

7th Sunday after Pentecost

July 24, 2022



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FRESNO
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

"For the Beauty of the Earth"
"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"
arr. Anna Laura Page

Catherine English, organ

Welcome

Rev. Raygan Baker

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist: Char Lund

For Beloved Community near and far,
For the invitation to love and to be loved,
For abundant opportunities to begin again,

For spiritual practices that ground us,
For worship that enlivens us,
For wisdom that invites us to expansive living;

We give thanks to the Holy One for these sustaining gifts.
Let us worship God.

***Hymn**

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

#42, pew hymnal

Opening Prayer

Liturgist: Char Lund

***Holy God,
May your kin-dom of flourishing bloom in our spirits and communities.
Give us each day the spiritual and physical sustenance we need.
Forgive us when we get it wrong and cause harm.
Open our hearts to compassion for others,
and bathe all Your creation in mercy. Amen.***

Scripture Reading

Colossians 2:6-23

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.**

Gordon Light, ©1994 Common Cup Company

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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 11:1-13

Liturgist: Char Lund

Sermon

***Hymn**

"Sweet Hour of Prayer"

#505, 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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Prayer of the Church

Invitation to Generosity

Liturgist: Char Lund

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.*

Offertory

“Offertoire sur les Grands Jeux”
- François Couperin

Catherine English, organ

*Doxology (Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!**

*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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Postlude

**“New Faith, New Life”
-Franklin Ritter**

Catherine English, organ

It is our tradition to be seated for the Postlude.

We Go Out to Love and Serve the World

A Note for Elders!

Sunday July 31, we will be honoring you!

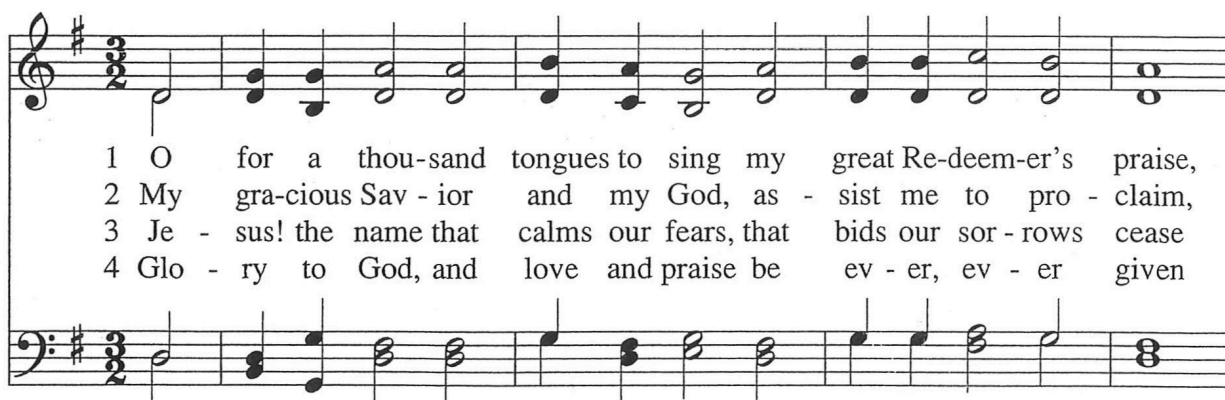
Please come to church so that the congregation will
know who you are.

Kenny will be in the pulpit on that day to praise your
importance as part of our church family!

