



WHAT SHALL WE BRING?

**First Congregational Church of Fresno**  
**The Big Red Church**  
November 11, 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 on Veterans Day

**Prelude** Organ Chorale settings on "Nun Danket alle Gott" cott Horton,  
organ

### 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: Wade Hobson

One: In a world filled with violence and war,

**Many: we gather together to celebrate the promise of peace.**

One: In a world filled with tyranny and oppression,

**Many: we gather together to celebrate the promise of justice for all.**

One: In a world filled with hunger and greed,

**Many: we gather together to celebrate the promise of plenty for all.**

One: Our hope is in the name of the Almighty God,

**Many: the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of heaven and earth.**

### \* Hymn

"God of the Ages, Who with Sure Command" #592, pew hymnal

### \* Opening Prayer

Meet us here, O God, in these moments, as we share your story and endeavor to be your salt in the world. We pray that our songs, prayers, and praise will be light in the shadows of this world. Guide us as we further our work for you. Move us as we continue to do good works in your name. We share this in the name of the One You Sent to be Love, our Christ. 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.

**Choral Anthem** "Sing to the Lord" - Mozart; arr. Wagner Chancel Choir

## God is Still Speaking

**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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**Sermon Text:** Matthew 5:13-20 Find This on Pg. 786 in your Pew Bible

**Sermon** What Shall We Bring? Gifts of Presence Rev. Raygan Baker

**\* Hymn** "You Are Salt for the Earth, O People" #181, pew hymnal

## The Beloved Community

### 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

**What Shall We Bring?** A stewardship conversation with Faye Saxton

**Invitation To Offering**

Liturgist: Wade Hobson

**Offertory**

"Meditation on FINLANDIA"

Scott Horton, organ

**\*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: Wade Hobson

**\*Blessing**

**Acts of the Contemporary Apostles**

**"A Tribute To the Armed Services"** arr. Lloyd Larson

Chancel Choir &  
Flag Honor Guard

(In honor of Veterans Day, today, we will be singing of songs from the respective armed services of Army, Marines, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines, Navy, and Air Force. Those who are veterans of each are invited to stand, or if an immediate relative is a veteran, please honor their service as well, by standing during the procession of each flag.)

**AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL**

O beautiful for heroes proved In liberating strife,  
Who more than self their country loved,  
And mercy more than life!  
America! America! May God thy gold refine  
Till all success be nobleness,  
And ev'ry gain divine!

O Beautiful for patriot dream  
That sees beyond the years  
Thine alabaster cities gleam,  
Undimmed by human tears!

America! America! God shed His grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood  
From sea to shining sea!

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

## Assisting in Today's Worship

**Usher**.....Larry Miller, Clifford Dodd, Hank Delcore, Joel Bright  
**Liturgist:** .....Wade Hobson  
**Welcome Table**.....Linda Halk  
**Chancel Design:** .....Jason Freeman  
**Flowers**.....Pete Espinoza  
**Hospitality**.....Jason Freeman

## First Congregational Church Board of Directors

<b>Moderator</b> Scott Baucher sbaucher3@gmail.com	<b>Vice-Moderator</b> Robbyn Mosley nyelsom@comcast.net	<b>CFO</b> Lester Leas lesterle@yahoo.com	<b>Secretary</b> Peter Wall peterwall@gmail.com
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## First Congregational Church Ministry Leadership

<b>Christian Education</b> Catherine Cooper	<b>Worship</b> Bill May	<b>Church Life</b> Paula Roberts
<b>Outreach</b> Judy Oftedal	<b>Resources</b> Jason Freeman	



# 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

**Sunday, November 11**

Veterans Day		
Bible Study	Fireside Room	8:30 am
Worship	Sanctuary	10:00 am
Ministry of Worship	Music Room	11:30 am

**Monday, November 12**

Office Closed for Veteran's Day		
Movers and Shakers Yoga	Room 1	5:00 pm
Christmas on Van Ness Rehearsal	Chapel	6:30 pm

**Tuesday November 13**

Ministry of Church Life Meeting	Parlor	6:00 pm
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**Wednesday, November 14**

Ooooby	Fellowship Hall	3:00-6:00
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, November 15**

Christmas on Van Ness Rehearsal	Chapel	6:00 pm
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**Friday, November 16**

