

# Communion Sunday

## May 1, 2022



Guest Preacher: Rev. Simon Biasell-Moshrefi  
*Pastor, Woven Community (PCUSA)*



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.*

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

## Prelude

"Suite for Organ" - John Stanley      Scott Horton, organ  
*Introduction and Allegro; Adagio; Trumpet Voluntary*

## Welcome

Rev. Simon Biasell-Moshrefi

## \*Call to Worship

Liturgist: Melinda Mobley

One: Peace be with you!

**Many: And also with you!**

One: The Holy Spirit lives within you;

**Many: And moves within our community.**

One: Let us gather in the presence of our redeeming God,

**Many: the Beloved who sets forth the path of Life.**

## \*Hymn

"The Strife Is O'er"

#242, pew hymnal

## Prayer of Confession

Liturgist: Melinda Mobley

***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**

Liturgist: Melinda Mobley

**Scripture Reading**

John 21: 1-19

**Choral Anthem**

“Panis Angelicus” - C. Franck; arr. H. Hopson

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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## **Holy Communion**

**Invitation and Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Rev. Biasell-Moshrefi

The peace of Christ be with you,  
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**

*Holy God,  
This meal we shared together is a remembrance of your radical embrace  
of all of us. May it strengthen us as we open our minds and hearts to new  
ways of recognizing your presence among us and the fullness of life you  
have prepared for us. Amen.*

**Scripture Reading**

Acts 8:26-40

Liturgist: Melinda Mobley

**\*Hymn**

“The Summons”

**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.**

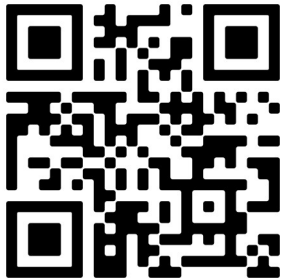
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**Prayers of the Church**

**Invitation to Generosity**

Liturgist: Melinda Mobley

*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 with your smartphone camera.*
- ⇒ *BigRedChurch.org/Giving/ has more instructions, links, and information about giving to the church. Thank you for supporting and joining in the ministry of this church.*

**\*Doxology**

*Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**\*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 Maestoso,” from *Water Music Suite*  
—G.F. Handel

Scott Horton, organ

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

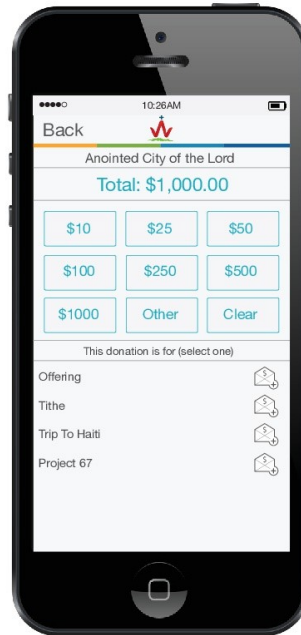
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## How To Make Your First Givelify Donation

- 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

1 Cor. 15:53-57

Latin, c. 1695

Transl. Francis Pott, 1861; alt.

Refrain (before st. 1 and after st. 4)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done, the vic - to -  
 2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their  
 3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es  
 4 Christ, by your wounds on Cal - va - ry from death's dread

ry of life is won; The song of tri - umph  
 le - gions has dis - persed: Let shouts of ho - ly  
 glo - rious from the dead: All glo - ry to our  
 sting your ser - vants free, That we may live e -

has be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ter - nal - ly. Al - le - lu - ia! to Refrain

A seventeenth-century Jesuit collection published in Cologne, Germany, is the earliest known source of this Latin hymn. The hymn is firmly associated with this musical setting from a Magnificat by the Italian composer Palestrina.

