

# Fourth Sunday in Lent

## March 27, 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 (Room1) nearby, where there is space and supplies to help get what your child needs.*

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

**Prelude** Chorale Settings on "O Sacred Head" Scott Horton, organ

**Welcome** Rev. Raygan Baker

**Centering Psalm 32: 1-7** Faye Saxton, cantor

*(The Congregation sings the Response with the Choir)*

Response

Antiphon: Emma Lou Diemer, 1994

Unison

Stead - fast love sur - rounds those who trust in God.

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

**Sung Response: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in God**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to God," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

## **Sung Response: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in God**

### **Opening Prayer**

Liturgist: Melinda Mobley

***Holy God,***

***After times of broken relationships, painful injustices, and feeling deserted, we enter this season yearning for restoration and your comforting grace. In this time of wilderness and reflection, we evaluate the relationships between us and our neighbors. You desire for us to look squarely at our harmful actions, to make amends, and to do better. Guilt can guide us to where relational repairs need to be made, but shame -- a disconnection from our inherent belovedness -- is not what you ask. Fill our weary souls with hope. Lead us on roads of renewal, and focus our minds as we ponder our callings in your realm. Amen.***

### **\*Hymn**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

#43, pew hymnal

### **Scripture Reading**

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Liturgist: Melinda Mobley

### **Choral Anthem**

“Speak, O Lord”  
- Townend/Getty; arr. McDonald

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.**

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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 15:1-3, 11-32      **Liturgist:** Melinda Mobley

### Sermon

**\*Hymn**      "O God, How We Have Wandered"      #202, 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

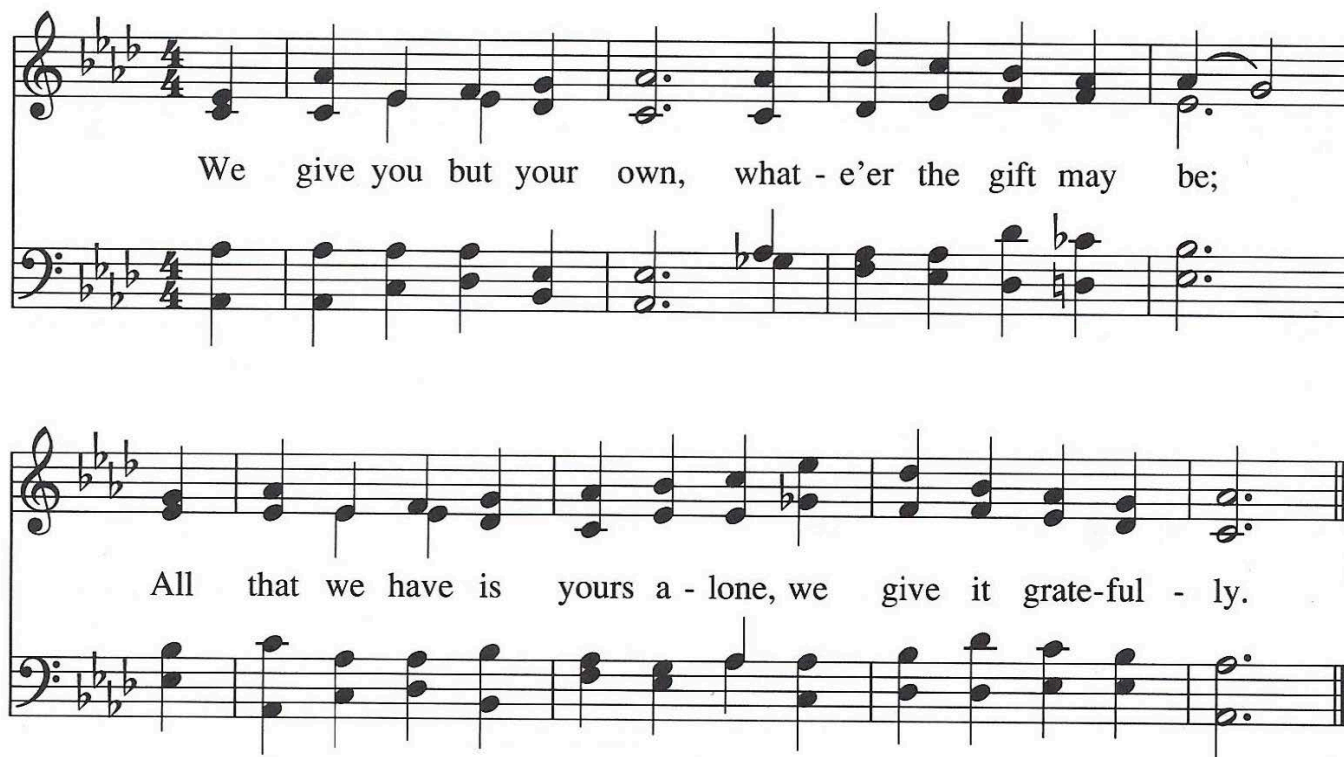
**Liturgist:** Melinda Mobley

*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/](http://BigRedChurch.org/Giving/)*

**\*Doxology**



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

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

**\*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**

"Allegro e Spiritoso",  
 from Sonata in d - B. Galuppi

Scott Horton, organ


**We Go Out to Love and Serve the World**



## 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-nings; Al-pha and O-mega 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

