 11 this despair and confusion becomes a justice and clarity.

This prayer of lament, of seeking illumination in the darkness, or thirsting for justice in the injustice, wondering why God is silent, seems to become some sort of cathartic faith experience. It's not unrealistic or naïve, but neither is it defeatist or cynical. These texts seem to tell us that our experience of God is shaped by language (the pause between the period and the but) and that vice-versa our language for God is shaped by our experience.

QUESTIONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF EXAMEN & CONTEMPLATION

- What word, phrase or image grabs your attention in the texts?
- How does the way you speak of God shape your experience of God?; and your experience of God shape your language?
- How do you struggle with the silence of God that may merely be between the period and the but?; or much longer?

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8 Anne Marie Adams	12 Sharon Nelson
David Kittams	22 Patrice Trowbridge
24 Bob Brylawski	25 Margaret Smith

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

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

There is no Friday Night Meal this week

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.

Help prepare our Blessings of the Backpacks – Start-of-School Service by making lanyards!

Staff Vacations | Pete is gone the next 2 weeks for a well-deserved vacation! We're grateful today for Marta and Kate, Dave and others leading us in music and song.

Thank you to Today's Leadership

Fellowship: Patt Schroeder

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

Leadership for next week, 8/18/19:

Fellowship: David Kittams, Marda Stothers

Godly Play: Patt Schroeder (ST); Elaine Price (DK)

LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

"Here I Am To Worship"

Hillsong Worship

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God

You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

Well, I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING

*Today's responsive reading was written by Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy,
Pastor at First Church Congregational, Rochester, NH.
She blogs at <http://sermonizing.wordpress.com>.
(inspired by Genesis 22: 1-14; Micah 6:8; Deuteronomy 6:5)*

The People of the Assembly read the BOLD print

One: What does the Lord require of you?

**ALL: To do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with our God.**

One: What does God command of us?

**ALL: To love God with all our heart,
and all our soul,
and all our mind,
and all our strength,
and to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

One: God does not call us to ease or to comfort.

**ALL: But to presence, and abundance,
and grace in our struggle.**

One: Let us worship the God who believes in us,
and trusts in us, and abides with us.

**ALL: Let us worship the God who will ask much of us,
but will be beside us every step of the way.**

"This is the Air I Breathe (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 I'm lost without you

"For The Beauty Of The Earth"

*Author: Follitt 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.

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

"I Lift My Eyes Up (Psalm 121)"

Brian Doerksen

I lift my eyes up
Up to the mountains
Where does my help come from?
My help comes from You
Maker of Heaven
Creator of the earth

Oh, how I need You Lord
You are my only hope
You're my only prayer
So I will wait for You
To come and rescue me
Come and give me life

"Hungry (Falling on my Knees)"

by Kathryn Scott

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

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

TODAY'S READINGS

Psalms 13

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

¹ How long, O Lord?
Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
² How long must I bear pain in my soul,
and have sorrow in my heart all day long?
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?
³ Consider and answer me, O Lord my God!
Give light to my eyes,
or I will sleep the sleep of death,
⁴ and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed";
my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.
⁵ But I trusted in your steadfast love;
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
⁶ I will sing to the Lord,
because he has dealt bountifully with me.

Genesis 22:1-14

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

¹ After these things God tested Abraham. [God] said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."
² He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you."
³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him.
⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away.
⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you."
⁶ Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together.
⁷ Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"
⁸ Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

⁹ When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.
¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.
¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."
¹² He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."
¹³ And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.
¹⁴ So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."