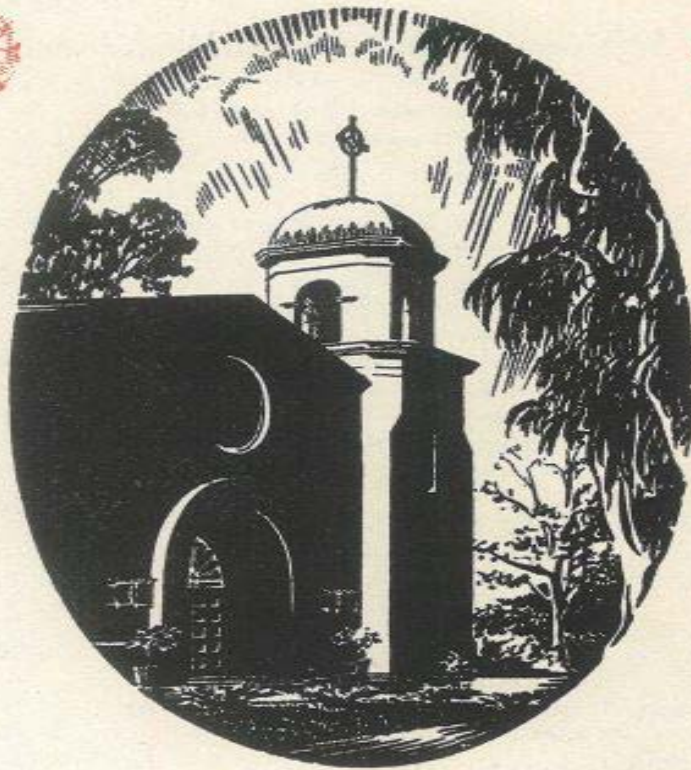


First Sunday of Advent
November 28, 2021



Welcome!

*First
Congregational
Church*

"SERVING FRESNO SINCE 1883"

2131 VAN NESS BOULEVARD AT YALE AVENUE
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

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

“Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland”

Scott Horton, organ

BWV 659 - J.S. Bach

“Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme” - J.S. Bach

Gathering Song

“One Candle Is Lit” vs. 1 (Insert)

Lighting the Candle of Hope

Kymberly Lindsey

O God, we light the first candle of Advent.

We kindle it with hope. We long for you to come to our world, to break through and reign with compassion, justice, and peace.

One way to look at Jeremiah is as a story about losing everything. Jeremiah witnessed Jerusalem and Judah’s loss of home, land, livelihood, place of worship, family, and community. And yet, says God through Jeremiah, “The days are surely coming” that give rise to hope for God’s people to be saved and restored.

Collect

(In unison)

Mighty God, creator of the world, break through all that keeps us from you. We ask for your mercy and reform us in your image. This Advent, visit us with your justice, love, and peace. Amen.

Sung Response



Welcome

Rev. Raygan Baker

Entrance into Advent

From December 2, 1979

We look forward to our journey with a sense of anticipation, with the feeling that this can be a very special time in our lives, in the lives of our families, and in the life of our church to bring new hope to the world.

*Hymn

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
(vvs. 1-3)

#116, pew hymnal

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Liturgist: Char Lund

Anthem

"Come Rejoicing Praises Voicing"
- M. Albrecht

Chancel Choir

Time for Discovery

**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.**

Gordon Light, ©1994 Common Cup Company
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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:

Luke 21:25-36

Liturgist: Char Lund

Sermon

"Anticipating the Future" 1973

***Hymn**

"Come, O Long-Expected Jesus"

#122, pew hymnal

Invitation to Prayer

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 the Church

Invitation to Generosity

Liturgist: Char Lund

Use this QR Code with your smartphone's camera app to give through Givelify



*You can find more information about giving to the Big Red Church at
BigRedChurch.org/Giving/*