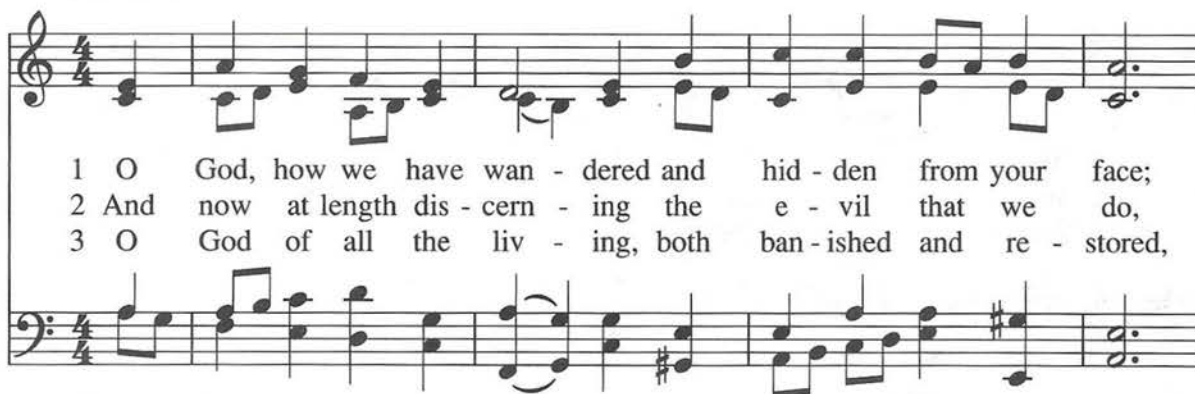
For another harmonization, see 368, 495

# O God, How We Have Wandered

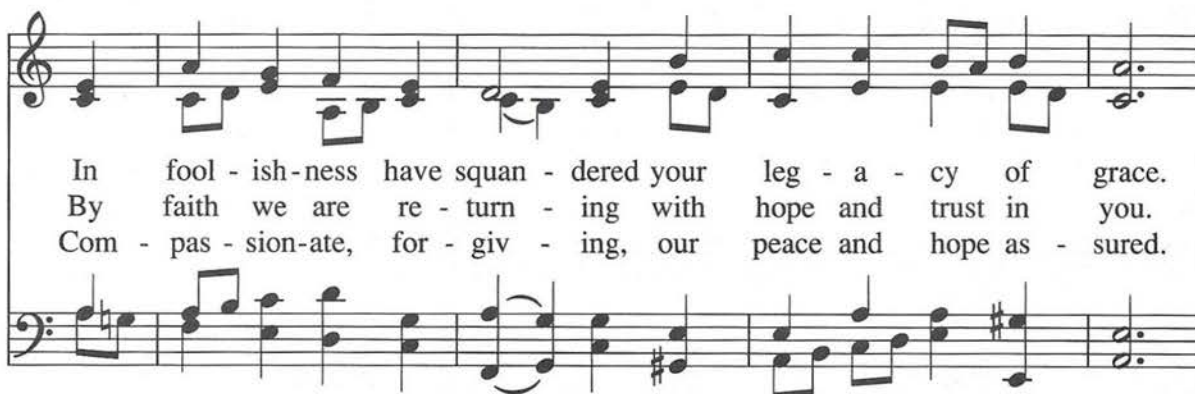
202

Kevin Nichols, 1980; alt.

Luke 15:11-32; 2 Cor. 5:16-20



1 O God, how we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;  
 2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,  
 3 O God of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



In fool - ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.  
 By faith we are re - turn - ing with hope and trust in you.  
 Com - pas - sion-ate, for - giv - ing, our peace and hope as - sured.



But how, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we turn with fear and shame,  
 In haste you come to meet us, and home re - joic - ing bring,  
 Grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith-less-ness may cease.



As dis - tant but com - pell - ing, you call us each by name.  
 In glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.  
 Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

The tune for this contemporary text appears five times in J. S. Bach's St. Matthew Passion, and first appeared as a hymn setting in the early 1800s. It has an ecumenical history reaching back many centuries. Originally it was a German love song.

Tune: PASSION CHORALE 7.6.7.6.D.  
 (HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN)  
 Melody by Hans Leo Hassler, 1601  
 Harm. J. S. Bach, 1729  
 For another harmonization, see 179



### **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: [shtulare@gmail.com](mailto:shtulare@gmail.com).



## This Week at Big Red

### Monday, March 28

- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)

### Thursday, March 31

- ♦ No Events

### Tuesday, March 29

- ♦ No Events

### Friday, April 1

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

### Wednesday, March 30

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

### Saturday, April 2

- ♦ **10:00am:** Hiram DeWitt Memorial Service (Sanctuary)
- ♦ Erica Out of Town

### Sunday, April 3

- ♦ **9:00am:** Exploration Hour (Various)
- ♦ **10:00am:** Worship (Sanctuary)  
Communion Sunday
- ♦ **3:00pm:** Pastor Raygan Installation (Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall)
- ♦ Erica Out of Town

# 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

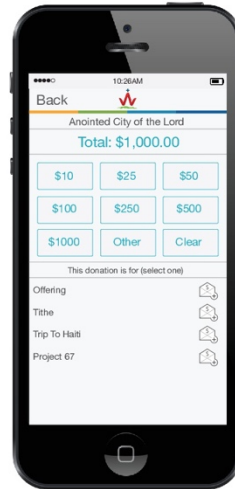
- 6 Tap Give Now

- 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



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



# 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

**Office Manager**

Erica Holland  
office@bigredchurch.org

**Music Director/Organist**

Scott Horton

**Communications Coordinator**

Gabe Hernandez

**Caretaker**

Pat Morales

**Custodian**

Gregory Chavarria

**Accountant**

Penny Leas Peterson

**Assisting in Today's Service**

Liturgist: Melinda Mobley

Cantor: Faye Saxton

Music Director/Organist: Scott Horton

Usher: Mike Gostanian

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.