

Communion Sunday

April 3, 2022



Guest Preaching: Rev. Daniel Ross-Jones
Associate Conference Minister
Northern California Nevada Conference, UCC



First Congregational Church of Fresno
United Church of Christ

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

Scott Horton, organ

Welcome

Rev. Raygan Baker

Centering Psalm 126

Cantor: Catherine English

(The Congregation sings the Response with the Choir)

Response

Antiphon: Martie McMane, 1994

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass staff. The key signature has one flat (Bb). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing rests. Chord symbols are placed above the staff: C7, F, C, F, Bb, F, Gm9, C9, and F. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes: "May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy." The score ends with a double bar line.

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations, "God has done great things for them."

God has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

Sung Response: May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

Restore our fortunes, O God, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

Sung Response: May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

***Prayer of Confession**

Liturgist: Maggie Kalashian

***Most merciful God,
We confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.***

You call to us through the voices of the poor and the powerless,

But we close ourselves off from their need:

You call to us through the cries of those who struggle to change structures of oppression,

but we turn away from their challenge:

You hint, you invite, you surround us with calls to love you more fully, and follow you more faithfully,

but we cling to comfort and safety:

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your abundant ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

(A silence is held for personal prayer and reflection)

***Words of Assurance**

***Hymn**

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

#86, pew hymnal

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 43: 16-21

Liturgist: Maggie Kalashian

Anthem

“A Communion Invitation” -H. Sorenson

Chancel Choir
John Morrice, violin

Time for Discovery: Holy Communion

**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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Invitation and Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

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.*

Breaking, Pouring, Feasting

Thanksgiving After the Meal

*God of glory,
In this holy meal you show us
your will for every meal.
In Christ's strength, let us live and work
for the day when all tables are filled with your abundance
and surrounded by your people in peace.
In Jesus' name. Amen.*

Scripture Reading

John 12: 1-8

Liturgist: Maggie Kalashian

Sermon

Rev. Daniel Ross-Jones

*Hymn

"Beautiful Jesus"

#44, 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

Rev. Daniel Ross-Jones

Here at the Big Red Church, everyone counts, and every gift counts!.

⇒ *There are two donation boxes and giving envelopes for your gifts in the Narthex (the area where an usher handed you an Order of Worship).*

⇒ *You can also give through the Givelify App by scanning the QR code below with your smartphone camera.*

⇒ *The giving page at BigRedChurch.org has more instructions, links, and information about giving to the church. Thank you for supporting and joining in the ministry of this church.*



Offertory Music

“Jesu, Blessed Jesu” -G. Young

Chancel Choir

*Doxology

We give you but your own, what - e'er the gift may be;

The first line of musical notation for the Doxology, featuring a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats. The lyrics are written below the notes.

All that we have is yours a - lone, we give it grate-ful - ly.

The second line of musical notation for the Doxology, continuing the treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes.

***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

We go out to love and serve the World, OR come on up to the Chancel to practice for the Flash Mob Hallelujah Chorus!



Flash Mob Hallelujah Chorus on Easter

Have you ever wanted to sing the “Hallelujah Chorus” from Handel’s Messiah?

We will be singing this masterpiece as the postlude on Easter Sunday! On Easter, all you will have to do is make your way up to the Chancel area, up with the choir during the singing of “Go Now in Peace,” and we’ll be all set to sing our collective Hallelujah to the Risen Lord!

We will be having a single run-through practice every Sunday following worship until Easter. Music and practice CDs will be provided.

**Warning - smiles and feelings of joy are side effects.*

Please see/contact Scott Horton to get involved or if you have any questions.

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Ps. 5:3; 59:16–17

Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1828
Transl. Edward Caswall, 1854; alt.

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries,
2 New strength comes night or day when from the heart we say,
3 Dis - cor - dant hu - man - kind, in this your con - cord find,
4 Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di - vine,

may Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let sin and e - vil fear,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this the e - ter - nal song,

one pur - pose I de - clare: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
when this sweet chant they hear: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
through all the a - ges long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

This anonymous German Catholic hymn was translated to English by Edward Caswall, an Anglican—and later, Roman Catholic—priest. Among the scripture references is Psalm 5:3, “O God, in the morning you hear my voice. . . .”