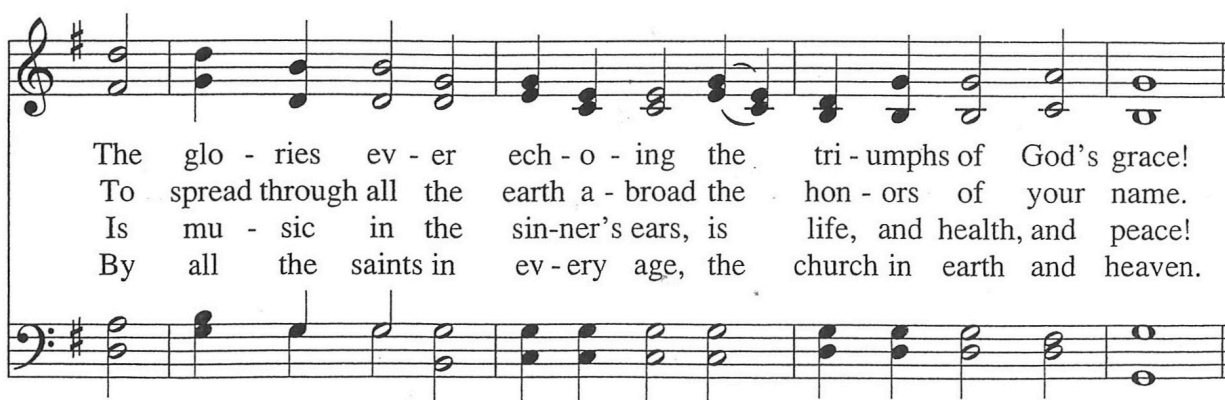
O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

42

Charles Wesley, 1740; alt.



1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Sav - ior and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 Je - sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease
4 Glo - ry to God, and love and praise be ev - er, ev - er given

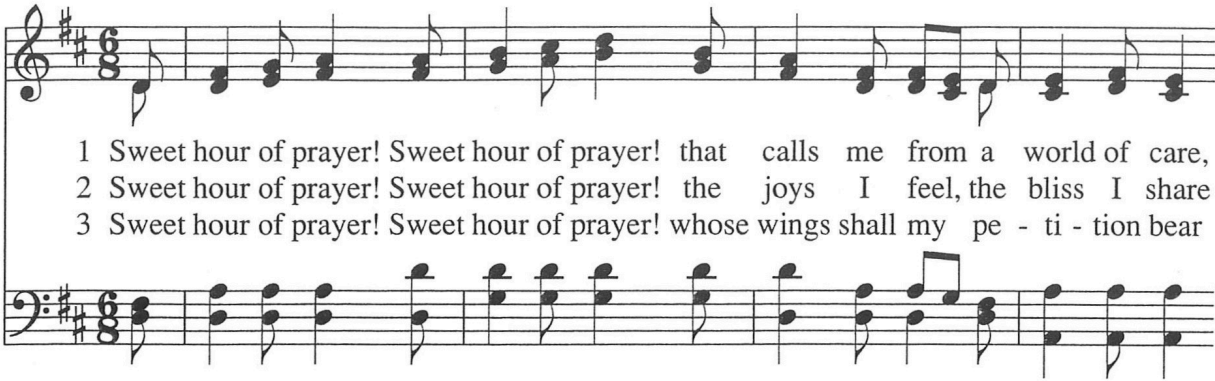


The glo - ries ev - er ech - o - ing the tri - umphs of God's grace!
To spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
Is mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!
By all the saints in ev - ery age, the church in earth and heaven.


The hymn is a cento from a longer poem of eighteen stanzas written by Charles Wesley on the first anniversary of his conversion. The present form of the hymn is one edited by John Wesley for The Wesleyan Hymn Book, 1780.

Tune: AZMON C.M.
Carl G. Gläser, 1828
Adapt. in L. Mason's Modern Psalmody, 1839
Alternate tune: RICHMOND