Holiday Food Distribution	Fellowship Hall	10:00 am
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**Saturday, November 17**

Big Red Men's Group	Parlor	9:00 am
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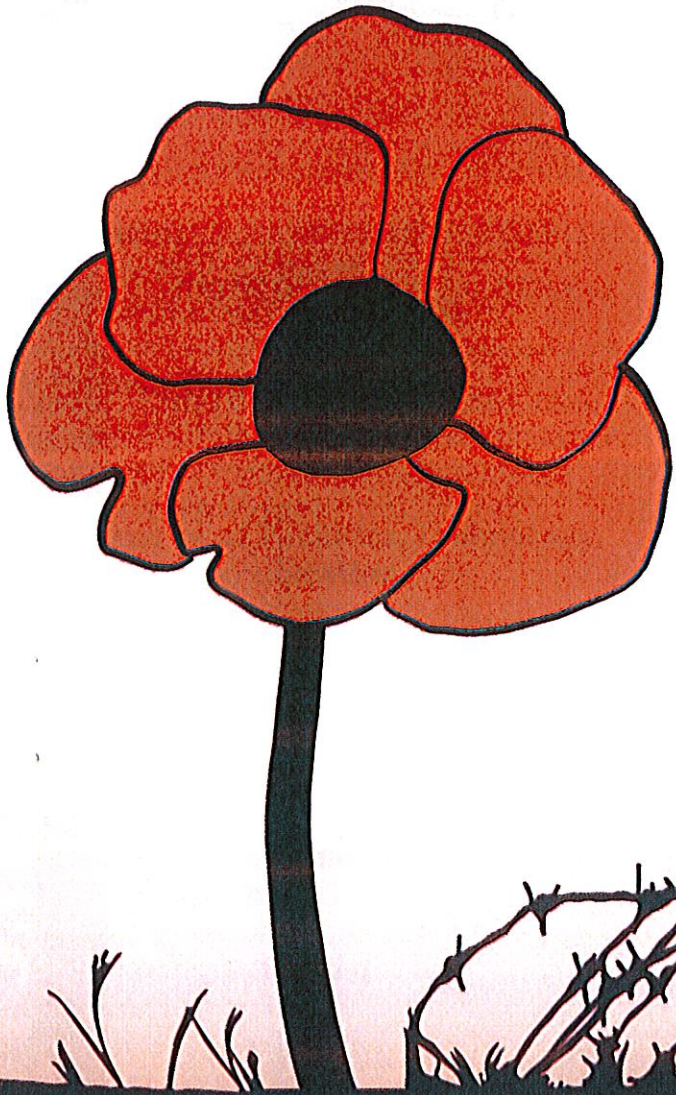
**Sunday, November 18**

Stewardship Sunday		
Bible Study	Fireside Room	8:30 am
Worship	Sanctuary	10:00 am
Thanksgiving Luncheon	Fellowship Hall	11:30 am
Pantry Meeting	Parlor	11:45 am

