Presbyterian Church
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November 14, 2021 at 10:30am

## Welcome to CAPC Oakland!

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

In this time of disruption and new normal we gather hybrid-ly (both in person and via Zoom).

This is our new normal.

It's something that we'll get better at each time we gather, allowing us to gather together and be consistent with our values and commitments. We ask that you wear a mask during worship as some of our community (our children in particular) are not yet vaccinated.

#### **CHILDREN**

We've reconfigured out how to do our Godly Play program for children via Zoom. We meet 9:30-10am on Sundays via Zoom. Info in the announcements on the back.

#### POST-SERVICE GARDEN PARTY

We are serving a light snack and coffee after worship in the garden throughout the summer. You can enjoy that mask-free. We ask you to not touch any of the food or drink, instead let us serve you.

### **PRAYER CARDS**

To operationalize participation in our Prayers of the People we invite you to fill out a prayer card and share it with the liturgist or to share you requests in the chat on ZOOM labeling it with 'prayer.'

CCL #1137062.

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD BOTH IN PERSON & VIA ZOOM

PRELUDE: "O God Show Mercy To Us"

GATHERING SONG "As the Wind Song (風之頌)"

**CALL TO WORSHIP** 

SONG OF PRAISE "For The Healing Of The Nations"

**HEARING GOD'S WORD** 

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24 & John 2:13-22

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD "The Gospel of Grace and Truth"

- Rev. Monte McClain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG OF RESPONSE "Let Justice Roll Like A River"

RESPONDING TO OUR CALL TO GRACE & TRUTH THROUGH ARTISTIC CREATION YOU'RE INVITED TO COME FORWARD AND PARTICIPATE IN OUR VISIBLE LITURGY DURING THE SONG

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER - Myrna Shadley WE USE A CALL AND RESPONSE LITURGICALLY PRAYED AT THE CONCLUSION OF SHARING A PRAYER.

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

COLLECTION OF OUR OFFERINGS AND GIFTS "Live Into Hope"

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENDING SONG "Take Up Your Cross"

SENDING CALL AND RESPONSE

Leader: God is good!

People: All the time!

Leader: And all the time!

People: God is good!

**EXHORTATION & BENEDICTION** 

PASSING THE PEACE OF GOD "The Peace of Christ"

In the season of a pandemic new normal, 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.

POSTLUDE "Autumn Leaves"

## Reflections on Today's Readings Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24 & John 2:13-22

Amos was a shepherd in Tekoa, a village five miles south of Bethlehem near one of the wildest and emptiest deserts in the world. IT's in that desert that Amos became a man of God listening to God's voice, obeying his Word and speaking on his behalf.

He would have had to travel 2 ½ days to get to the nearest marketplace in. Samaria. Arriving there he would have encountered a very different world. Teeming with crowds. Loud with commerce Adorned with displays of ritual worship. Flagrant disparities between rich and poor. The cruelty of the slave trade.

Each trip was a shock to his sensibilities. But on this trip he said something about it. Ordinarily his words would have seem liked the rantings of some sunstruck man from the desert. But not these words. The poetry was vivid and the presentation lucid. And the message? Amos spoke never-before-heard words that had the ring of truth and the authority of revelation.

He spoke about the ugly picture that Hebrew society had become. Strikingly similar to our won. A society that was unfair economically, unashamed morally, unjust socially. They (like us maybe today) had lived with it for so long that they no longer saw it. But God sees it, and he's insistent on changing it. On changing us. Judgment is coming. Jesus might have had a similar clash of his senses and affront of his sense of justice as he arrives to the Temple to pray in John 2 and is met with the noise of the moneychangers.

Sin dulls our spiritual senses and lulls us into self-indulgent sloth, but judgment wakes us up to God. The prophecy of Amos is poetry-language to open our eyes, tenderize our heart so that we might once again have vision. His poetry – simultaneously beautiful and fiercely harsh - depict the intersectionality of social justice and spirituality. (adapted from The Message Bible by Eugene Peterson)

#### **QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & EXAMEN:**

- What engaged you, enraged you, or surprised you in the text?
- Amos implies that the people are hypocrites saying one thing in prayer and living another way in terms of their money and relationships. Jesus condemns the profit made off the backs of those coming to worship God. We see in the text what is un-just, but what are they saying is just?
- If righteousness is what God is and does. How can we be righteous or do righteous things? From where comes your sense of what is right, just, or righteous? How do you discern that in the mix of everything in your life and our world?
- Only Amos and Jesus speak up and out in these texts. Everyone else seems to be passive bystanders to the injustice occurring. How might we be engaged bystanders and active witnesses to the injustice in our world today speaking up and out?