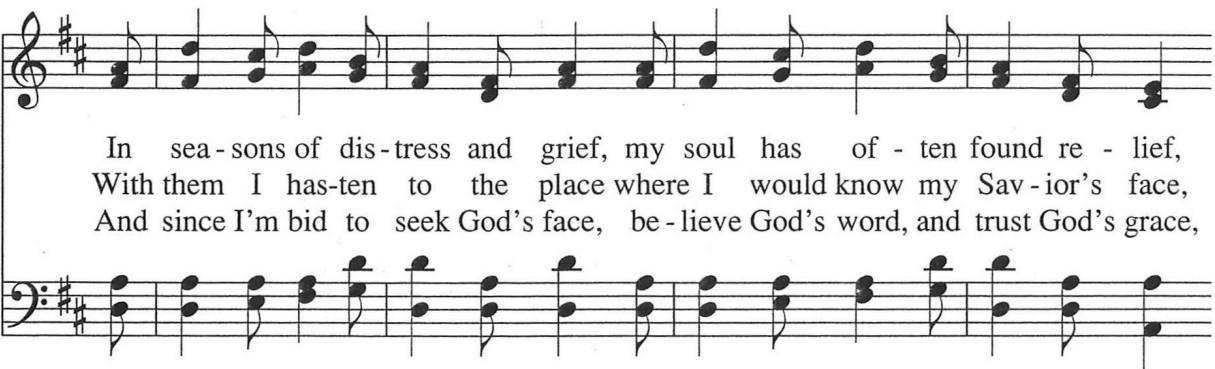
Sweet Hour of Prayer

William Walford, 1845; alt.


1 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care,
 2 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share
 3 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear



and bids me at my Ma-ker's throne let all my needs and wants be known.
 of those whose anx-ious spir-its burn with strong de-sires for your re - turn!
 to One whose truth and faith-ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless.



In sea - sons of dis-tress and grief, my soul has of - ten found re - lief,
 With them I has-ten to the place where I would know my Sav - ior's face,
 And since I'm bid to seek God's face, be - lieve God's word, and trust God's grace,



and oft es-caped the tempt-er's snare by your re - turn, sweet hour of prayer!
 And glad - ly take my sta - tion there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!
 I'll cast a - way my ev - ery care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

Although credited to a different poet when first published in 1845, researchers believe this hymn was written by William Walford. William Bradbury, a highly trained musician, sang under Lowell Mason in Boston and also wrote "Jesus Loves Me."

Tune: SWEET HOUR L.M.D.
 William B. Bradbury, 1861



CALIFORNIA OPERA

Presents

Summer Opera Arts Festival

Artists' Showcase

July 24 * Sunday * 3 PM

Opera Internationale

July 31 * Sunday * 3 PM

Festival Finale


August 7 * Sunday * 3 PM

All concerts will be performed at
First Congregational Church
* 2131 N Van Ness Blvd * Fresno, CA 93704

Donations Welcomed

COVID Protocol, Masks
mandatory, and Spacious seating
available.

californiaopera.org
(559)-225-6737



This Week at Big Red

Monday, July 25

- ♦ Camp Tamarack Jr./Sr. High Camp
- ♦ Pastor Raygan at Camp Tam
- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)

Tuesday, July 26

- ♦ Camp Tamarack Jr./Sr. High Camp
- ♦ Pastor Raygan at Camp Tam

Wednesday, July 27

- ♦ Camp Tamarack Jr./Sr. High Camp
- ♦ Pastor Raygan at Camp Tam
- ♦ **8:00am:** Bible Study (Zoom)
- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)
- ♦ Grapeleaf Submissions due

Thursday, July 28

- ♦ Camp Tamarack Jr./Sr. High Camp
- ♦ Pastor Raygan at Camp Tam

Friday, July 29

- ♦ Camp Tamarack Jr./Sr. High Camp
- ♦ Pastor Raygan at Camp Tam
- ♦ **10:00am:** Free Food Saturday Prep (Fellowship Hall)
- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga (Nursery)

Saturday, July 30

- ♦ Camp Tamarack Jr./Sr. High Camp
- ♦ Pastor Raygan at Camp Tam
- ♦ **9:00am:** Free Food Saturday Volunteers (Fellowship Hall)
- ♦ **10:00am:** Free Food Saturday (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, July 31

- ♦ **9:00am:** Roots & Branches (Fireside)
- ♦ **10:00am:** Worship (Sanctuary)
Kenny Schoelen Preaching
- ♦ **3:00pm:** CA Opera Association Concert (Sanctuary)

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

Karisa Garza

Brad Jenkins

Accountant

Penny Leas Peterson

Erica Holland

Assisting in Today's Service

Organist: Catherine English

Liturgist: Char Lund

Ushers: Rebecca Kliwer, Gene Kliwer, Teresa Fuentes

Technician: Brad Jenkins

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.