

Seventh Sunday After Epiphany

February 20, 2022



Rev. Raygan Baker



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.

Does your infant or toddler need a minute, a change, or a good cry? Don’t worry, we’ve (literally) all been there.

The service is livestreaming in our Caring Room (Room 1) nearby, where there is space and supplies to help get what your child needs.

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

Prelude	“Prelude and Fugue in E Minor” - J.S. Bach	Scott Horton, organ
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Welcome

***Call to Worship** Liturgist: Wade Hobson

One: Wherever you are, bring your blessed body to worship –

All: Your body that moves through time and space,

One: that allows you to embrace another.

All: If you feel strong or strange in your body, come.

One: If you feel complex or content in your body, come.

All: All flesh bears witness to the Divine.

One: Let us welcome the Spirit, living and breathing in our very being.

***Hymn** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” (vvs. 1-3) #43, pew hymnal
Song Leader: Catherine English

Opening Prayer

God With Us,

We honor what our bodies have made it through to be here today -- the pain and joy that circulates in our systems and lives in our cells. Though we often silence the testimonies of our flesh, you, Incarnate One, ask us to pay attention. May we learn to listen to our bodies, to honor their vulnerability, to love our flesh and build systems of bodily autonomy and care. We remember, our bodies are your body. Teach us to treat them as such. Amen.

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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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.***

An Exploration

Peter Wall

Scripture Reading:

Luke 6: 27-38

Liturgist: Wade Hobson

Sermon

"Seeds"

*Hymn

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"
Song Leader: Catherine English

#454, 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: Wade Hobson

*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

"Rigaudon" - Andre Campra

Scott Horton, organ

We Go Out to Love and Serve the World

New Worship Time!

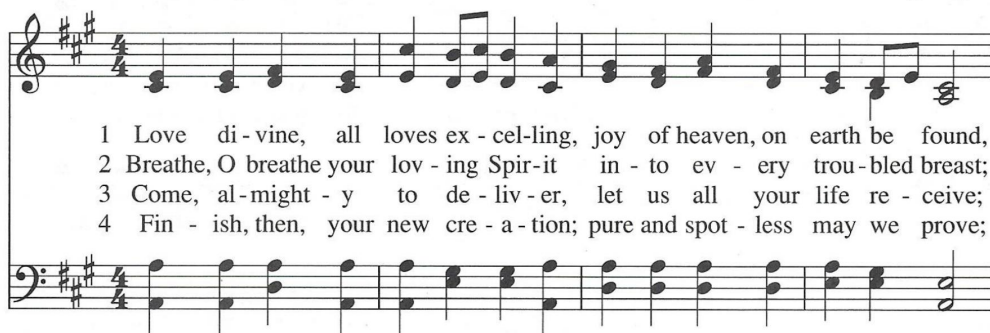
**Starting on Sunday, March 6, we will be hosting an Exploration Hour
beginning at 9am!**

Our Worship Service will begin at 10:00am!

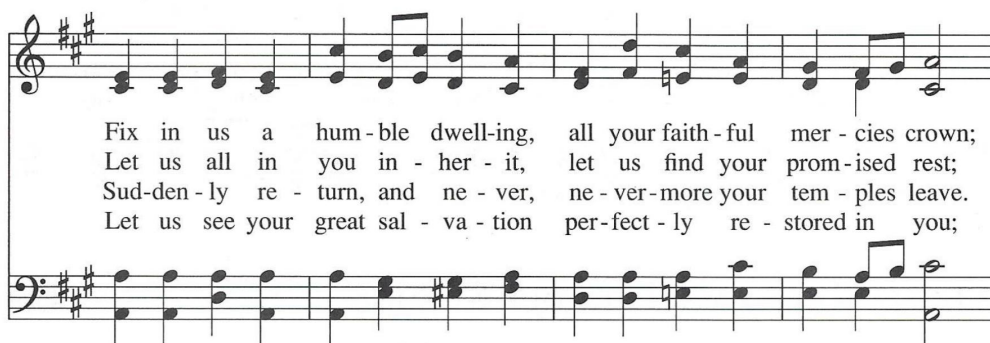
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Mal. 3:1; 2 Cor. 3:18; 5:17; Eph. 5:27

