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January 17, 2021

Welcome to CAPC Oakland ONLINE!

We are a reformed, multicultural, politically purple, community of followers of Jesus. Together we seek to live our faith vigorously in our words, actions, and relationships in the East Bay.

We usually gather in person, but cannot during this season of COVID-19. So instead we're worshipping together via ZOOM. While imperfect, and something that we'll get better at each time we gather remotely, it will allow us to gather together even in observing social distancing.

We can't do coffee hour but you can call or connect with someone else by phone to share a moment together after worship.

CHILDREN

We have Godly Play for kids via ZOOM at 9:45am on Sunday. Find info and links at http://www.capcoakland.org/zoom-worship-virtualgatherings

PRAYER CARDS

We can't do prayer cards but we can do live chat on ZOOM while we meet. Myrna Shadley is being our digital Deacon. She'll use the prayer requests you may share in the chat during our visual gathering to shape our Prayers of the People time. Look for the chat box in the lower right hand corner of your ZOOM screen.

CCL #1137062

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD VIA ZOOM

GATHERING SONG

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "We're Part of the Blessing"

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE Mark 1:14-20 & - Anne Marie Adams

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

SERMON "Restoring Relationships in our Republic" - Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "Lord You have Come the Lakeshore"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER - Deacon Myrna Shadley You can share your prayer requests for the good and the new using the Chat function on Zoom. Call and response liturgically prayed at the conclusion of sharing a prayer.

Leader: God, in your mercy. **People: Hear our prayer.**

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

COLLECTION OF OUR OFFERINGS AND GIFTS

SENDING SONG "O Freedom"

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

In the season of COVID-19 you're invited to pass the peace of God however and to whoever you can this day as we live our lives of disciples of Jesus sheltering-in-place, as a living sign of the Dominion of God at work moving us toward the healing transformation of the world.

Reflections on the Today's Readings Mark 1:14-20 & 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

We continue in our series on Ujima – Swahili for the collective work of the people. It's a notion used in the annual celebration of Kwanzaa, pointing to the continuing work of the people to be the people and care for the people. While Ujima in the context of Kwanzaa refers specifically to the work of the African-American people to reclaim and maintain their culture, we can also take the notion of Ujima and use it to ask ourselves what our continuing work as the people of God is today – as we move into 2021.

Today's reading from Mark is conclusion of the fast-paced beginning in which Jesus explodes onto the scene in Galilee. He comes proclaiming the gospel (the good news) of God, announcing that the dominion of God has drawn near, is among us. To enter into this dominion, the community of those seeking the will of God, involves repentance. The Greek word is *metánoia* (*meta* meaning "after" or "beyond" and *nous* meaning "mind". It's commonly understood as "a transformative change of heart; especially: a spiritual conversion or reformation brought about by the changing of the direction in which one was thinking or moving.

Jesus encounters Simon and Andrew, calling them to faith, to repentance, to join in this movement of God's dominion. That choice requires a change of heart, mind and direction. The fisherman become something different but the same. Now they'll fish for people, being re-oriented towards a larger goal & community.

Paul writes his second letter of pastoral advice to the church in Ancient Corinth (Greece) to defend his leadership. Some in the church community are questioning his credentials, accusing him of inconsistencies in how he explained the ways God's salvation works. They don't deny what he's told them about God, what they question is his telling them what to do in order to be a community of faith centered in the saving love of God in Jesus the Christ.

Leadership is an expression of authority. As such, it can quickly degrade into self-seeking notions of power. Paul models a different type of leadership that teases out the power of God among us – the ways in which we glimpse a little bit of heaven here and now in our hearts. He's not a narcissist focused upon himself, but rather calling the people to reconciliation – rebuilding of relationship with God and with each other. It's in that way that we live into the light of what Jesus has done for us.

QUESTIONS FOR EXAMEN

- 1. What image or word in the scriptures grabs you?
- 2. How do you struggle with repentance in your life?
- 3. Reconciliation is repairing a relationship that is broken. Which ones in your life need repairing? Why?
- 4. How are we (you) called to the ministry of reconciliation in our world today?

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

8	Bill Bryant	10	Thom Faulkner
18	Gary Yee	18	Richard Street
20	Daniel Geary	25	Joy Barnes

29 Bill Beatty

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Daily Zoom Calls - every day at 12pm.

Community Care Package Team Meeting Monday -1/11 at 1:00pm on Zoom.

Race Matters, Monday, 1/18 @ 6:00pm on Zoom

Friday Night Meal - Friday, January 22nd 6:00pm A team from Montclair Presbyterian Church is cooking and serving the meal this week! We need help serving & setting-up. Sign up online at http://www.capcoakland.org/friday-night-meal or contact Wonte to help.

COVID-19 Safety Protocols - - We are continuing with our safety protocol and policies to ensure that the few people who do come to the church campus to help do so in all safety. If you come to help Fridays with our Free Hot Dinner or to make up the community care packages we ask that you sign up in advance. Take your temperature and sign-in upon arriving, wear two face masks, and use hand sanitizer/gloves while social distancing.

Women's Group – *Saturdays at 9:30am on Zoom.* Contact Anne Marie Adams for info about joining - <u>amadams44@gmail.com</u>

Indian Meals to Go Order by Wednesday for pick up Friday & Saturday 5-7pm. (510) 717-9291 or brightsinghd@rediffmail.com

Tamales por Oakland – Order tamales from our Primera Iglesia partners to create work and you enjoy a great meal! www.capcoakland.org

Godly Play - Sundays 9:45-10:25 on Zoom.