## November Birthdays

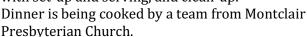
15 Pete Feltman16 Ruth Ann Frieland16 Elodie McClain19 Radman Beatty

## Weekly Calendar

Race Matters Group Mondays - 6pm on Zoom More info at capcoakland.org/racematters

## Friday Night Meal – Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm.

Sign up online w/ the QR Code to help with set-up and serving, and clean-up.



**Letters of Love** send a greeting card to someone who could use a good word or to one of our governmental representatives (back wall).

# Godly Play for Children Sundays 9:30-10am on Zoom

**Sabbath as Resistance** – Tuesdays 7pm (Zoom) *Tuesday, 11/16 we're discussing chapter 4.* 

**Wrestling with Scripture** Thursdays at 7pm on Zoom. *Reading the weekly text in community.* 

## **Annual Thanksgiving Day Community Meal**

**SCAN ME** 

This year we are again adapting the annual community meal we've been serving for 40+ years to a COVID socially-distanced TO-GO format. We'll be serving Thanksgiving

Day from the Gym 11a-12p.

Find more info and sign-up to help online at www.capcoakland.org Or use this QR CODE.

**Global Missions –** Today 3:00pm. Come here about the life and ministry of Bright and Remya David in Southern India. Meets at the home of Marda Stothers - 2600 Warring St; Berkeley

**Can you help host a coffee hour?** –We need a few more helpers! *Talk to Richard Harvey.* 

## Thank you to Today's Worship Leadership:

Art Facilitator: Barbara Eptsein Eagle Coffee Hour: Beth & Bill Beatty Godly Play: Monte McClain

Music: Pete Feltman, Dave Eagle, Ben Kramarz,

Gabe Szilardi-Tierney, Roger Kim Prayer Liturgist: Myrna Shadley

Video Tech: Albert Hussian, Dann Wilkens

#### Lyrics & Responses for Today's Celebration

We seek to use gender inclusive language, as we affirm that God is neither male or nor female – but wholly and holy other. In doing so, we seek to empower each person to participate fully in worship, able to identify with the lyrics of songs and the words of our communal prayers.

## "As the Wind Song (風之頌)"

Author: Shirley Erena Murray (2004) | 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,P 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.

## Call to Worship Litany -

Written by Monte, inspired from Priya Parker's book The Art of Gathering; Isaiah 25, John 1, Psalm 23.

One: What a hot mess!

ALL: This past week, this past month, this past year...maybe it's always be a mess?

One: Lord God you talk of your kingdom as a table, where all are seated, eat their fill, loved, and treasured

– all recognized as created in your image.

ALL: And yet we fight about lives mattering, reducing the worth of some to what can fit on a t-shirt, bumper sticker or hashtag.

One: We gather today hungering for your mercy, that day of peace when swords will be beat into tools for growing food;

ALL: We regather today to connect and remember that we are not alone, to re-member;

> for God you are our shepherd, you lead us through the darkest valleys into the hope of gentle waters and green pastures.

One: We regather together to listen to what God has done in the past and is doing in the present – you alone have the words of life.

ALL: treading water amongst divisive memes and hashtags, fake news, mistruths, conspiracy theories

- yet you, you are full of both grace & truth.

One: We regather together in this mess; because we can; Because you call us together...

ALL: Speak to us of your praise and protest; your peace and purpose.

"For The Healing Of The Nations"

Fred Kaan (1965) Glory to God Purple Hymnal #346

1 For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord, for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords. To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.

2 Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release, that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace. Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.

3 All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned: pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan. In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.

Continued next page...

4 You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind. For our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind that by our response and service earth its destiny may find.

## "Let Justice Roll Like A River"

Marty Haugen © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.

