



**on the way**

**First Congregational Church of Fresno**  
**The Big Red Church**  
October 21, 2018

A warm welcome is extended to all, especially those who are worshipping at First Congregational Church of Fresno for the first time or who have returned after an absence. Your presence both enriches us and enhances this time of celebration together.  
(\*Congregation may stand | Responses: Liturgist/Congregation/all)

## Our Gathering

**Prelude**  
organist

Sonata II Op 65 No 2  
Mvt. 1,2,4-Felix Mendelssohn

Michael Varlas, guest

### **Welcome, Direction And Announcements**

*Please sign and share the red registration pads found on the inside center aisle of each pew.*

### **\*Call to Worship**

Liturgist: Victoria King Thomas

One: Beloved community, come apart from the chaos for a while, and linger in the presence of God who is our source of life.

Many: God calls us to renew ourselves, and to find our life's purpose.

One: The One who has made us would not have us journey alone. We gather as a sacred community of love, together on the quest to know God's hope for our lives and for this church.

Many: May we find our way forward through our worship, listening for the voice of our still speaking God.

### **\*Hymn**

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

Insert

### **\*Opening Prayer**

God of all Creation, we lift up our souls to you. All the earth is yours, all who dwell here are your children. We seek once more to experience your truth, to receive your blessing, to ascend above the limitations we have known. You are strong and mighty beyond our imagining. We aspire to become more than we have believed ourselves to be, individually and together. This we pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*The Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

**\*Gloria Patri**

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three in One;  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen. Amen.

## God is Still Speaking

**First Scripture Reading:** Heb 5:1-10 Find This on Pg. 973 in your Pew Bible

**A Time for Discovery:**

*Children are invited to come up to the Chancel steps*

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still;  
let this be our song — no one stands alone,  
standing side by side. Draw the circle wide.  
(Sing twice)

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**\*Hymn**

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

Insert

**Gospel Text :** Luke 24:13-35 Find This on Pg. 860 in your Pew Bible

Sermon On the Way Rev. Raygan Baker

## The Beloved Community

*A brief time of silence will be observed in preparation of our time for prayer*

### The Sharing Of Our Prayer Requests

#### Sung Call To Prayer

Lord, listen to your children praying:  
Lord send your Spirit in this place.  
Lord, listen to your children praying:  
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

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**Prayers Of Joy And Concern** concluding with The Lord's Prayer

**Invitation To Offering**

Liturgist: Victoria King Thomas

**Offertory**

Michael Varlas, guest organist

**\*Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Liturgist: Victoria King Thomas

**\*Hymn**

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

#400, pew hymnal

**\*Blessing**

**\*Sung Benediction**

(We turn toward the center aisle and each other as a sign of mutual blessing.)

Go now in peace, never be afraid;  
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true;  
know God will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world will see  
God will be there, watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
Amen. Amen. Amen.

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*It is our tradition to be seated for the Postlude.*

**Postlude**

Sonata Op 65 no 2  
Mvt. 3

Michael Varlas, guest organist

Everyone is invited to share in refreshment and conversation in Fellowship Hall following this morning's service.

## Assisting in Today's Worship

**Ushers**.....Bruce Owdom, Nora Dewitt, Sue Karibian, Bob McParland  
**Liturgist:** .....Victoria King Thomas  
**Chancel Design:** .....Jason Freeman  
**Flowers:**.....Jeanne Nelson  
**Hospitality**.....Kymberly Lindsey  
**Cover Art:** .....Kim Williams



### Learning Circle: Measure P

Join us after our service for information to inform your decision making on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Joan Eaton and Paul Gibson will lead a Learning Circle to explain Measure P. Learning Circle begins at 11:30 in the Heritage Room.

Measure P will update and improve Fresno's current parks, trails and facilities, make parks cleaner and safer, and create parks in neighborhoods that lack access to them. Visit the Measure P website for more information. [Fresnoforparcs.com](http://Fresnoforparcs.com)

# Sermon Notes

## First Congregational Church Board of Directors

**Moderator**

Scott Baucher  
sbaucher3@gmail.com

**Vice-Moderator**

Robbyn Mosley  
nyelsom@comcast.net

**Chief Financial Officer**

Lester Leas  
lesterle@yahoo.com

**Secretary**

Peter Wall  
peterwall@gmail.com

## First Congregational Church Ministry Leadership

**Christian Education**

Catherine Cooper

**Worship**

Bill May

**Church Life**

Paula Roberts

**Outreach**

Judy Oftedal

**Resources**

Jason Freeman

Attendance  
October  
Week 1

2017: 117  
2018: 123



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pinterest.com/bigredchurch



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

# First Congregational Church of Fresno

2131 N. Van Ness Blvd., Fresno, CA 93704 | (559) 227-8489

Office Hours: Monday – Friday  
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

