

12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 28, 2022



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FRESNO
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Christopher Williams

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 "Pastorale" - J.S.Bach

Scott Horton, organ

Welcome

Christopher Williams

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist: Pete Espinoza

Come, let us ground ourselves in the sacred wonder of this ordinary day,
for the Holy infuses all of our lives.

Let us gather together expectantly,
for the living God sets the table for all Her beloveds.

Let us rejoice,
for Love is not earned but freely given.

Our birthright is belonging,
Let us welcome one another in.

.

***Hymn**

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

#400 Pew Hymnal

Opening Prayer

Liturgist: Pete Espinoza

God, we come this gathering of community where there are no barriers, and all our abilities are celebrated as gifts. We come to receive your hospitality of caring for each one of us and to learn from you how to offer such a celebration to stranger, friend, chosen family, those whose faces are unfamiliar to us, and the face who meets us in the mirror. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 2:4-13

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 14:1, 7-14

Liturgist: Pete Espinoza

Sermon

***Hymn**

"Great is Your Faithfulness"

#423 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: Pete Espinoza

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

“Adagio in C” - W.A. Mozart

Scott Horton, 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

“Toccata on Regent Square: - arr. Martin

Scott Horton, organ

It is our tradition to be seated for the Postlude.

We Go Out to Love and Serve the World



ANNOUNCEMENT

Want to be active in Church? Be
around fun and energetic people?
Love to sing?

You Should Join our Chancel Choir!!!

Practices have resumed and are on Wednesday evenings in the Church at 7:00 p.m.

Please inquire with Scott Horton, Music Director, at shtulare@gmail.com, or at church on Sunday, to see how you can get involved.

This Week at Big Red

Monday, Aug 29

- ♦ **5:00 pm:** Yoga - Nursery

Tuesday, Aug 30

- ♦ **6:00 pm:** Crop Walk Meeting
Parlor

Wednesday, Aug 31

- ♦ **8:00 am:** Bible Study - Zoom
- ♦ **5:00 pm:** Yoga - Nursery
- ♦ **6:00 pm:** Hand bell rehearsal
Music Room
- ♦ **7:00 pm:** Chancel Choir
rehearsal—Sanctuary
- ♦ Grape Leaf submissions due

Friday, Sep 2

- ♦ **5:00 pm:** Yoga - Nursery

Sunday, Sep 4

- ♦ **9:00 am:** Roots & Branches
Fireside Room
- ♦ **10:00am:** Worship - Sanctuary
- ♦ **11:00 am:** Coffee Hour
Fellowship Hall

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

Pastor

Rev. Raygan Baker
rbaker@bigredchurch.org

Office Manager

Kymberly Lindsey, Acting
Office@bigredchurch.org

Music Director/Organist

Scott Horton

Custodian

Gregory Chavarria

Caretaker/ Event Coordinator

Pat Morales

Technicians

Karisa Garza
Brad Jenkins
Erica Holland

Accountant

Penny Leas Peterson

Assisting in Today's Service

Organist: Scott Horton

Liturgist: Char Lund

Ushers: Rebecca Kliwer, Gene Kliwer, Teresa Fuentes


Technician: Karissa 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.


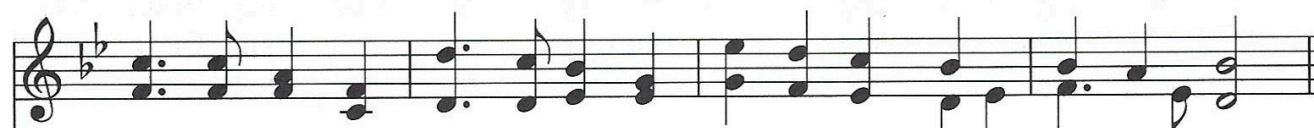
Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

*Eph. 2:20-22; 1 Pet. 2:4-7**Latin, 6th-8th century**Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt.**St. 3 adapt. Thomas H. Troeger, 1992*



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and cor - ner-stone,
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O God of Hosts, to - day!
 3 Here re - new your ser - vants' vis - ion, that by faith they may at - tain

chos - en of our God and pre - cious, bind - ing all the Church in one;
 With your con - stant, lov - ing kind - ness hear your peo - ple as they pray.
 peace and hope, re - newed com - pas - sion, strength to com - fort those in pain,

Ho - ly Zi - on's help for - ev - er, and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
 Give your full - est ben - e - dic - tion: grace to fol - low Christ the Way.
 Tears and grief trans - formed to glad - ness in your ev - er - last - ing reign.



The hymn has its origins in an early Latin poem, Urbs beata Jerusalem, based on passages from Ephesians, 1 Peter, and Revelation. "Holy Zion" refers to the church transcendent, built of "living stones"—the saints of God.

Tune: REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7.

Henry T. Smart, 1867

Alternate tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Lam. 3:22-23

Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923; alt.

1 Great is your faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,*
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace so en - dur - ing,

with you no shad - ow of turn - ing we see.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,
 your own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide.

You do not change, your com - pas - sions they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

all of your good - ness for - ev - er will be.
 to your great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine with ten thou - sand be - side.

*originally "my Father"

This hymn was one of a number sent by poet Thomas O. Chisholm to composer William M. Runyan for musical settings. It became a favorite of Will Houghton, president of Moody Bible Institute, whose enthusiasm helped establish its popularity.

Tune: FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10, with refrain
 William M. Runyan, 1923

Refrain

Great is your faith-ful-ness! Great is your faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer - cies I see; All I have need - ed your

hand has pro - vid - ed, Great is your faith - ful-ness, God, un - to me!

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BIG RED CHURCH?

SEPT 11 –
Welcome
Back Sunday

SEPT 18 –
Annual Chamber
Music Concert

SEPT 25 –
Jazz on Van
Ness

OCT 1 - New
Member
Brunch

OCT 9 –
New
Member
Church
Service

Oct 15 - Crop
Walk

Oct 16 –
Bachtober
Fest

OCT 31 –
Halloween
Party

NOV 20 –
Thanksgiving
Luncheon