

Christmas Carol Sunday

December 26, 2021



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FRESNO
"SONG AND STORY SUNDAY"

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 “O Holy Night” - A. Adam Phillip Hobson, horn
Scott Horton, piano

Gathering Song “One Candle Is Lit” (Insert)

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Welcome Rev. Raygan Baker

***Carol** “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” #144, pew hymnal

Scripture Reading Luke 2:21-40 Liturgist: Wayne Brown

Special Music “El Burrito de Belén” Cooper Family
(The Little Donkey from Bethlehem)) - H. Blanco

refrain: ***Si me ven, si me ven***

Voy camino de Belén (repeat)

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.**

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***Carols** Away in a Manger” #124, pew hymnal
“Once in Royal David’s City” #145, pew hymnal
(vvs.1, 2, & 5)

Christmas Prayers

Special Music “Do You Hear What I Hear?” - Regney/Shayne
Clara & Caroline Weaver, vocalists; Catherine English, piano

Invitation to Generosity

Liturgist: Wayne Brown

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/*

Special Music

“Breath of Heaven”
- arr. S. Zylstra

Phillip Hobson, horn
Scott Horton, piano

*Carol

Joy to the World”

#132, pew hymnal

*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
piano

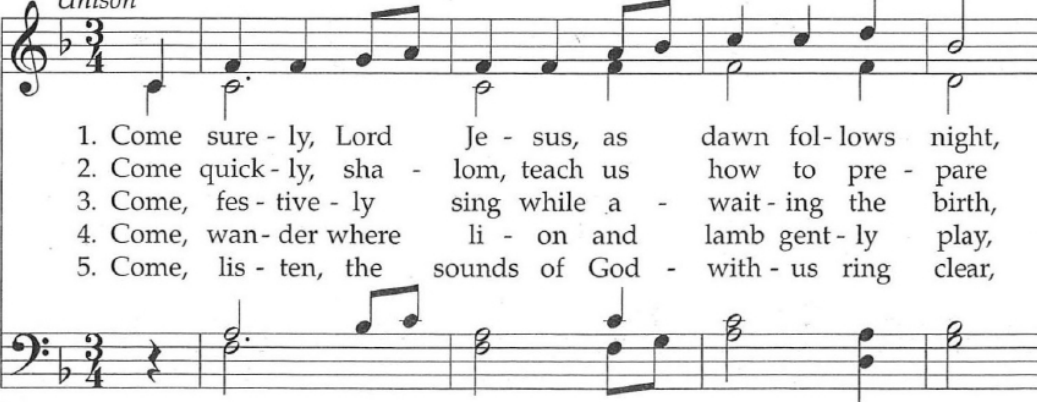
“Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas”
- arr. Kocour

Scott Horton,

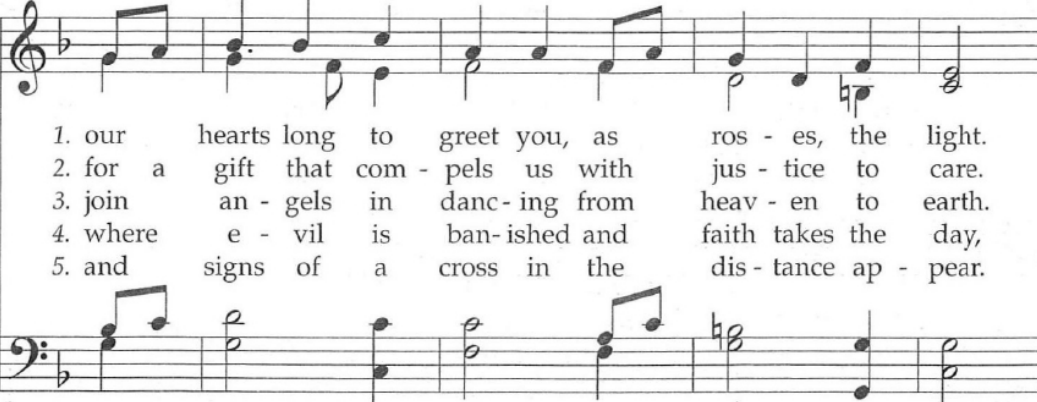
We Go Out to Love and Serve the World

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.


Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Luke 2:10-11, 25-32; 24:46-51;
1 Thess. 4:13-18; Isa. 60:19-20

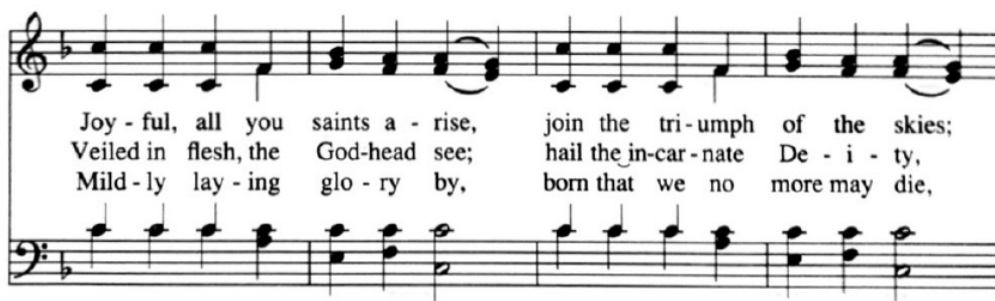
Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.



