

**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 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

September 2, 2018

GATHERING SONG

"How Great Thou Art"

- Blue Hymnal #467

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE

"Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil"

- insert

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

SUNG RESPONSE

"Come and Find the Quiet Center"

- 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

"I'll Fly Away"

- Insert

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:28-39

*Pew Bible, p. 1097*

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD IN TESTIMONY

- Elaine Price

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE

"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"

- Blue Hymnal #384

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNION: STRENGTH FOR THE JOURNEY OF FAITH

*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

"You Satisfy The Hungry Heart"

- Blue Hymnal #521

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

### Romans 8:28-39

Today's passage comes from the seminal theological letter of the Apostle Paul written for the early church in Ancient Rome. Struggling to understand faith, and to grasp how those who came from a Jewish background and those who did not, could combine into one community of faith, Paul articulates what it means to have a life in Christ by faith, and to be one in Christ.

Chapter 8 is in some sorts the climactic chapter of the letter.

Paul writes to the theological uncertainty of God's sovereignty in relationship to the question of theodicy. In normal English, Paul writes of how we can trust that God is both all-powerful and all-good when we face evil, unjust, and/or horrible situations. The early Christians faced situations of political and economic persecution for choosing Christian faith. They also faced societal and familial isolation because of their new faith-based identity. Undoubtedly they also faced the myriad of overwhelming situations we face today as well: cancer, broken relationships, poverty, death.

Paul talks of the gigantesque size of God's heart, a love that is so deep and wide that it overwhelms – whether good or bad. It's not a smothering love, but a rigorous love that covers us like a rising tide raises any and all the boats moored in that area. It's a love which covers and delivers, which binds and unties, that we might glimpse the goodness of God in life in moments for which we are most grateful and those that we dread with every ounce of our being – and all those inbetween.

So what does Paul mean when he writes that "all things work together for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose"? Does that mean only those who claim faith? Does that mean all people? To pierce this troublesome phrase we have to first ask what is the purpose of God? And whom does God purportedly love?

### Questions for the practice of Examen & Contemplation

- What grabs your attention in this reading?
- How have you experienced the mysterious power of God's love in your own life, working towards good even in worst case scenarios when everything seems lost?
- How do you struggle to trust, to perceive the good that God wills and brings into being in your life?; our life together?; our world?
- How does this scripture encourage you?
- How does it confuse you?



## ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2	Betty Trowbridge	3	Mercy Beatty
7	Michael Mendonca	8	Monte McClain
9	Diana Geary	11	Linda Davis
19	Sylvan Zappin	23	Karl Shadley
27	Linda Trowbridge	28	Lisa Ko 1997

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**No Youth Group today** | our kick off for the new year is Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>!

**Choir Practice** | Tuesday, 5:30-6:30pm (Sanctuary)

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

**Friday Night Meal** | We are not having a meal on Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. Our next meal will Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. 6-7pm *You can help! Talk to Ellen Brylawski or Harry Hussian*

**Women's Group – 1,2, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays, 8:30a** (not meeting 9/8 because of the church retreat)

**All Church Retreat – with First Pres Alameda!** | September 7-9, 2018 | Register on paper or online @ [www.capcoakland.org/church-retreat](http://www.capcoakland.org/church-retreat).

**Letter Ministry** | Encourage another with a handwritten note. They're ready to go on the back wall!

**Deacons' Sunday** | You can give financial donations or canned food (with pop tops are best!) to benefit our Deacons' Food Closet. We give out bags of food each Sunday after our gathering.

**Next Sunday – September 9<sup>th</sup>.** We will have a shorter meditative service presided by Rev. Karl Shadley at 10:30am.

**Rockridge Out & About Festival** | Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup> 12-6pm | the annual community celebration along the 12-block stretch of College Ave with live music, street entertainment, gourmet food and more! Beware that the avenue is closed for parking. Want to help our church do something?

### Thank You to Our Leadership This Morning!

Testimony: Elaine Price

Fellowship: Gary Yee & Patt Schroeder

No Godly Play as we're having communion.

### Leadership for next week, 9/9/18:

Teaching: Karl Shadley

Fellowship: TBD

No Godly Play because of the church retreat.

## LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S WORSHIP

### **"How Great Thou Art"**

*Stuart K. Hine (1949)*

*Blue Hymnal #467*

1. O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

*Refrain:*

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

2. When thro' the woods and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

3. And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin.

4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art.

### **GATHERING WORDS | CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Inspired from Romans 8 |*

*The congregation responds with **the text in BOLD PRINT***

One: We gather this morning,  
coming with confidence before the Living God.

**ALL: For nothing  
can separate us from the love of God.**

One: Can hunger?

**ALL: No!**

One: Can hardship?

**ALL: No!**

One: Can people who are against us?

**ALL: No!**

One: Can death?

**ALL: No!**

One: Can anything in all creation?

**ALL: No!**

Then let us worship this most amazing God.

### **"Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil"**

*Text: Desmond Tutu, 1994; Music: John L. Bell, 1996*

*Glory to God Hymnal #750*

Goodness is stronger than evil;  
love is stronger than hate;  
light is stronger than darkness;  
life is stronger than death.

Victory is ours; victory is ours  
through God who loves us.  
Victory is ours; victory is ours  
through God who loves us.

### **Confession of Our Brokenness Responsive Reading:**

*(Genesis 29, Matthew 13) Taken from [www.rev-o-lution.org](http://www.rev-o-lution.org)*

**We pause this morning, O God,  
with heavy hearts.**

**We live in the midst of great and abiding love,  
but also in the midst of deceit and lies.**

**May we be found faithful in all we do.**

**May we speak the truth in love  
and live lives of love each day.**

**Too often we seek you in the spectacular  
and otherworldly.**

**May we see the many inbreakings of your  
kingdom**

**in the everyday, ordinary things of life:**

**in mustard seeds, yeast,**

**treasures in fields, and fish gathered in nets.**

**May we be able to answer with a full-throated yes  
when asked if we have understood your teachings  
and your call. Amen.**

*Time for silent prayer*

### **"Come And Find The Quiet Center"**

*Shirley Erena Murray*

1. Come and find the quiet center  
in the crowded life we lead  
Find the room for hope to enter  
find the frame where we are freed  
Clear the chaos and the clutter,  
clear our eyes that we can see  
All the things that really matter,  
be at peace and simply be

## **Blessing of God's Pardoning Wholeness**

*from Romans 8*

When we are not sure how to pray,  
or if we are even able to address God in prayer,  
the Spirit intercedes for us  
with sighs too deep for words.  
Know that no matter what, nothing,  
absolutely nothing can ever separate us  
from God's presence and God's love.

## **"I'll Fly Away"**

*Traditional Spiritual*

1. Some glad morning when this life is o'er,  
I'll fly away;  
To a home on God's celestial shore,  
I'll fly away (I'll fly away).

*Chorus*

I'll fly away, fly away, Oh Glory  
I'll fly away; (in the morning)  
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by,  
I'll fly away (I'll fly away).

2. When the shadows of this life have gone,  
I'll fly away;  
Like a bird from prison bars has flown,  
I'll fly away (I'll fly away)

3. Jesus a few more weary days and then  
I'll fly away  
To a land where joys shall never end  
I'll fly away

## **"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"**

*George Matheson (1882)*

*Blue Hymnal #384*

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.

*Continued next column....*

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.

## **"You Satisfy The Hungry Heart"**

*George Matheson (1882)*

*Blue Hymnal #521*

*chorus*

You satisfy the hungry heart  
With gifts of finest wheat  
Come give to us O saving lord  
The bread of life to eat

1. As when the shepherd calls his sheep  
They know and heed his voice  
So when you call your family lord  
We follow and rejoice

2. With joyful lips we sing to you  
Our praise and gratitude  
That you should us worthy lord  
To share this heavenly food

3. Is not the cup we bless and share  
The blood of Christ outpoured?  
Do not one cup one loaf declare  
Our oneness in the lord?

4. The mystery of your presence lord  
No mortal tongue can tell  
Whom all the world cannot contain  
Comes in our hearts to dwell

5. You give yourself to us o lord  
Then selfless let us be  
To serve each other in your name  
In truth and charity