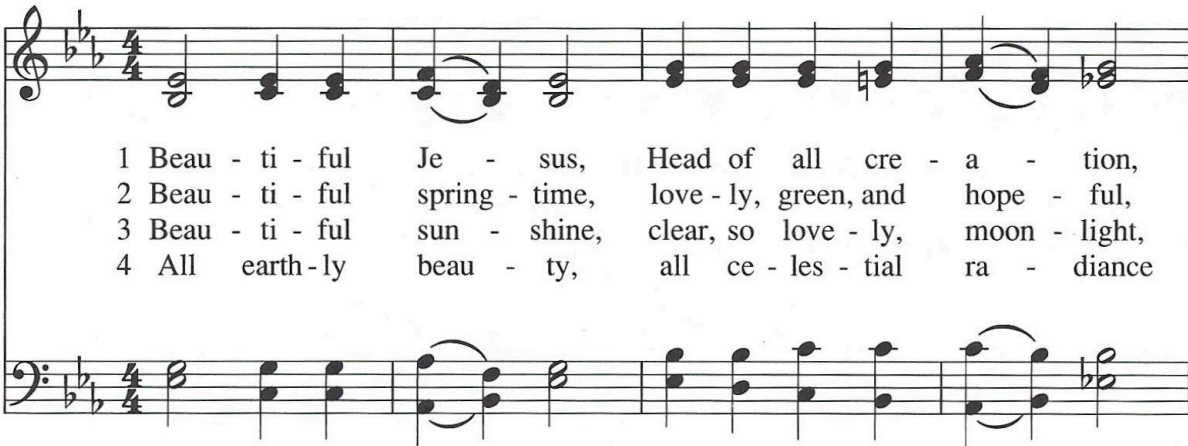
Tune: LAUDES DOMINI 6.6.6.6.6.6.
Joseph Barnby, 1868

Beautiful Jesus

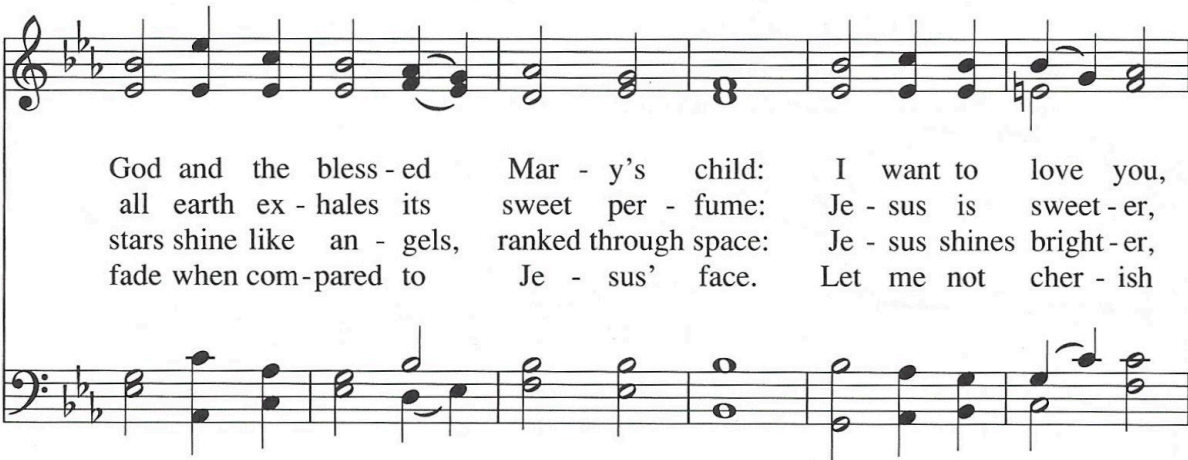
44

Münster Gesangbuch, 1677

Transl. Madeleine Forell Marshall, 1993



1 Beau - ti - ful Je - sus, Head of all cre - a - tion,
 2 Beau - ti - ful spring - time, love - ly, green, and hope - ful,
 3 Beau - ti - ful sun - shine, clear, so love - ly, moon - light,
 4 All earth - ly beau - ty, all ce - les - tial ra - diance