Attendance  
November  
Week 1

2017: 98  
2018: 118

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



WWI  
100  
YEARS

VETERANS DAY

NOVEMBER 11, 2018



va.gov



# About First Congregational Church of Fresno

## Mission Statement

## Open & Affirming

## 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.**

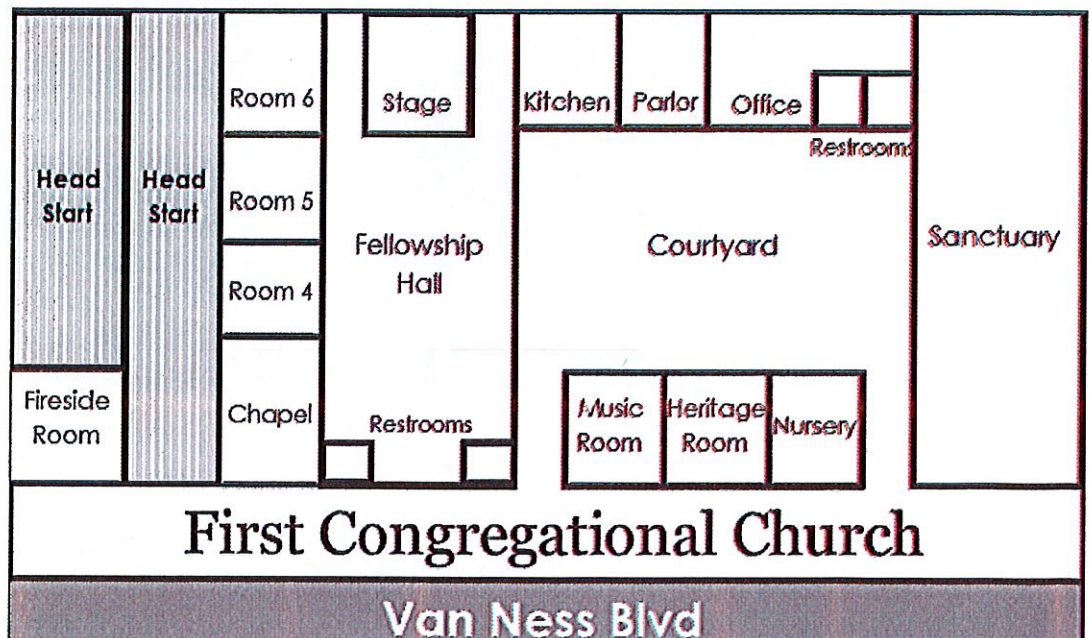
We affirm the diversity that exists among us. We strive to answer the call of Christ by extending his love, compassion, and acceptance to everyone. In this spirit, we open our family of faith to people of every religious background, sexual orientation, family composition, and physical and mental ability,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

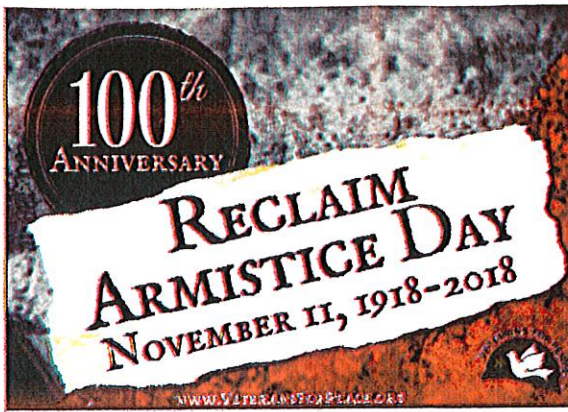
As Christians, we experience God's reconciling love

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.**





*The Armistice of 1918 ended the horrendous slaughter of World War One, called THE WAR TO END ALL WARS.*

*When the Armistice was signed, exuberant JOY broke out around the world*

### **Armistice and Its Aftermath:**

**One Hundred Years After the War to End All Wars  
(An invited talk with Pacifica Radio's Mitch Jeserich)**

**Monday, November 12th at 5:30pm  
Community United Church of Christ  
5550 North Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93710**

Admission is free. For details call (559) 512-9469 or see [vfp180.org](http://vfp180.org)



**DECEMBER 2ND, 2018 @ 3PM**

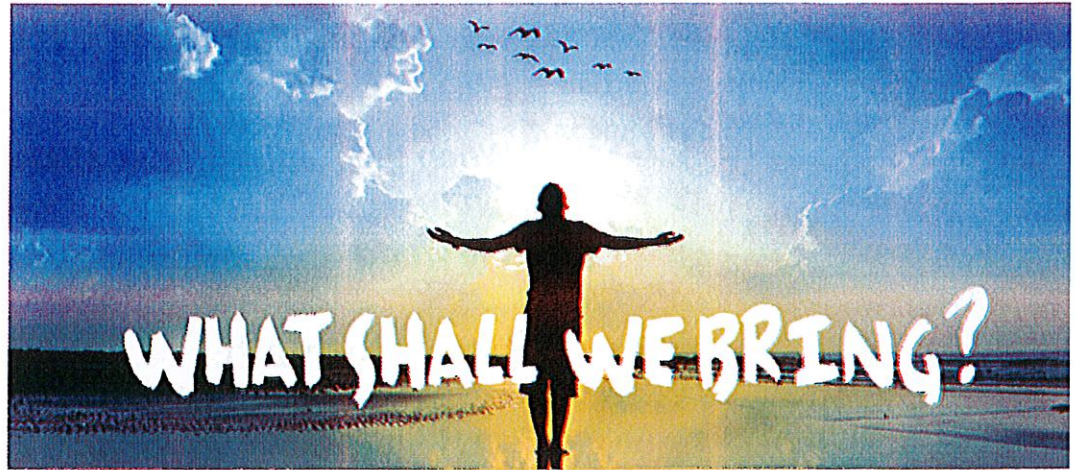
**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (BIG RED CHURCH)**

*for tickets*

**TICKETS: \$25**

**227-8489**

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
2131 N. VAN NESS FRESNO 93704**



## Gifts of Presence

Matthew 5:14

**T**his familiar passage was heard with fresh ears recently during a retreat for 3rd-5th grade youth. The leader was thinking together with children about this scripture and asked, "I wonder how it might feel to hear Jesus tell you that you are the light of the world?" The room went silent for a moment. Then an 8-year-old young girl raised her hand, "Do you mean me?" She looked around the room at the other kids gathered, "Do you mean us? Do you mean we can light up the world?" "Yes," the leader responded. The little girl sat with a stunned look on her face, and then in hushed reverence whispered, "Wow."

The leader asked the kids again, "I wonder what it would feel like to hear Jesus tell you that you are the light of the world?" The kids responded, "amazing," "powerful," "important," "loved." One child very seriously responded, "This is a big responsibility." The kids all nodded in agreement. Another child spoke into the silence, "I think we can do it y'all."

A scripture that has become rote for many of us left them feeling empowered, called, and ready to make a difference for love in the world around them. Can we hear that same challenge and feel that same excitement about being light for the world?

It is the faithful steward's question: What would happen if we fully employed the gifts we have for the bringing of light into the world? What if we imagined Jesus telling us – telling you and telling me - that as his disciples, "You are the light of the world!" It's a big responsibility, but I think we can do it, y'all, if we put our mind to it.

## WEEKLY GIVING IF THE PERCENTAGE IS

(Rounded to the nearest dollar)

Annual Income	Monthly Income	Weekly Income	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%	15%
16,000	1,333	308	6.00	12.00	18.00	25.00	31.00	46.00
20,000	1,667	385	8.00	15.00	23.00	31.00	39.00	58.00
25,000	2,083	481	10.00	19.00	29.00	38.00	48.00	72.00
30,000	2,500	577	12.00	23.00	35.00	46.00	58.00	87.00
35,000	2,917	673	13.00	27.00	40.00	54.00	67.00	101
40,000	3,333	769	15.00	31.00	46.00	62.00	77.00	115
45,000	3,750	865	17.00	35.00	52.00	69.00	87.00	130
50,000	4,167	962	19.00	38.00	58.00	77.00	96.00	144
60,000	5,000	1,154	23.00	46.00	69.00	92.00	115	173
75,000	6,250	1,442	29.00	58.00	87.00	115	144	216
100,000	8,333	1,923	38.00	77.00	115	154	192	288
125,000	10,417	2,404	48.00	96.00	144	192	240	361





# Thanksgiving Luncheon

From the ministry of  
**Church Life**

• SUNDAY • 18 November 2018 •

• 11:30 AM •

• POTLUCK • FELLOWSHIP • PIE •

TO RSVP AND SIGN UP TO BRING A DISH CONTACT PAULA ROBERTS AT 559.978.8488

# **Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration**

**Sunday, November 18, 2018**

**5:30 p.m.**

**The Fresno Buddhist Temple**

**2690 Alluvial Ave. , Fresno, CA 93720**



**An offering will be taken in support of several sheltering programs in the Fresno area for men, women, and children**

**A "pick-up" choir will gather at 4:30 p.m. to prepare special choral piece**  
**Contributions by attendees of vegetarian finger foods, fruits, and sweet breads will add to an abundant table of refreshments for our after-celebration social gathering**





EJ Hinojosa is a composer, conductor, vocalist, pianist and music educator. He has been the director of music at Community United Church of Christ, Fresno for five years, where he leads a band and a choir.

