

# 16th Sunday after Pentecost

## September 25, 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?**

*Fill out a "Welcome" card , located in the slot next to Hymnal, and place in offering plate*

**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** "Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ" - J.S. Bach Scott Horton, organ  
"Festive Trumpet Tune" - D. German

**Welcome** Rev. Raygan Baker

**\*Call to Worship** Liturgist: Pauline Phillips

Come and be held in the presence of the One who shelters and befriends!

Though others may pass by without noticing,  
**each life captures the loving attention of God.**

Though there are gates that ostracize and fences that turn away,  
**the arms of God are open to every aching body,  
and reaching for those isolated and alone.**

Here we journey in the presence of God,  
**and we do not journey alone.**

Thanks be to God who brings us into the abundant life!

**\*Hymn** "Sing Praise to God" #22, Pew Hymnal

**Opening Prayer** Liturgist: Pauline Phillips

***Holy God,  
In mystery and silence you are present in our lives, bringing a new life out of  
destruction, hope out of despair, growth out of difficulty. We thank you that  
you do not leave us alone, but labor to make us haul. Help us to perceive your  
unseen hand in the unfolding of our lives, and to attend to the gentle guid-  
ance of your spirit, that we may know the joy you give your people. Amen.***

**Scripture Reading:**

Luke 16:19-31

Liturgist: Pauline Phillips

**Anthem**

"This Is the Day That the Lord Has Made!"  
- M.K. Beall/J. Carter

Chancel Choir

## **Time for Discovery—Baptism of Jolie Munoz**

**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**

Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

**There is one body and one Spirit.**

**There is one hope in God's call to us.**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
**One God and Creator of us all.**

## **Questions**

*Concluding with:*

Do you who witness and celebrate this sacrament,  
promise your love, support, and care  
to the one about to be baptized,  
as she lives and grows in Christ?

**We promise our love, support, and care.**

## **Prayer of Baptism**

## **Welcome**

...Let us welcome the newly baptized.  
***With joy and thanksgiving  
we welcome you into Christ's church  
to share with us in his ministry,  
for we are all one in Christ.***

**Scripture Reading:** Genesis 39:20 - 40:23

Liturgist: Pauline Phillips

**Sermon**

**\*Hymn** "Be Not Dismayed"

#460 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**

**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.***

**Invitation to Generosity**

Liturgist: Pauline Phillips

**Offertory** "Come and Be Among Us, Lord" - L. Larson

Chancel Choir



*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: 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**      "Immortal, Invisible" - A. Travis

Scott Horton, organ

*It is our tradition to be seated for the Postlude.*

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

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### **Remember...**

**If you are thinking about becoming a member of First Congregational Church of Fresno, mark your calendars.**

**October 1, 11:00 am:** Prospective Members' Brunch - Fellowship Hall

**October 9, 10:00 am:** New member worship service - Sanctuary

# This Week at Big Red

## Monday, Sept 26

- ♦ **5:00 pm:** Yoga—Nursery

## Tuesday, Sept 27

## Wednesday, Sept 28

- ♦ **8:00 am:** Bible Study - Zoom
- ♦ **3:30 pm:** Grape Leaf submission deadline - [office@bigredchurch.org](mailto:office@bigredchurch.org)
- ♦ **5:00 pm:** Yoga - Nursery
- ♦ **6:00 pm:** Hand bell rehearsal  
Music Room
- ♦ **7:00 pm:** Chancel Choir rehearsal—Sanctuary

## Thursday, Sept 29

## Friday, Sep 30

- ♦ **3:30 pm:** Grapevine submission deadline - [office@bigredchurch.org](mailto:office@bigredchurch.org)
- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga - Nursery

## Saturday, Oct 1

- ♦ **11:00am:** Prospective New Member Brunch - Fellowship Hall

## Sunday, Oct 2

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

### **Pastor**

Rev. Raygan Baker

rbaker@bigredchurch.org

### **Office Administrator**

Kymberly Lindsey,

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

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

Organist: Scott Horton

Liturgist: Pauline Phillips

Ushers: Bruce Owdom, 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.