Thank you to Today's Worship Leadership:

Chat Master: Kristy Parsons McClain Deacon Liturgist: Myrna Shadley

Godly Play: Beth Beatty
Liturgist: Anne Marie Adams
Music: Pete Feltman, Dave Eagle
Video Tech: Thom Faulkner

LYRICS & RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

Nicole C. Mullen

1. Who taught the sun where to stand in the morning? Who told the ocean you can only come this far? And Who showed the moon where to hide 'til evening? Whose words alone can catch a falling star?

Chorus

Well I know my Redeemer lives
I know my Redeemer lives
All of creation testifies
His life within me cries
I know my Redeemer lives

2. The very same God that spins things in orbit God runs to the weary, the worn and the weak And the same gentle hands that hold me when I'm broken They conquered death to bring me victory

[Chorus]

Now I know my Redeemer lives I know my Redeemer lives Let all creation testify That this life within me cries I know my Redeemer

[Bridge]

He lives To take away my shame And He lives forever, I'll proclaim That the payment for my sin Was the precious life He gave But now He's alive and There's an empty grave!

[Chorus]

Now I know my Redeemer lives I know my Redeemer lives Let all creation testify... Let this life within me cry I know my Redeemer, He lives I know my Redeemer, He lives

CALL TO WORSHIP.

Responsive reading by Dee Dee Risher, from Rally: Communal Prayer for lovers of Jesus and Justice.

One: Listen.

Hear your own breathing, the rustle of a neighbor's movement. Listen to what is going on in this particular place at this moment. Let every sound around you touch your ears.

(Pause)

Empty yourself.

The ancient teacher in the desert asked the dsicples who was certain of herself, "Do you want a drink?"

The poured into a full glass of water more water,

Until it spilled everywhere adn the disciple protested.

"Like the glass, you are full of your own opinons, ideas, truths. You cannot learn to make peace unti. You empty your glass.

Empty yourself.

(pause)

Job had many comforters, but when Yahweh came,

They were shadowed by mystery.

ALL: "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?" (Job 38:4).

One: O moving Spirit, displace us from our convictions.

ALL: Into all we do not know.

One: Change us from warriors of righteousness

ALL: to people who know brokenness in ourselves and others.

One: Crack open our hearts,

ALL: Until we can whisper in the hollow spaces, "We may not be right."

One: If we could read the secret history of our "enemies," we should find in each life

ALL: Sorrow and suffering enough to disarm all hostility.

One: Love your neighbor as yourself.

ALL: This is the difficult Word of God.

One: Pray for your enemies and those who persecute you.

ALL: This is the demanding Word of God.

One: Do justice. Love mercy. Walk in humility.

ALL: This is the lifelong work of the Word of God.

One: May we see within our enemies and persecutors **ALL: Something precious that we ourselves need.**

One: We commit today

ALL: to listen for what is under hate.
To sense the pain under aggression.
To look for the wounds our certainty causes.
To find the truth our opponents hold for us.

One: Like a reassure. Like a vision ALL: Like the gateway from the land of the dead to the land of the living. Amen.

"We're part of the blessing"

Tune: Traditional Welsh melody ("Let All Things Now Living") Text: Copyright © 2016 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. Biblical References: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3,11b-32

- 1. We're part of the blessing of God's new creation;
 The world may not see it, but we know it's true.
 For God in Christ Jesus has given salvation;
 The old life is gone! God makes everything new!
 We're part of the blessing, for we are God's children.
 We're loved and forgiven! We're welcomed back home.
 And now we are called to be part of God's kingdom,
 To welcome the children God claims as his own.
- 3. A man had two sons and the younger said to him, "I want my inheritance now! It is mine!"
 His father divided the property with him;
 That son spent it all and was soon feeding swine.
 But then he remembered his father providing;
 He thought he would beg to go home as a slave.
 His dad saw him coming as he stood there waiting;
 He ran out to greet him and welcome and save.
- 5. We're part of the blessing of God's new creation;
 As we have been welcomed, may we share God's grace.
 There's no room for grumbling in God's gracious kingdom;
 There's no place to question God's loving embrace.
 The outcast, the sinner, the poor, struggling mother,
 The addict, the seeker, the one who is lost —
 God welcomes them home and invites them to dinner —
 God runs out to greet us through Christ and his cross.

"Lord you have come the lakeshore"

"Tú Has Venido a la Orilla" Author: Cesáreo Gabarain ; Translators: Raquel Gutiérrez-Achon; George Lockwood & Gertrude C. Suppe | Blue Hymnal #377 1. You have come up to the lakeshore Looking neither for wise nor for wealthy You only wanted that I should follow

chorus

O Lord with Your eyes you have searched me And while smiling You have called out my name Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me Now with you I will seek other seas

2. You know that I own so little In my boat there's no money nor weapons You'll only find there my nets and my labor

chorus

3 You need the caring of my hands Through my tiredness may others find resting You need a love that just goes on loving

chorus

4 You who have fished other oceans Ever longed for by souls that are waiting My dear and good friend as thus You call me

"O Freedom"

African-American spiritual African American Heritage Hymnal #545

O freedom, O freedom
 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

- 2. No more moaning; No more moaning No more moaning over me
- 3. No more crying; No more crying No more crying over me
- 4. There'll be singing; There'll be singing There'll be singing over me

Mark 1:14-20

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming *the good news* of God, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in *the good news*."

¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

¹⁴ For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us *the ministry of reconciliation*; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.