

Sunday Worship

August 1, 2021



Guest Preacher: Rev. Sophia Dewitt

Welcome! Are you a guest with us, or interested in connecting with us?

Text “New” to 559-425-4050 and fill out the Connect Card.

(*Congregation may stand | Responses: Liturgist/**Congregation/all**)

Prelude Scott Horton, organ

Welcome Rev. Sophia Dewitt

Call to Worship Liturgist: Robbyn Mosley

One: Here with these people you are called into a calling. Come, friends, you are welcome-

Many: in the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

One: Here we chose to love each other, to lift each other up, humbly, gently, patiently-

Many: in the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

One: Here we are a small part of one body in one Spirit, with one Lord, one faith, one baptism-

Many: in the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

One: Here we share hope in one God of all, who is above all and through all and in all-

Many: in the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Prayer of Confession

God of Justice,

In baptism you anointed us to live boldly in the reality of your coming kingdom.

We confess that we have not fulfilled our calling.

We have not used your power to serve our neighbors.

We have walked away from oppression and injustice.

We have turned our backs on your beloved children

who hunger and thirst in a world of plenty.

Forgive us, Lord.

Make us courageous servants

of your justice, peace, and wholeness,

in Jesus' name. Amen.

(A silence is held for personal prayer and reflection)

Words of Assurance

Hymn “The Church’s One Foundation” #386 pew hymnal

Scripture Reading John 6:24-35 Liturgist: Robbyn Mosley

Time for Discovery

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.*

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16 Liturgist: Robbyn Mosley

Sermon

Hymn "Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers" #397 pew hymnal

Prayers of the Church

Invitation to Generosity Liturgist: Robbyn Mosley

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Holy Communion

Hymn of Preparation "Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread" #342 pew hymnal

Invitation and Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The peace of Christ be with you,
Many: and also with you.

Remembering the Story

Consecration

Breaking, Pouring, Feasting

Thanksgiving After the Meal

*O Holy One,
In deep gratitude for this moment,
this meal,
these people,
we give ourselves to you.*

*Take us out
to live as a changed people,
because we have shared the living bread
and cannot remain the same.*

*Ask much of us,
expect much of us,
enable much by us,
encourage many through us.*

*So, Lord, may we live to your glory,
both as creatures of earth,
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.*

Blessing and Sung Benediction

**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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Postlude

“Buglar’s Dream” - L Arnaud

Scott Horton, organ

We Go Out to Love and Serve the World

The Church's One Foundation

Samuel J. Stone, 1866; alt.

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ our Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of our war,
4 Yet we on earth have un - ion with God, the Three - in - One,

we are Christ's new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word;
one char - ter of sal - va - tion, one God, one faith, one birth,
we wait the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heaven Christ came and sought us in love to set us free;
One name to - geth - er bless - ing, one ho - ly food we share,
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious, our long - ing eyes are blessed,
O hap - py ones and ho - ly! God, give us grace that we,

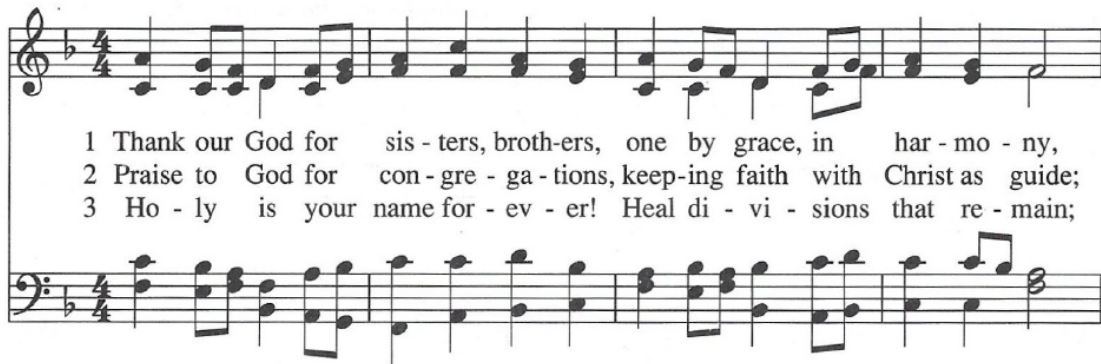
with pre - cious blood Christ bought us for all e - ter - ni - ty.
to one hope we are press - ing, at one in work and prayer.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
like them, the meek and low - ly, may live e - ter - nal - ly.

Like the writings of Ambrose many centuries earlier, this hymn was born out of a doctrinal dispute. The young priest Samuel J. Stone composed twelve hymns on the articles of the Apostles' Creed in support of those reacting against nontraditional views of biblical scholarship. This hymn is based on article nine, "the holy Catholic Church."

Tune: AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D.
Samuel S. Wesley, 1864

Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers

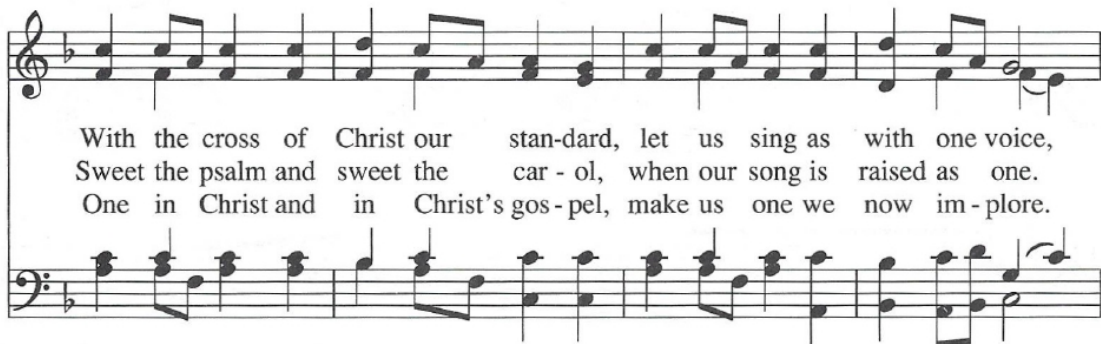
Roger Powell, 1948; alt.



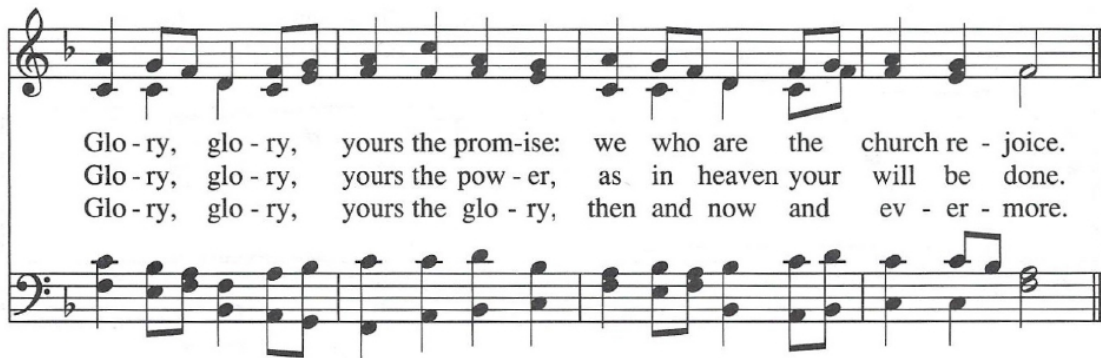
1 Thank our God for sis - ters, broth - ers, one by grace, in har - mo - ny,
2 Praise to God for con - gre - ga - tions, keep - ing faith with Christ as guide;
3 Ho - ly is your name for - ev - er! Heal di - vi - sions that re - main;



Join - ing heart to heart with oth - ers, mak - ing strong com - mu - ni - ty.
Man - y tongues of man - y na - tions, song and ser - vice u - ni - fied.
Bless the church's new en - deav - ors; make our wit - ness one a - gain.



With the cross of Christ our stan - dard, let us sing as with one voice,
Sweet the psalm and sweet the car - ol, when our song is raised as one.
One in Christ and in Christ's gos - pel, make us one we now im - plo - re.



Glo - ry, glo - ry, yours the prom - ise: we who are the church re - joice.
Glo - ry, glo - ry, yours the pow - er, as in heaven your will be done.
Glo - ry, glo - ry, yours the glo - ry, then and now and ev - er - more.

This hymn was written for a Union Thanksgiving service in 1948 by the Rev. Roger Powell of Camillus, New York. It served as a rallying song for the first meeting of the National Council of Churches in 1952.

Tune: PLEADING SAVIOR 8.7.8.7.D.
Melody from The Christian Lyre, 1831

Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken

Reginald Heber, 1827; alt.

1 Bread of the world, in mer - cy bro - ken, Wine of the soul in
2 Look on the heart by sor - row bro - ken, look on the tears by

mer - cy shed, By whom the words of life were spo - ken,
sin - ners shed, And be your feast to us the to - ken

and in whose death our sins are dead,
that by your grace our lives are fed.

Author of a number of familiar hymns, Reginald Heber published the first modern English hymnal arranged according to the church year. The musical setting for this hymn was written by Episcopal priest and hymnal editor John Sebastian Bach Hodges.

Tune: EUCHARISTIC HYMN 9.8.9.8.
J. S. B. Hodges, 1868
Alternate tune: RENDEZ À DIEU
(sung in one stanza)

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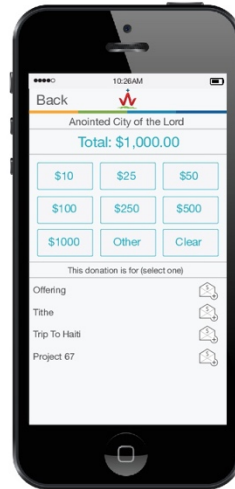
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First Congregational Church of Fresno

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First time worshipping with us? Text "New" to (559) 425-4050 and fill out the Connection Card.

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Liturgists: Christopher Williams

Music Director/Organist: Scott Horton

Song Leader: Faye Saxton

Ushers: Mike Gostanian,
Shirley Atteberry, Ron Atteberry

Technician: Erica Holland

FCCF Open and Affirming Statement

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, 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.