God and the bless - ed Mar - y's child: I want to love you,
 all earth ex - hailes its sweet per - fume: Je - sus is sweet - er,
 stars shine like an - gels, ranked through space: Je - sus shines bright - er,
 fade when com - pared to Je - sus' face. Let me not cher - ish



praise and a - dore you, joy of my soul, so long de - sired.
 Je - sus is pur - er, sad hearts at this, re - joice and bloom.
 Je - sus shines clear - er, in per - fect beau - ty, love, and grace.
 beau - ties that per - ish; let me this love - ly good em - brace.

This text, which has also been translated as "Fairest Lord Jesus" and "Beautiful Savior," was included in a German Catholic hymnal published in Münster. The melody, known by various names, is thought to be a Silesian folk tune.

Tune: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU 5.6.8.5.5.8.
Silesian folk melody
 Harm. Richard S. Willis, 1850

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

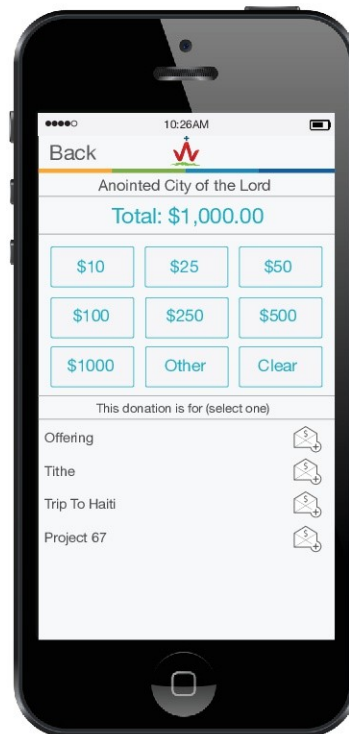
- 6 Tap Give Now

- 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



This Week at Big Red

Monday, April

- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)
- ♦ Erica Out of Town

Tuesday, April 5

- ♦ Erica Out of Town

Wednesday, April 6

- ♦ **8:00am:** Bible Study (Zoom)
- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)
- ♦ **5:30-6:30pm:** Soup Supper
(Fellowship Hall)
- ♦ **6:00pm:** Good Enough Group Study
(Parlor)
- ♦ **6:00pm:** Handbell Rehearsal (Music
Room)
- ♦ **7:00pm:** Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(Sanctuary)
- ♦ Grapeleaf Submissions Due

Thursday, April 7

- ♦ No Events

Friday, April 8

- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)

Saturday, April 9

- ♦ No Events

Sunday, April 10

- ♦ **9:00am:** Exploration Hour (Various)
- ♦ **9:45am:** Palm Procession (Room 2)
- ♦ **10:00am:** Worship (Sanctuary)
Palm Sunday

Join Us This Afternoon!

Installation of Rev. Raygan Baker

As the Pastor of First Congregational Church of Fresno
United Church of Christ

Sunday, April 3, 2022

3:00pm

2131 N. Van Ness Blvd.

Fresno, CA, 93704

Reception to Follow

First Congregational Church of Fresno

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

Office Hours: Monday – Friday

9:00 am – 3:30 pm

First Time Worshiping with Us? Text “New” to (559) 425-4050 and fill out the Connect Card.

Pastor

Rev. Raygan Baker

rbaker@bigredchurch.org

Office Manager

Erica Holland

Office@bigredchurch.org

Music Director/Organist

Scott Horton

Communications Coordinator

Gabe Hernandez

Caretaker/ Event Coordinator

Pat Morales

Custodian

Gregory Chavarria

Accountant

Penny Leas Peterson

Assisting in Today's Service

Guest Preacher: Rev. Daniel Ross-Jones

Liturgist: Maggie Kalashian

Cantor: Catherine English

Violin: John Morrice

Ushers: Bruce Owdom, Sue Karibian, Bob McParland

Technician: Karisa Garza

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.