#### Refrain:

Let justice roll like a river, and wash all oppression away; Come, O God, and take us, move and shake us, Come now, and make us anew, That we might live justly like you.

- 1. Take from me your holy feasts, all your offerings and your music; Let justice flow like waters, and integrity like an every flowing stream.
- 2. How long shall we wait, O God, for the day of your mercy to dawn, The day we beat our swords into ploughs, when your peace reigns over the earth?
- 3. Hear this, all of you who use the poor in your thirst of power and riches: The Lord will turn your laughter to tears, on the wondrous Day of our God.
- 4. Even know return to me, let your hearts be broken and humble, For I am gracious, generous and kind; come and seek the mercies of God.
- 5. You have been told the way of life, the way of justice and peace; To act justly, to love gently, and walk humbly with God.

#### "Live Into Hope"

Jane Parker Huber (1976) Glory to God #772 The Blue Presbyterian Hymnal #332

1. Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed. The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own Jubilee!

the first to see the year of dod's

2Live into hope! The blind shall see within sight and with clarity, removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.

- 3. Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be, the right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.
- 4. Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed. God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.

## "Take Up Your Cross"

Ray Boltz / Jane Johannson Knoedler / Steve Millikan

1 What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms; what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.

#### Refrain:

Take up your cross and follow Jesus
Take up your cross every day
Don't be ashamed to say that you know Him
Count up the cost, take up your cross and follow Him

- 1. What are you doing for the King Have you really given everything To the One who gave His all for you Don't you be satisfied just to know That the Lord has saved your soul Have you forgotten what you need to do
- 2. Take up your cross and follow Jesus
  Take up your cross every day
  Don't be ashamed to say that you know Him
  Count up the cost, take up your cross and follow Him
  Don't be ashamed to say that you know Him
  Count up the cost, take up your cross and follow Him

#### Bridge

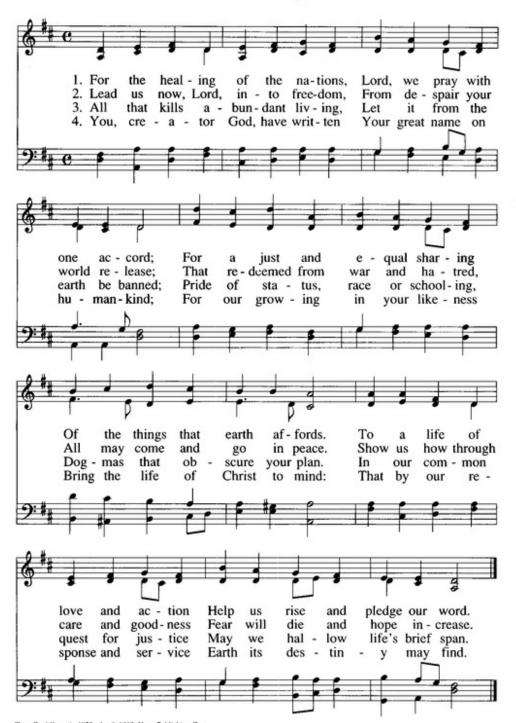
I know sometimes the road is long and I know sometimes you feel like you can't go on But you can make it, you just....

## Refrain 2 x

Count up the cost, take up your cross and follow Him Count up the cost, take up your cross and follow Him

Continued in next column...

## For the Healing of the Nations 719



Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929, alt., ⊕ 1968. Hope Publishing Co. Tune: ST. THOMAS, 8 7 8 7 8 7; John Wade, 1711-1786



### Verses

- 1. Take from me your holy feasts, all your off'rings and your music; Let justice flow like waters, and integrity like an ever-flowing stream.
- 2. How long shall we wait, O God, for the day of your mercy to dawn, the day we beat our swords into ploughs, when your peace reigns over the earth
- 3. Hear this, all of you who use the poor in your thirst of power and riches: the Lord will turn your laughter to tears, on the wondrous Day of our God.
- 4. Even now return to me, let your hearts be broken and humble, for I am gracious, gen'rous and kind; come and seek the mercies of God.
- 5. You have been told the way of life, the way of justice and peace; to act justly, to love gently, and walk humbly with God.