## Church Staff

### **Pastor**

Rev. Raygan Baker  
rbaker@bigredchurch.org

### **Music Director/Organist**

Scott Horton  
shtulare@gmail.com

### **Director of Facilities, Technology, and Communication**

Kim Williams  
Office@bigredchurch.org

### **Caretaker**

Pat Morales  
Patmorales40@gmail.com

### **Superintendent of Facilities and Grounds**

Sarkis Kglyan

### **Accountant**

Penny Leas Peterson

## Support Staff

### **Interim Coordinator of Caring Ministries**

Gayle Thornton

### **Covenanted Minister to Hinds Hospice**

Rev. Stephanie Doss  
Grief Counselor  
sdoss@hindshospice.org

### **Coordinator of Youth & Children's Ministries**

Scott Hancock  
Scott.bigredchurch@gmail.com

### **Coordinator of Nursery**

Patsy Finster  
patsyfinster26@comcast.net

### **Nursery Personnel**

Zorayda Darce  
Chelsee Armsworthy  
Andrew Fennacy

### **Nursery Assistant**

Miranda Deis



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FRESNO  
**BIGREDCHURCH**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

# This Week at the Big Red Church

## Sunday, October 21

Bible Study	Fireside Room	8:30 am
Worship	Sanctuary	10:00 am
Learning Circle Yes on P	Parlor	11:30 am
CROP Walk	BeBe O's	1:30 pm

## Monday, October 22

Kim Out		5:00 pm
Movers and Shakers Yoga	Room 1	
Christmas on Van Ness Rehearsal	Chapel	6:30 pm

## Wednesday, October 24

Ooooby	Fellowship Hall	3:00–6:00 pm
Living Through Transitions	Fireside Room	4:00 pm
Movers and Shakers Yoga	Room 1	5:00 pm
Niners	Parlor	7:00 pm
Choir Practice	Sanctuary	7:00 pm

## Thursday, October 25

Christmas on Van Ness Rehearsal	Chapel	6:00 pm
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## Friday, October 26

Food Distribution set-up crew	Fellowship Hall	9:00 am
Food Distribution	Fellowship Hall	10:00 am –12:00

## Sunday, October 28

Bible Study	Fireside Room	8:30 am
Worship	Sanctuary	10:00 am
Prayer Ministry Meeting	Parlor	11:30 am

Hot Dog Sunday! Bring A pack of hot dogs and buns for Halloween!

### Naomi's House--An Urgent Message from Outreach

Naomi's House is a safe place for women in Fresno to find shelter, and it is one of a kind in our city. It is in danger of losing funding, so we are stepping up to help bridge the gap. We will be having a special offering for the next two Sundays to raise money for Naomi's House in order to save this important institution. The Ministry of Outreach is giving \$1,500 and we encourage the members of our congregation to match our donation, or

### Pastor Raygan's Birthday

Jason Freeman and Scott Hancock invite you to their (new!) home to celebrate Pastor Raygan's 30th birthday. The open house celebration will take place on Friday, November 2nd from 7:00-9:00 PM, mere steps away from the church at 607 E Peralta, Fresno, 93704. We hope to see you there!

**ENDING HUNGER**  
AT A TIME  
**CROP HUNGER WALK**



Yabea and her daughter, Sifralili proudly display the vegetable garden near their kitchen in West Timor, Indonesia.  
Photo: Ryan Shanley

