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REVELATION

FINDING GOD IN THE WORLD

April 28, 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 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

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

GATHERING SONG "From all that Dwell Below the Skies" - Insert

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PRAISE "Breathe" - Insert

Children from 2 years to 6th 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.

SUNG PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION "Spirit of the Living God" - Insert

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD IN SCRIPTURE Mark 10:17-31 pp. 980

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD THROUGH PHOTO LANGUAGE

*"When do we recognize our common humanity?
 When we recognize our own humanity in the face of the other
 — it is then that we also recognize the face of God." Grounded, p. 266*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "Lord You Give the Great Commission" - Insert

PRAYERS

OF CONFESSION. *OPENING OURSELVES TO BEING UNDONE, THAT WE MIGHT BE REDONE*
 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 "Siyahamba" - 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 "Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed!"

"¡Cristo ha resucitado! ¡En verdad ha resucitado!"

(Spanish)

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

Mark 10:17-31



Today's text is curiously filled with paradoxes. The man comes to Jesus, falling on his knees in respect and honor for this teacher, but then he won't heed his teaching. This is the only person that Jesus is explicitly said to "love" in this gospel of Mark, and yet he rejects Jesus' call. The man is said to have everything but still lacks one thing.

This man comes with an earnest question about salvation: the divine inheritance in the eschatological time to come. He has done what is commanded and wonders what else he must do for the God who is distant from this world to save him. Advanced in age, seemingly sincere in his faith Jesus in reminding him of the 10 Commandments of God insists upon his relationships with others. Jesus talked of defrauding rather than coveting (the 10th commandment) implying that this wealthy man who owns much land is not consistent in the way he treats the landless peasants who may owe him great debt or work for him. Jesus challenges him to be coherent in his faith and ethical life, in his finances and his relationships, to realize that God is not just in some distant eschatological future, but also here and now in the world.

Moments of peace and human solidarity, even in the middle of trenchwarfare in WW 1 such as when Allied and German soldiers stopped fighting to sing "Silent Night" together, recognizing the holy day on Christmas Eve 1914, point to the mystery and miraculous presence of the Kingdom of God here, now, among us. "It is precisely when we recognize our common humanity – when we recognize our own humanity in the face of the other – it is then that we also recognize the face of God.' This is salvation, this seeing God in all other faces, the very meaning and purpose of Jesus, whose birth we gathered to celebrate [in 1914]: 'In him we are forever connected to God and forever connected to one another. We are not another race of creatures bound on other journeys. We share a common life – we share a common journey – and we are forever bound together by God's divine love.'" (*Grounded*, p. 266)

The man, whom the text portrays as loved by Jesus as a father loves a child, cannot honor the teaching of Jesus, he cannot trust God in the way that Jesus suggests – with all of his possessions. He cannot see the face of God (the *imago dei* of Genesis 3:27) in the face of his neighbor, in particular the one that may work his land or owe him a debt. He sees God in the future, but not here, now, in the world. The disciples however, as Jesus explains later in the passage, are attentive to God's presence in the world and thus blessed by it.

Questions for the practice of Examen & Contemplation

- What shimmers for you in this story?
- How do you struggle to see God in the face of others?
- How have you been transformed by the experience of divine community – a profound sense of equality and togetherness that involves seeing other, & being seen yourself in the warmth of God's presence? How is that maybe *abundant* life?

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY NEWS

TODAY: PHOTO LANGUAGE – We're doing something different in worship to help conclude our Lenten series on finding God in the world using the book *Grounded* by Diana Butler Bass. We'll explain how and when to do it.

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

DEACONS Meeting today after worship

Feedback on Lent/Holy Week Help us reflect on our community celebrations through an online survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/7L3KJJC

Small Groups & Worship –interacting around the questions raised in the book *Grounded* by Diana Butler Bass.

Group 1 meets Tuesdays 12-1pm at the church (not meeting next week)

Group 2 Wednesday 6:45-8:15pm – near CAL.

Group 3 Thursday 3-4pm – at the church.

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

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

Next Week in Worship | Communion

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

Sign a Giant Greeting Card | Send love to Beth Beatty who recently had surgery and to Colin & Cara Leary who welcomed a baby boy – Nathan – 4/12.

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

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

Thank you to today's Leadership

Fellowship: Joy & Al Barnes

Godly Play: Bill Beatty ST, Radman Beatty DK

Leadership for next week, 5/5/18:

Fellowship: Chris Olson, Elaine Price

Godly Play: Children stay in worship

LYRICS & WRITTEN RESPONSES FOR TODAY'S WORSHIP

"From all that Dwell Below the Skies"

(Psalm 117) Isaac Watts (1719) | Glory to God #327

1 From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's
praise arise: Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the Redeemer's name
be sung through every land, in every tongue. Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 In every land begin the song; to every land the strains
belong: Alleluia! Alleluia! In cheerful sound all voices
raise and fill the world with joyful praise. Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3 Eternal are thy mercies, Lord; eternal truth attends thy
word: Alleluia! Alleluia! Thy praise shall sound from
shore to shore, till suns shall rise and set no
more. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSIVE READING

Today's response is written by Monte McClain.