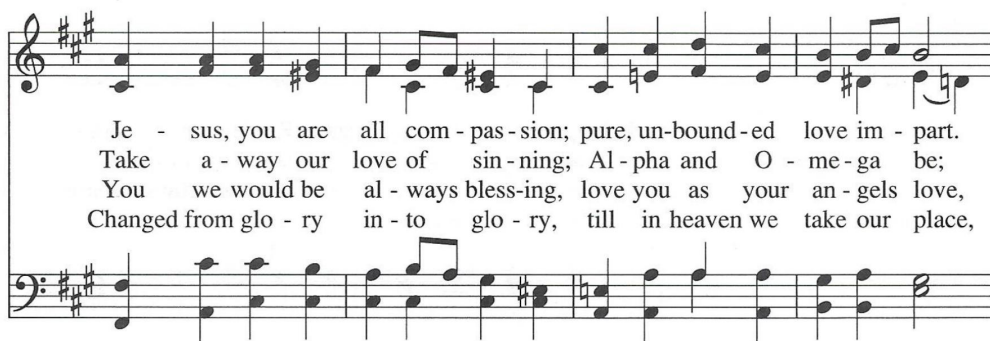
Charles Wesley, 1747; alt.




1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, joy of heaven, on earth be found,
 2 Breathe, O breathe your lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-ery trou-bled breast;
 3 Come, al-might-y to de-liv-er, let us all your life re-ceive;
 4 Fin-ish, then, your new cre-a-tion; pure and spot-less may we prove;



Fix in us a hum-ble dwell-ing, all your faith-ful mer-cies crown;
 Let us all in you in-her-it, let us find your prom-ised rest;
 Sud-den-ly re-turn, and ne-ver, ne-ver-more your tem-ples leave.
 Let us see your great sal-va-tion per-fect-ly re-stored in you;



Je-sus, you are all com-pas-sion; pure, un-bound-ed love im-part.
 Take a-way our love of sin-ning; Al-pha and O-me-ga be;
 You we would be al-ways bless-ing, love you as your an-gels love,
 Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry, till in heaven we take our place,



Vis-it us with your sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-ery trem-bling heart.
 End of faith, as its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
 Pray and praise for your un-fail-ing, wound-ed arms out-stretched a-bove.
 Crowned as saints, we ev-er shall be lost in won-der, love, and praise.

This hymn is said to have been suggested by a "Song of Venus" from Dryden's King Arthur. It is one of 6,500 written by Charles Wesley, the "sweet singer of Methodism," who was skilled at interweaving literary and scriptural images.

Tune: BEECHER 8.7.8.7.D.