## VEGGIES, EGGS AND A SIDE OF HOPE.

Join Us! Participa Con Nosotros

Sunday October 21

1:30 pm Walker Registration/Registracion- 2:30 pm Walk Begins/Comienzo

BeBe O's Vintage Boutique Parking Lot

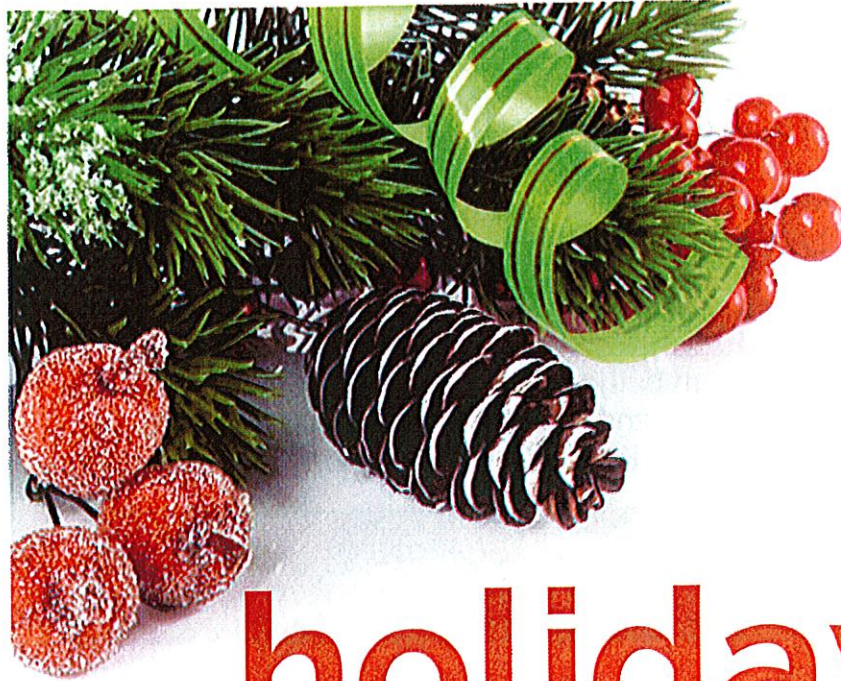
1130 N Wishon Ave - Wishon/Olive in Tower District

ENTERTAINMENT, REFRESHMENTS, and LIGHT SNACK

\*Community walk event in support of local and global hunger and disaster relief

\*Evento de la caminata comunitaria en apoyo del hambre local y global, y el alivio de desastres.

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/fresnoc>



# holiday boutique

handmade | holiday gift shopping | unique

First Congregational Church of Fresno

11.10.2018

559.227.8489  
2131 N. Van Ness Blvd.  
Fresno, CA

9AM - 3PM

Between Clinton and McKinley

For more information and vendor applications please visit [bigredchurch.org/holidayboutique](http://bigredchurch.org/holidayboutique)

There are limited vendor spaces left for the Holiday Boutique on November 10th! See Paula Roberts for more information or visit our website: [bigredchurch.org/holidayboutique](http://bigredchurch.org/holidayboutique)

## Halloween Celebration

We're looking for volunteers to sign up to help with our annual neighborhood Halloween Celebration at the Big Red Church.

If you'd like to help cook, serve, provide crowd control, set-up or clean up, please visit our sign-up page and let us know how you can help!

<http://signup.com/go/BkuXzDU>

The Halloween Celebration is on October 31 from 5-8.

We will be starting a new Big Red Church tradition on the Sunday before Halloween: **Hot Dog Sunday!** On October 28th bring a pack or two of hot dogs and buns to church for us to serve at the celebration on Wednesday. No hot dog *sundaes*, please.

We need donations of candy! Drop bags of treats off at the church office, we promise not to snack on them!


## Winter on the Streets

The homeless in our community need the following items to stay dry this winter:

Ponchos  
Dropcloths/tarps  
Umbrellas

These items can be found at dollar stores around Fresno.

Please place donations in the red bin in the Fellowship Hall.



*It's Time:*  
An Evening with  
**Glennon Doyle**

AUTHOR LOVE WARRIOR  
CREATOR OF MONASTERY.COM  
FOUNDER, TOGETHER RISING

PRESENTED BY  
*do it afraid*

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2018**  
7:00 PM (Doors open at 6:15 p.m.)

**TICKET COST IS \$40.00**  
Which includes a general admission seat  
and a copy of Glennon's #1 New York Times  
bestseller, *Love Warrior*.

*D.G. Williams Theater*  
1001 West Main Street • Visalia, CA

Eventbrite [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com) - search: Glennon Doyle  [dolitaold](https://www.facebook.com/dolitaold)  [dolitaold](https://www.instagram.com/dolitaold)

# About First Congregational Church of Fresno

## Mission Statement

## Open & Affirmative Statement

**God calls the church into being.**

**In response, we love God and each other.**

- We provide a place in a changing world where the constancy of God's love and compassion is known through the example of Jesus Christ
- We celebrate our life together through ministries of prayer and worship, music and education, stewardship and outreach
- We share the stories of our faith and spiritual journeys
- We connect with the mysteries of God's grace, the miracle of restorative faith, and the power of ritual and myth
- We live with compassion for all God's creation
- We dispel isolation and alienation, witnessing to the joy of an open and affirming Christian life
- **Strengthened and transformed by our faith, we go out into the wider community offering the message of hope and reconciliation to all people.**