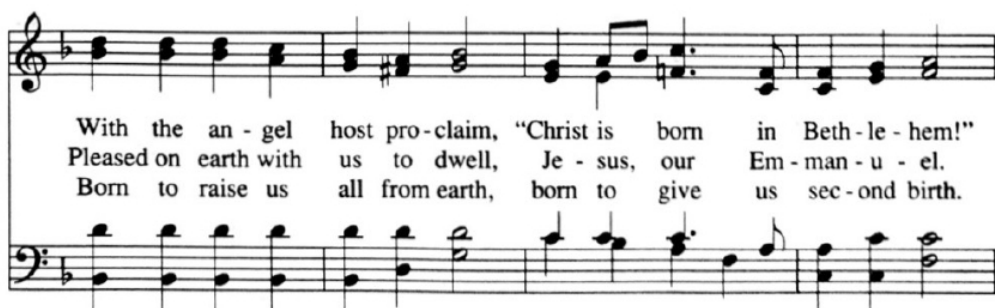
1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the Christ-child bring;
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
3 Hail the Bear - er of God's peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous-ness,



Peace on earth and mer-cy mild, God and sin - ner rec - on - ciled!"
Late in time the Sav-ior comes, off-spring of the Vir-gin's womb.
Light and life our Sav-ior brings, risen with ra - diant, heal-ing wings.



Joy - ful, all you saints a - rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh, the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate De - i - ty,
Mild - ly lay - ing glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



With the an - gel host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased on earth with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
Born to raise us all from earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the Christ-child bring!"

Away in a Manger

124

Anon., United States, 1885; st. 3, 1892; alt.

Luke 2:7

F B \flat F

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, the
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the poor ba - by wakes, but
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close

C7 F

lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head. The
 lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I
 by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless

F B \flat F

stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the
 love you, Lord Je - sus; pro - tect me, I pray, and
 all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care, and

C7 F B \flat C7 F

lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.
 stay by my side un - til night turns to day.
 fit us for heav - en to live with you there.

This anonymous United States carol is often misattributed to Luther. The poem first appeared in a Lutheran hymnal for schools and families. Though he never credited himself with it, the tune most likely was composed by Murray.

Tune: AWAY IN A MANGER 11.11.11.11.
 (MÜLLER)

Attrib. to James R. Murray, 1887

Once in Royal David's City

145

Cecil F. Alexander, 1848; alt.

Luke 1:26-35; 2:1-7; 1 Thess. 4:13-18

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
 2 Je - sus came to earth from heav - en, who is God and Head of all,
 3 And through all this won - drous child - hood Je - sus hon - ored and o - beyed,
 4 Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern, dai - ly like us lived and grew,
 5 We at last shall meet our Sav - ior, fount of God's re - deem - ing grace,

Where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for a bed:
 Shel - tered in a rus - tic sta - ble, cra - dled in a com - mon stall;
 Loved and watched the ten - der moth - er whose strong arms a cra - dle made.
 Je - sus, lit - tle, weak, and help - less, tears and smiles and com - fort knew.
 For that Child so dear and gen - tle reigns with - in a glo - rious place;

Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
 With the poor and meek and low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 So, like Je - sus, we should be serv - ing God o - be - dient - ly.
 Je - sus felt the pain of sad - ness, and the joy - ous lift of glad - ness.
 Lead - ing all God's chil - dren on to the heaven where saints have gone.

Cecil Frances Alexander, wife of the bishop of Ireland, wrote a series of children's hymns commenting on the Apostles' Creed. This hymn, elaborating on the words "... born of the Virgin Mary," tells the whole life of Christ.

Tune: IRBY 8.7.8.7.7.7.
 Henry J. Gauntlett, 1849
 Harm. A. H. Mann, 1919

Joy to the World!

132

*Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.**Ps. 98:4-9; Luke 2:11-15*

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth its
 2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 Christ rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

prais - es bring; Let ev - ery heart pre - pare Christ room,
 songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 na - tions prove The glo - ries of God's righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 and won - ders of God's love, and won - ders of God's

and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 and won - ders of God's love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of God's love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 won - ders of God's love,

*Stanza 1 may be sung, "Joy to the world! the Sovereign comes: ..."**Isaac Watts, an English Congregationalist, freely paraphrased Old Testament psalms to glorify Christ and here develops a hymn of advent and nativity from a psalm.**Tune: ANTIOCH C.M.
 Lowell Mason, 1836*

This Week at Big Red

Monday, Dec. 27

- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)

Friday, Dec. 31

- ♦ Office Closed

Tuesday, Dec. 28

- ♦ No Events

Saturday, Jan. 1

- ♦ Happy New Year!

Wednesday, Dec. 29

- ♦ **8:00am:** Bible Study (Zoom)
- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)
- ♦ Grapeleaf Submissions Due

Sunday, Jan. 2

- ♦ **9:30am:** Worship (Sanctuary)
Communion Sunday

Thursday, Dec. 30

- ♦ No Events

How To Make Your First Givelify Donation

- 1 Download the free Givelify app



- 2 Locate our church

- 3 Tap the Give button

- 4 Tap an amount

- 5 Select an envelope

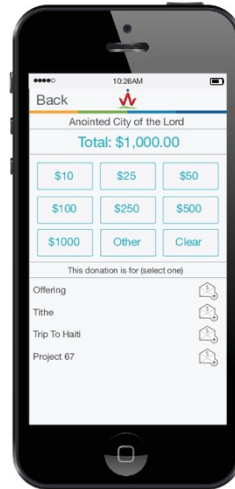
- 6 Tap Give Now

- 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

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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

Assisting in Today's Service

Liturgists: Wayne Brown

Music Director/Organist: Scott Horton

Special Music: Phillip Hobson, Scott Horton,
Cooper Family, Clara Weaver, Caroline
Weaver, Catherine English

Ushers: Rich Hoyt, Bruce Owdom,
Sue Karibian

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.