John Zundel, 1855

Alternate tune: HYFRYDOL

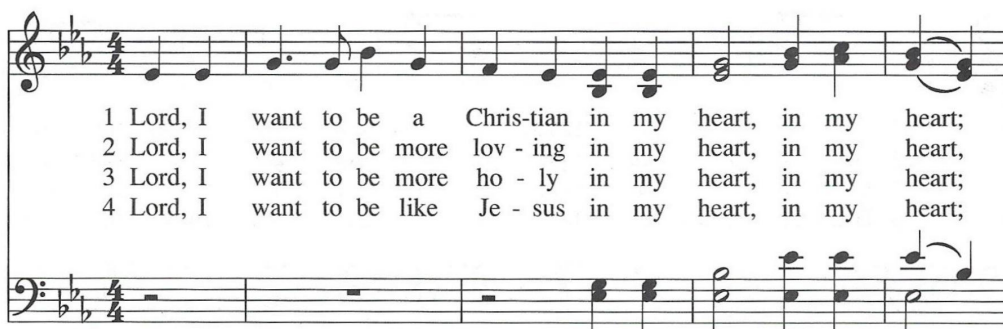
For another harmonization, see 368, 495

Lord, I Want To Be a Christian

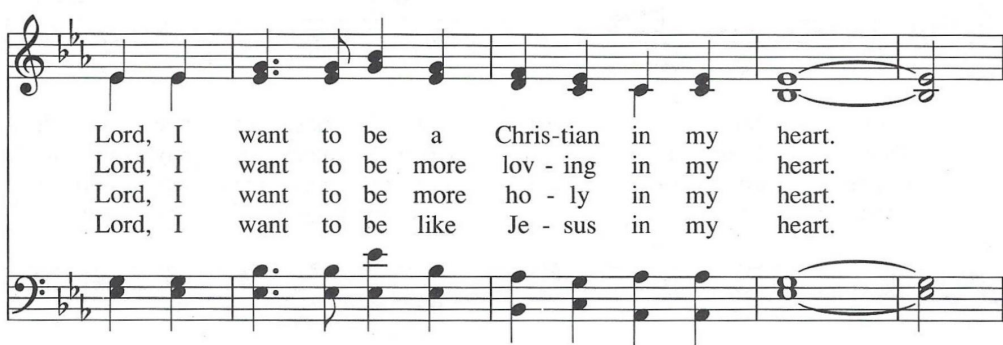
454

African-American spiritual

Deut. 6:5-6; 10:12-16



1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;
 2 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart,
 3 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart;
 4 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart;

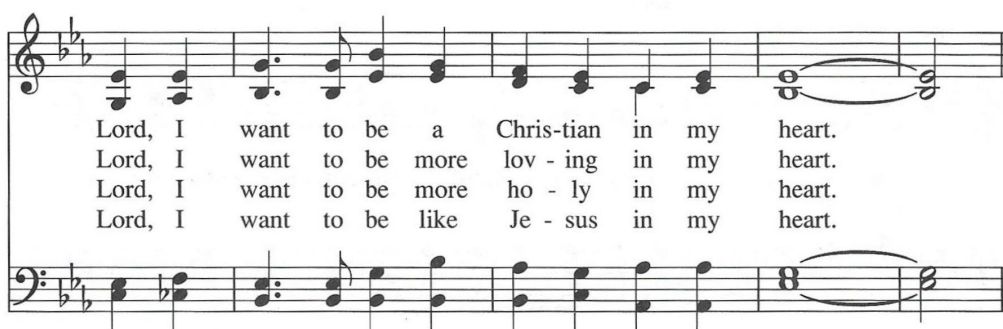


Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

Refrain



In my heart, In my heart, in my heart,
 In my heart, in my heart, in my heart,



Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

Many of the enslaved of antebellum America did not want to become Christians because they did not want to adopt the religion of their captors. But this spiritual attests that the Christian faith was an internal strength and aim for many.

Tune: I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN
 8.6.8.3. with refrain
African-American spiritual
 Arr. Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992

Christian Exploration Hour

Every Sunday at 9am

Beginning March 6

Christian Exploration is a new series of opportunities to grow our spiritual lives and engage with our church family. Some opportunities will be ongoing, others will be scheduled as single or short-term programs. Those who attend will have the chance to explore many different aspects of their faith and community.

All are welcome!

Ongoing Opportunities:

Activity	Age Group	Description	Location
Roots & Branches	Adults	Exploring scripture, expanding connections	Fireside Room
Supervised Play	Children ages 5-14	Making friends in the Big Red family	Room 5/ Playground

March Scheduled Opportunities:

Date	Activity	Age Group	Description	Location
Every Sunday in March	Loaves & Fishes	Children ages 8+	Kymberly Lindsey will provide a hands-on experience, guiding you through Coffee Hour prep, and learning about sharing God's love through food. Limit 6 participants per day. Contact Kymberly to sign-up. 559-908-0326.	Kitchen

This Week at Big Red

Monday, Feb. 21

- ♦ Church Office Closed
- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)

Tuesday, Feb. 22

- ♦ No Events

Wednesday, Feb. 23

- ♦ **8:00am:** Bible Study (Zoom)
- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)
- ♦ **6:00pm:** Handbell Rehearsal (Music Room)
- ♦ **7:00pm:** Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- ♦ Grapeleaf Submissions Due

Thursday, Feb. 24

- ♦ **2:00pm:** Ministry of Outreach (Zoom)

Friday, Feb. 25

- ♦ **10:00am:** Free Food Saturday Prep (Fellowship Hall)
- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)

Saturday, Feb. 26

- ♦ **8:00am:** Free Food Saturday Volunteers (Fellowship Hall)
- ♦ **10:00am:** Free Food Saturday (Fellowship Hall)
- ♦ **10:00am:** Church Council Retreat (TBD)

Sunday, Feb. 27

- ♦ **9:30am:** Worship (Sanctuary)

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 **I'm not new** 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

Liturgist: Wade Hobson

Music Director/Organist: Scott Horton

Time for Discovery Guest: Peter Wall

Song Leader: Catherine English

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.