

**College Avenue Presbyterian Church**  
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May 12, 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 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

## GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

GATHERING SONG "Mothering God You Gave Me Birth" - Insert

CALL TO WORSHIP Responsive Reading

SONG OF PRAISE "I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry" - Insert

*During our song of praise you are invited to come forward and select a flower, adding it to the bouquet that we'll create together. In this shared practice we'll honor the women who have been mothers for us – genetic and spiritual – past and present – as we weave together symbols of their strength and nurture, love and leadership into a living floral tapestry.*

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

*Children from 2 years to 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to gather at the front of the sanctuary and depart for our Godly Play time. You can collect your child(ren) after the service upstairs.*

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

SUNG RESPONSE "As The Wind Song" - 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 "Amen" - Insert

READING OF SCRIPTURE Psalm 46 & Acts 2:37-42 - Biruta Vinerts  
Pew Bible, pp. 553, 1056

SERMON - Monte McClain

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "The Summons" - 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 "Tiyoox tii Ka'tal" /tea oshtea katal/ (Poqomam)

*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 46 & Acts 2:37-42



Loneliness and isolation comprise the largest public health factor we face today. This is in large part because of the way our world has become: one of constant striving, and splicing-together small projects to make big-enough ones, constant-choice-making which define us, obligatory flexibility in all situations that can lead us to not make commitments to others and even ourselves. Sociologist Zygmunt Bauman calls this "Liquid Modernity." We live in a time in which our lives are fragmented. There is no solid, heavy, firm foundation on which we can build our lives, but rather more of a liquid one that leans toward hyperindividualism and identity-denying flexibility. Most work these days is contractual. There is no commitment, only gain. Increasingly relationships and loyalty are situational, abandoned when no longer needed or helpful. Liquid times are defined by uncertainty. The individual alone must act, plan actions and calculate the likely gains and losses of acting (or failing to act) under conditions of endemic uncertainty.

Today's scriptures talk of a different reality: rooted in a solid refuge, built upon a firm foundation, rooted in a relationship of mutual loyalty and love not upon likes and followers. That being, that being-together is in God, made by God, among God. Baptism is the expression of that invisible refuge and strength that God is and gives. It is the sign to receive when one wants to change direction, it's the gift of God reminding us that we don't have to have all of the answers, that we need God to find the way, that we can't do everything, become everything, control everything as liquid modernity leads us to believe we can. Metanoia (Repentance) is that turning around, changing direction, re-centering in what God wants, what God is doing, where God is. That's the prayer of the psalmist today. It's the cross-cultural decision of those that change life-direction upon hearing of the person and passion of Jesus. Those in Acts 2 who choose to center themselves in the flowing center of identity and vocation in the person of Jesus: the visible image of the invisible God; choose to be baptized that day, to live lives of daily renewal & re-centering in Jesus going forward.

"Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit. ...It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever."

– Martin Luther, *The Small Catechism*, 1529

### QUESTIONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF EXAMEN & CONTEMPLATION

- What shimmers in your attention in this reading?
- How do you long for a solid foundation in liquid times?
- How are baptism and repentance daily realities for you?
- How is baptism a sign of identity and community?

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

### MAY BIRTHDAYS

15 Richard Harvey    18 Marge Harvey  
23 Rebecca LaMotte    27 Paulette Leston  
31 Avery Haynes (2008)

### COMMUNITY LIFE CALENDAR

**TODAY: CELEBRATING MOTHERS: GENETIC, SPIRITUAL AND GOD** – Our Men's Group is facilitating Coffee Hour today to recognize and celebrate the women in our community.

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

**Youth Group.** Sundays 7-8:30pm

**Be "Good News" for Local Immigrants by helping us to teach a weekly ESL Class - Mondays, 7-9pm** We focus on 1-1 conversation to develop both speaking skills and relationships! Find more info online at [www.capcoakland.org/esl-ministry](http://www.capcoakland.org/esl-ministry) We restart this week – tomorrow 5/6!