Tune: VICTORY 8.8.8. with alleluias  
 Giovanni Perluigi da Palestrina, 1591  
 Arr. William H. Monk, 1861

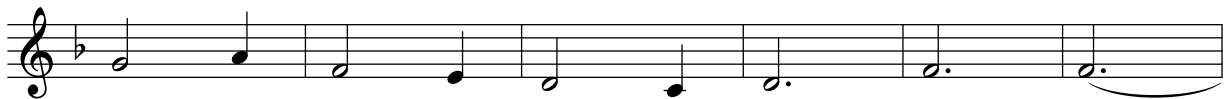
# The Summons



1. Will you come and fol - low me If I but  
 2. Will you leave your - self be - hind If I but  
 3. Will you let the blind - ed see If I but  
 4. Will you love the "you" you hide If I but  
 5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true When you but



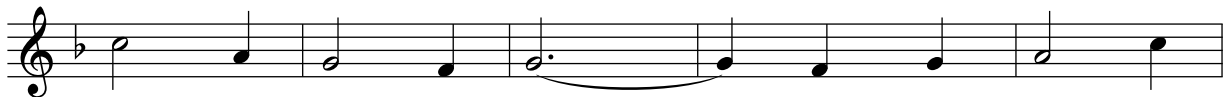
call your name? Will you go where  
 call your name? Will you care for  
 call your name? Will you set the  
 call your name? Will you quell the  
 call my name. Let me turn and



you don't know And nev - er be the same?  
 cruel and kind And nev - er be the same?  
 pris - 'ners free And nev - er be the same?  
 fear in - side And nev - er be the same?  
 fol - low you And nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, Will you  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare Should your  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, And do  
 Will you use the faith you've found To re -  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go Where your



let my name be known, Will you let my  
 life at - tract or scare? Will you let me  
 such as this un - seen, And ad - mit to  
 shape the world a - round, Through my sight and  
 love and foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and



life be grown In you and you in me?  
 an - swer prayer In you and you in me?  
 what I mean In you and you in me?  
 touch and sound In you and you in me?  
 live and grow In you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b.1949, © 1987, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Tune: KELVINGROVE, 7 6 7 6 777 6; Scottish melody; arr. by John L. Bell, b.1949, © 1987, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent



## May Christian Exploration Hour

Every Sunday at 9am

### Ongoing Opportunities:

Activity	Age	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

### May Scheduled Opportunities:

Date	Activity	Age Group	Description	Location
May 1	Games	All Ages	Michelle Krenz will lead games	Room 5
May 8	Mother's Day Crafts	All Ages	Make something special for Mom with Kenny	Room 5
May 15	Emergency Preparedness	All Ages	Candice Blair will lead a first aid and emergency preparedness workshop for children and parents	Room 5
May 22	Camp Songs and Stories	All Ages	Kenny will lead camp songs and stories in honor of Choir Sunday	Courtyard
May 29	TBA			

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**Camp Tamarack Registration Open Now!**  
**Spots are filling up fast!**

Registration and Campership links available at  
[bigredchurch.org/camptam/](http://bigredchurch.org/camptam/)



## This Week at Big Red

### Monday, May 2

- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)

### Thursday, May 5

- ♦ No Events

### Tuesday, May 3

- ♦ No Events

### Friday, May 6

- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)

### Wednesday, May 4

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

### Saturday, May 7

- ♦ No Events

### Sunday, May 8

- ♦ **9:00am:** Exploration Hour (Various)
- ♦ **10:00am:** Worship (Sanctuary)

Happy Mother's Day!

## **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

### **Custodian**

Gregory Chavarria

### **Caretaker/ Event Coordinator**

Pat Morales

### **Technicians**

Patrick Lopez  
Karisa Garza  
Brad Jenkins  
Erica Holland

### **Accountant**

Penny Leas Peterson

### **Assisting in Today's Service**

Guest Preacher: Rev. Simon Biasell-Moshrefi

Liturgist: Melinda Mobley

Music Director/ Organist: Scott Horton

Ushers: Mike Gostanian, Shirely Atteberry, Ron Atteberry

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.