**We believe that all people are sacred creations of a loving God.**

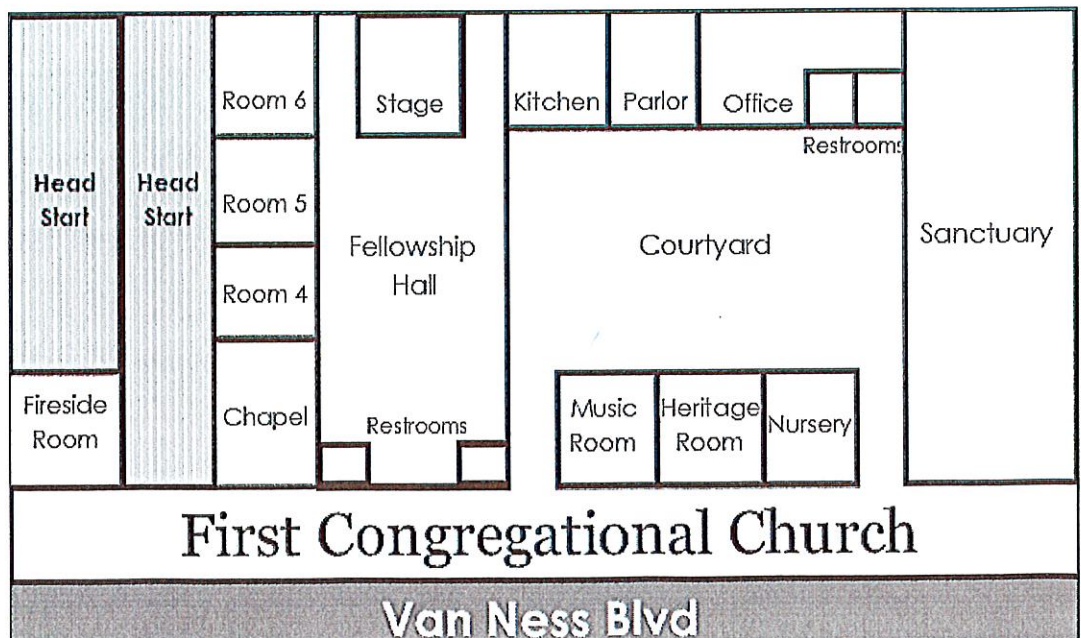
We affirm the diversity that exists among us. We strive to answer the call of Christ extending his love, compassion, and acceptance to everyone. In this spirit, we open our family of faith to people of every religious background, sexual orientation, family composition, and physical and mental ability, race, age, and gender.

As Christians, we experience God's reconciling love

In response, we stand with those who suffer discrimination, isolation, and alienation.

We welcome all people to participate fully in our church's life and ministry

**We celebrate the variety of talents and perspectives which flow into our spiritual community, continuing to enrich us in ways we could not have predicted or envisioned.**



# Come, Christians, Join to Sing

1. Come, Chris-tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 2. Come lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 3. Praise yet our Christ a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Loud praise to Christ we bring: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 Let prais-es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re-joice;  
 Christ is our Guide and Friend on whom we can de-pend;  
 On heav-en's bliss-ful shore his good-ness we'll a-dore,

praise we with grate-ful choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

WORDS: Christian Henry Bateman, 1843, alt.  
 MUSIC: Traditional Spanish melody; harm. David Evans, 1927

MADRID  
 66.66D

♩=112-120

# Open My Eyes, That I May See

1. O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou  
 2. O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic-es of truth thou  
 3. O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad-ly the warm truth

hast for me; place in my hands the won-der-ful key  
 send-est clear; and while the wave-notes fall on my ear,  
 ev - ery-where; o - pen my heart and let me pre-pare

## Refrain

that shall un-clasp and set me free.  
 ev - ery-thing false will dis - ap-pear. Si - lent - ly now I  
 love with thy chil - dren thus to share.

wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy will to see.

O - pen my eyes,  
 O - pen my ears, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!  
 O - pen my heart,

## Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

*Eph. 2:20-22; 1 Pet. 2:4-7**Latin, 6th-8th century  
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt.  
St. 3 adapt. Thomas H. Troeger, 1992*

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and cor - ner - stone,  
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O God of Hosts, to - day!  
 3 Here re - new your ser - vants' vis - ion, that by faith they may at - tain

chos - en of our God and pre - cious, bind - ing all the Church in one;  
 With your con - stant, lov - ing kind - ness hear your peo - ple as they pray.  
 peace and hope, re - newed com - pas - sion, strength to com - fort those in pain,

Ho - ly Zi - on's help for - ev - er, and our con - fi - dence a - lone.  
 Give your full - est ben - e - dic - tion: grace to fol - low Christ the Way.  
 Tears and grief trans - formed to glad - ness in your ev - er - last - ing reign.

*The hymn has its origins in an early Latin poem, Urbs beata Jerusalem, based on passages from Ephesians, 1 Peter, and Revelation. "Holy Zion" refers to the church transcendent, built of "living stones"—the saints of God.*

Tune: REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7.  
 Henry T. Smart, 1867  
 Alternate tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY