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

Postlude

"Wachet Auf!" - Paul Manz

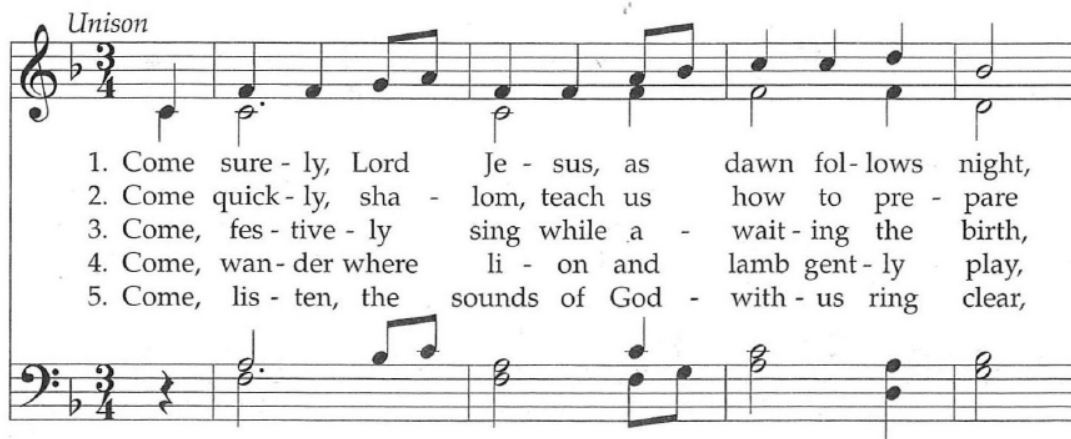
Scott Horton, organ

We Go Out to Love and Serve the World

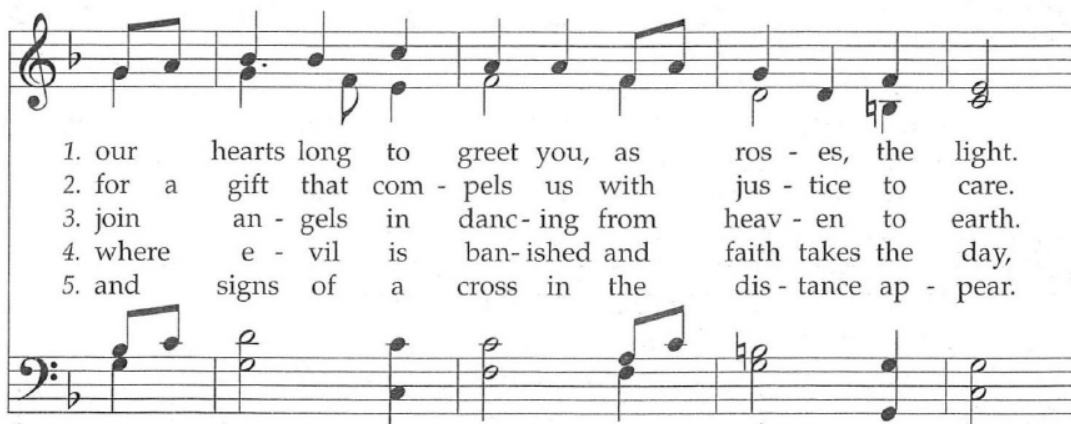
Special flower arrangement this morning dedicated in memory of Laurie Tuttle

One Candle Is Lit

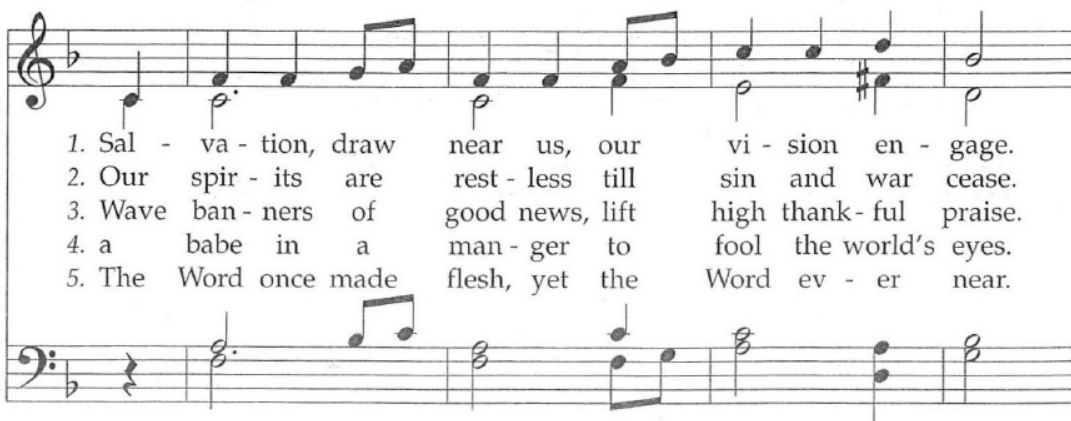
Unison



1. Come sure - ly, Lord Je - sus, as dawn fol - lows night,
 2. Come quick - ly, sha - lom, teach us how to pre - pare
 3. Come, fes - tive - ly sing while a - wait - ing the birth,
 4. Come, wan - der where li - on and lamb gent - ly play,
 5. Come, lis - ten, the sounds of God - with - us ring clear,



1. our hearts long to greet you, as ros - es, the light.
 2. for a gift that com - pels us with jus - tice to care.
 3. join an - gels in danc - ing from heav - en to earth.
 4. where e - vil is ban - ished and faith takes the day,
 5. and signs of a cross in the dis - tance ap - pear.



1. Sal - va - tion, draw near us, our vi - sion en - gage.
 2. Our spir - its are rest - less till sin and war cease.
 3. Wave ban - ners of good news, lift high thank - ful praise.
 4. a babe in a man - ger to fool the world's eyes.
 5. The Word once made flesh, yet the Word ev - er near.



1. One can - dle is lit for the hope of the age.
 2. One can - dle is lit for the reign of God's peace.
 3. One can - dle is lit for the joy of these days.
 4. One can - dle is lit for God's lov - ing sur - prise.
 5. One can - dle is lit for the Christ - birth - day here.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Isa. 11:1-12; Exod. 19-20:17**Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, 1710**Based on ancient antiphons from Advent Vespers**Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851, and others; alt.**St. 2, 7, transl. Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916; alt.**Unison*

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, and
 3 O come, O come, O A - do - nai, who
 4 O come, O shoot of Jes - se, free your
 5 O come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and

ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly
 or - der all things far and nigh; To us the path of
 came to all on Si - nai high, And from its peak a
 own from Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny, From depths of hell your
 o - pen wide your heaven - ly home; Make safe the path to

ex - ile here, un - til the Child of God ap - pear.
 knowl - edge show, and help us in that way to go.
 sin - gle law pro - claimed in maj - es - ty and awe.
 peo - ple save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.
 end - less day, to hell's de - struc - tion close the way.


Refrain

Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

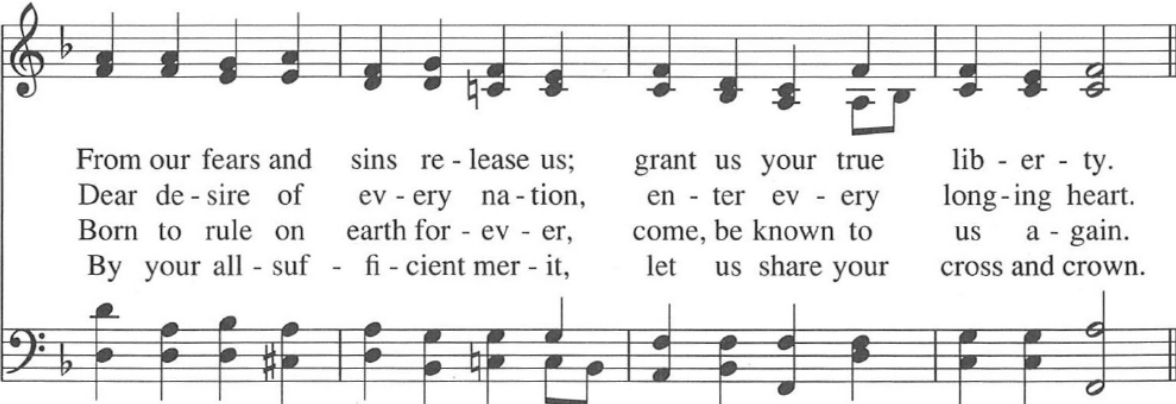
Come, O Long-Expected Jesus

122

Charles Wesley, 1744; alt.



1 Come, O long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set all peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope to all the earth im - part;
3 Born all peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, you came to reign!
4 By your own e - ter - nal Spir - it, come to claim us as your own;



From our fears and sins re - lease us; grant us your true lib - er - ty.
Dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, en - ter ev - ery long - ing heart.
Born to rule on earth for - ev - er, come, be known to us a - gain.
By your all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, let us share your cross and crown.

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- 2 Locate our church

- 3 Tap the Give button

- 4 Tap an amount

- 5 Select an envelope

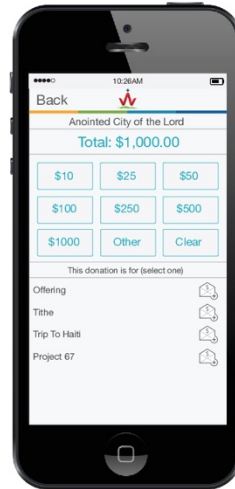
- 6 Tap Give Now

- 7 Create your account

- 8 Securely enter your payment information

- 9 Complete your donation

- Next time you use Givelify, you can save time with the **1-TAP GIVE NOW** button



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First Congregational Church of Fresno

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

Office@bigredchurch.org | www.BigRedChurch.org

Office Hours: Monday - Friday
9:00am-3:30pm

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

Pastor

Rev. Raygan Baker
rbaker@bigredchurch.org

Music Director/Organist

Scott Horton

Caretaker

Pat Morales

Accountant

Penny Leas Peterson

Office Manager

Erica Holland
office@bigredchurch.org

Communications Coordinator

Gabe Hernandez

Custodian

Gregory Chavarria

Nursery Staff

Andrew Fennacy, Zoryada Darce,
Patsy Finster

Assisting in Today's Service

Liturgist: Char Lund

Music Director/Organist: Scott Horton

Ushers: Bruce Owdom, Sue Karibian, Bob McParland

Technician: Patrick Lopez

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.