### **Journey into Advent at Community UCC**

- **7-9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16 in Hayden Hall:** EJ will begin our journey with context of the Magnificat then begin to move us into the creative process. Dessert provided.
- **8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 17 in Hayden Hall and the Sanctuary:** Breakfast then we will continue our journey by listening to different examples of the Magnificat. We will discuss those styles and themes and what makes a good Christian worship song. We will work together to set lyrics to music and reflect on what we've learned together.
- **10:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 18 in the Sanctuary:** Worship with EJ as he continues our Journey into Advent. Cost is \$25 per person for this event. Full and partial scholarships available upon request. Or if you are able, **please fund a scholarship.**

To register or for more information, call Marilyn in the Community UCC Church Office at 559.435.2690.

CROSS CULTURAL AND GENDER CENTER AND TRANS-E-MOTION  
ARE HONORED TO PRESENT



# TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Fresno State, North Gym 118  
5241 N Maple Ave, Fresno, CA 93740  
Friday, November 16, 2018 • 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Doors open at 6 p.m.



Join us for an evening  
of remembrance for  
transgender lives that  
have been lost to  
violence and suicide

All participants are welcome. If  
you need special accommodations  
please call 559.278.4435 or email  
[ccggender@mail.fresnostate.edu](mailto:ccggender@mail.fresnostate.edu)

Parking is enforced.  
Please get a parking  
permit using the  
parking code 269926 at  
the permit dispensers

Fresno State is a Smoke Free,  
Vape Free, and Tobacco Free  
campus



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Gender Programs and Services  
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A department within the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at California State University, Fresno

## God of the Ages, Who with Sure Command

592

*Daniel Crane Roberts, 1876; alt.*

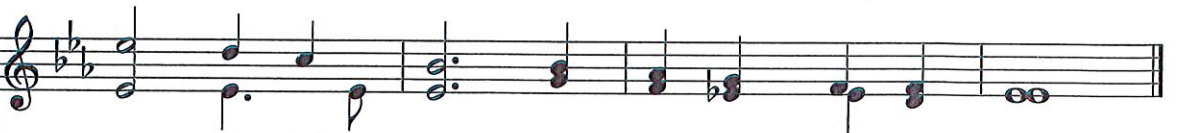
1 God of the a - ges, who with sure com-mand  
 2 Your pur - pose, just, en - vi - sions mor-tals free;  
 3 From war's a - larms, from dead-ly pes - ti - lence,  
 4 Re - fresh your peo - ple on life's toil-some way;



brought forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band  
 God, set our path toward hu - man lib - er - ty.  
 with stead - fast care be ev - er our de - fense;  
 lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;



of shin - ing worlds in splen-dor through the skies,  
 Still be our rul - er, guard-ian, guide, and stay—  
 Your love and faith with - in our hearts in - crease;  
 With truth and love guide us through er - ror's maze,



our grate - ful songs be - fore your throne a - rise.  
 your Word our law, your paths our cho - sen way.  
 with boun-teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.  
 and we shall give you glo - ry, laud, and praise.



*Episcopal priest Daniel Crane Roberts wrote this hymn for a July 4, 1876, centennial celebration at Brandon, Vermont. George W. Warren, composer of the tune, was organist at St. Thomas' Church in New York City for thirty years.*

Tune: NATIONAL HYMN 10.10.10.10.  
*George William Warren, 1892*

## You Are Salt for the Earth, O People

181

Paraphr. by Marty Haugen, 1986; alt.

Matt. 5:13-15

*Unison*  
D (allow to ring off)

1 You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: salt for the reign of God!  
2 You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: light for the Cit-y of God!  
3 You are a seed of the Word, O peo-ple: bring forth the reign of God!  
4 We are a blessed and a pil-grim peo-ple: bound for the reign of God!

Share the fla-vor of life, O peo-ple: life in the Cit-y of God!  
Shine so ho-ly and bright, O peo-ple: shine for the Cit-y of God!  
Seeds of mer-cy and seeds of jus-tice, grow in the Cit-y of God!  
Love our jour-ney and love our home-land: love is the Cit-y of God!

*Refrain*

Bring forth the reign of mer-cy, bring forth the reign of peace;

Bring forth the reign of jus-tice, bring forth the Cit-y of God!

*During a residency at Holden Village, a retreat center in the state of Washington, Marty Haugen wrote this hymn to be used as a "processing song" for outdoor worship. The lectionary readings focusing on Jesus' teaching about the "reign of God" provided the basis for the text.*

Tune: BRING FORTH Irr. with refrain  
Marty Haugen, 1986