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

**Presbytery Meeting** Tuesday May 14<sup>th</sup> 3:00-9:00pm at Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian More info & agenda online at <http://www.presbyteryofsf.org>

**Celtic Prayer Group**, Wednesdays 6:45-8:15pm  
Meets near CAL. Contact Marda Stothers for more info at [mqstothers@gmail.com](mailto:mqstothers@gmail.com)

**Friday Night Meal**, Friday 6-7:00pm *Come to eat – come to serve.* [www.capcoakland.org/friday-night-meal](http://www.capcoakland.org/friday-night-meal)

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

**Give a Relational Tithe** | Encourage another with a hand-written note. Cards on the back wall!

**La Ceiba Coffee:** Buy some sustainable fair-trade coffee from Guatemalan Coffee Growers in Palín – who we know and support! For sale today \$10/bag

**Next Sunday** – Nacho Fundraiser to raise monies to help offset the cost of summer camp for our children. Get some great nachos and change a life for good!

### Thank you to Today's Leadership

Fellowship: The Men's Group  
Godly Play: Linda Davis ST, Fredora Darmstadt DK

### Leadership for next week, 5/19/19:

Fellowship: Nacho Average Fundraiser  
Godly Play: Linda Davis ST, Fredora Darmstadt DK

## LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S CELEBRATION

### **"Mothering God you Gave Me Birth"**

*Jean Janzen (1991)*

*Paraphaser: Jean Janzen, b. 1933*

*Author: Julian of Norwich, c. 1342-c.1413*

*Glory to God Hymnal, #7*

1. Mothering God, you gave me birth  
in the bright morning of this world.  
Creator, source of every breath,  
you are my rain, my kid, my sun.

2. Mothering Christ, you took my form,  
offering me your food of light,  
rain of life, and grape of love,  
your very body for my peace.

3. Mothering Spirit, nurturing one,  
in arms of patience hold me close,  
so that in faith I root and grow  
until I flower, until I know.

### **CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING**

*Today's response comes from the Wee Worship Book published  
by Wild Good Worship Group of the Iona Community, Scotland.*

One: O God, who created the heavens  
and stretched them out,

**ALL: We praise you!**

One: You fashioned the earth and all that lives there,

**ALL: We praise you!**

One: You give breath to the people upon it,  
And Spirit to those who walk on it.

**ALL: We praise and thank you, O God!**

One: That the eyes of the blind be opened,  
The broken-hearted be healed,  
The poor hear the good news,  
The captives be brought out of darkness,

**ALL: Your Kingdom come, O Lord.  
Your will be done.**

One: So shall we sing a new song, O Lord,

**ALL: and praise your name for ever.**

### **"I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"**

*John C. Ylvisaker (1985)*

*Glory to God Hymnal, #488*

1. "I was there to hear your borne cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold.  
I was there when you were but a child,  
with a faith to suit you well;  
In a blaze of light you wandered off  
to find where demons dwell."

2. "When you heard the wonder of the Word,  
I was there to cheer you on;  
You were raised to praise the living Lord,  
to whom you now belong.  
If you find someone to share your time  
and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
from dusk 'till rising sun."

3. "In the middle ages of your life,  
not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
complete what I've begun.  
When the evening gently closes in,  
and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been  
with just one more surprise."

4. "I was there to hear your borne cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold."

## **"As the Wind Song"**

*Author: Shirley Erena Murray (2004)*

*Translator (Chinese): Ee Suen Wong (2005)*

*Glory to God #292*

1 As the wind song through the trees,  
as the stirring of the breeze,  
so it is with the Spirit of God,  
as the heart made strangely warm,  
as the voice within the storm,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.  
Never seen, ever known  
where this wind has blown  
bringing life, bringing power to the world,  
as the dancing tongues of fire,  
as the soul's most deep desire,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.

2 As the rainbow after rain,  
as the hope that's born again,  
so it is with the Spirit of God,  
as the green in the spring,  
as a kite on a string,  
so it is with the Spirit of God,  
making worlds that are new,  
making peace come true,  
bringing gifts, bringing love to the world,  
as the rising of the yeast,  
as the wine at the feast,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.

## **"Amen"**

*African-American spiritual*

*Blue Hymnal #299*

Amen Amen

Amen Amen Amen

## **"The Summons"**

*John L. Bell (1987) & Graham Maule (1987)*

*Glory to God Hymnal, #726*

1. Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown?  
Will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown  
in you and you in me?

2. Will you leave yourself behind  
if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer  
in you and you in me?

3. Will you let the blinded see  
if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free  
and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean  
and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean  
in you and you in me?

4. Will you love the "you" you hide  
if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound  
in you and you in me?

5. Lord your summons echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
and never be the same.  
In Your company I'll go  
where Your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in you and you in me.