One: The Bible begins and ends with the image of a tree

All: The garden of Eden surrounds the tree of life
(Genesis 2)

One: The new city of Jerusalem that comes down joining
our world is centered around the tree of life

All: Fruit for knowledge, leaves for healing.
(Genesis 2 & Revelation 22)

One: The psalmist poets talk of those
who delight in the Lord

All: as trees grounded near flowing water (Psalm 1)

One: Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to a mustard
seed the smallest of all the seeds, sown in a field,

**All: which grows so that the birds of the air come and
make nests in its branches.** (Matthew 13)

One: Trees provide fruit in season,
shade in the heat of the day,

**All: they hold the ground steady
and give us fresh air to breathe.**

One: And so we gather to chew on Scripture,
to reflect on God's activity in our lives and world

All: that we might live as trees replanted in Eden.

"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

And I, I'm desperate for you
And I, I'm I'm lost without you

"Spirit of the living God"

Daniel Iverson (1926)

Blue Hymnal #322

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us.
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us.
Melt us, mold us, fill us, use us.
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us.

"Siyahamba"

South African Traditional Song

English; Xhosa | Glory to God Hymnal #853

© 1984, Utryck, Walton Music Corporation,

We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching, we are marching oh
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching, we are marching oh
We are marching in the light of God

Siyahambay kookay nyen kwen kos

We are living in the love of God

We are moving in the power of God

"Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

*Author: Jeffery W. Rowthorn | Tune: ABBOT'S LEIGH
Glory to God #298*

1 Lord, you give the great commission:
"Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission,
and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity:
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

2 Lord, you call us to your service:
"In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor, draw us
closer in community:
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

3 Lord, you make the common holy:
"This, my body; this, my blood."
Let us all, for earth's true glory,
daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us
share your children's liberty:
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

4 Lord, you show us love's true measure:
"Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us
to a just society:
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

5 Lord, you bless with words assuring:
"I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend,
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity:
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

327 From All That Dwell Below the Skies

(Psalm 117)

Unison

1 From all that dwell be-low the skies let the Cre-a-tor's praise a-
 2 In ev-ery land be-gin the song; to ev-ery land the strains be-
 3 E-ter-nal are thy mer-cies, Lord; e-ter-nal truth at-tends thy

Harmony *Unison*

rise: Let the Re-deem-er's
 long: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! In cheer-ful sound all
 word: Thy praise shall sound from

name be sung through ev-ery land, in ev-ery tongue.
 voic-es raise and fill the world with joy-ful praise.
 shore to shore, till suns shall rise and set no more.

Harmony

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Because Psalm 117 contains only two verses, Watts's paraphrase had only two stanzas. Most later hymnals have created or borrowed additional stanzas, like the one included here, to enlarge the hymn. Perhaps the best solution is found by adding Alleluias, as this tune invites.

TEXT: Stanzas 1, 3, Isaac Watts, 1719; stanza 2, *A Pocket Hymn Book*, 1781
 MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623, alt.; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
 LM with alleluias
 (This tune in a lower key, 10)

298 Lord, You Give the Great Commission

1 Lord, you give the great com-mis-sion: "Heal the sick and
 2 Lord, you call us to your ser-vice: "In my name bap-
 3 Lord, you make the com-mon ho-ly: "This, my bod-y;
 4 Lord, you show us love's true mea-sure: "Fa-ther, what they
 5 Lord, you bless with words as-sur-ing: "I am with you

preach the word." Let the church ne-glect its mis-sion, and the
 tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom-ise, life a-
 this, my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo-ry, dai-ly
 do, for-give." Yet we hoard as pri-vate trea-sure all that
 to the end." Faith and hope and love re-stor-ing, may we

gos-pel go un-heard, help us wit-ness to your
 bun-dant meant for each, give us all new fer-vor,
 lift life heav-en-ward, ask-ing that the world a-
 you so free-ly give. May your care and mer-cy
 serve as you in-tend, and, a-mid the cares that

United by the refrain after each stanza, this text relies on passages from Matthew and Luke to highlight various dimensions of the church's mission and ministry in the world. It was written for use with this tune, composed in the village near Bristol, England, for which it is named.

TEXT: Jeffery W. Rowthorn, 1978
 MUSIC: Cyril Vincent Taylor, 1941
 Text © 1978 Hope Publishing Company
 Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company

ABBOT'S LEIGH
 8.7.8.7.D

pur-pose with re-newed in-teg-ri-ty:
 draw us clos-er in com-mu-ni-ty:
 round us share your chil-dren's lib-er-ty:
 lead us to a just so-ci-e-ty:
 claim us, hold in mind e-ter-ni-ty:

gifts em-power us for the work of min-is-try.