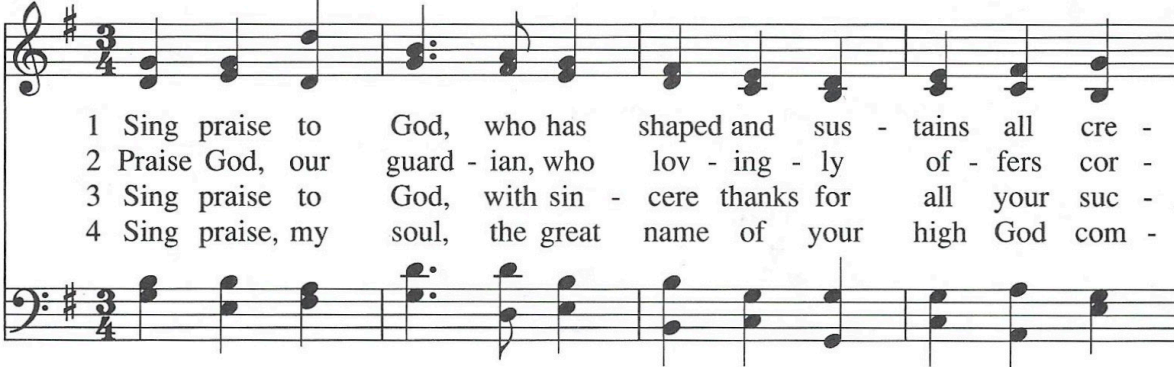


## Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped

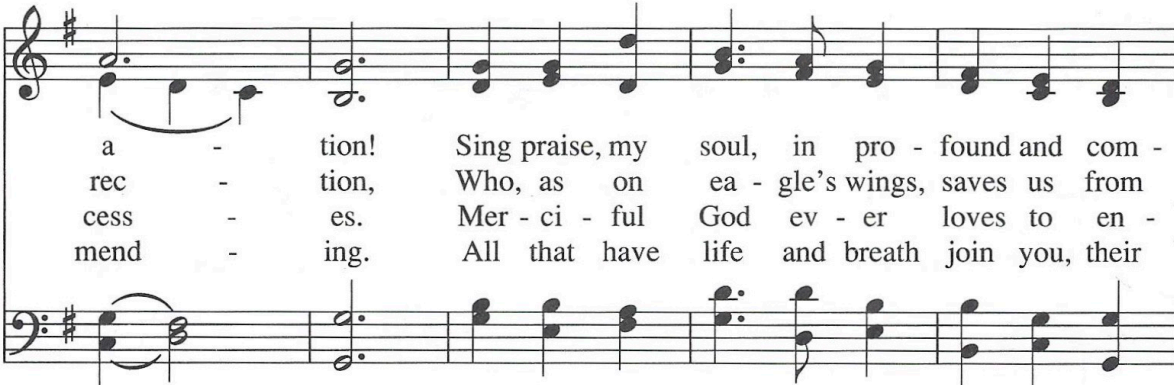
Ps. 68:4, 32; Ps. 105

Joachim Neander, 1680

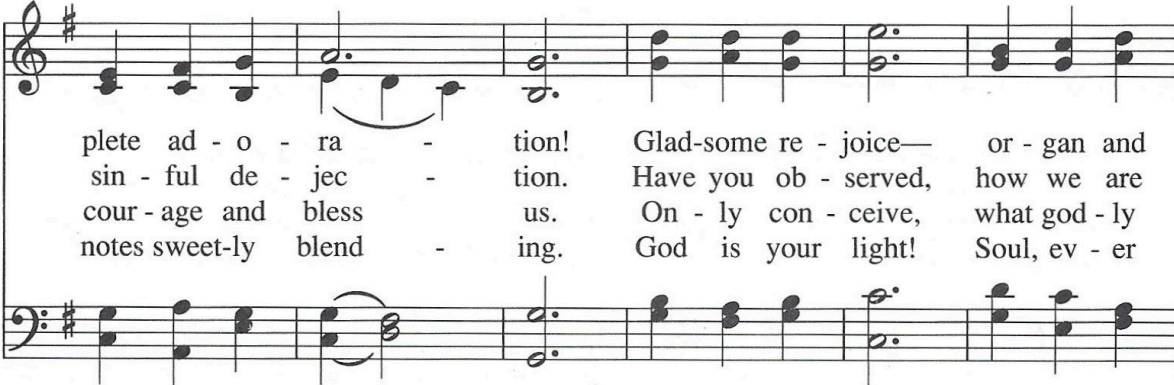
Transl. Madeleine Forell Marshall, 1993



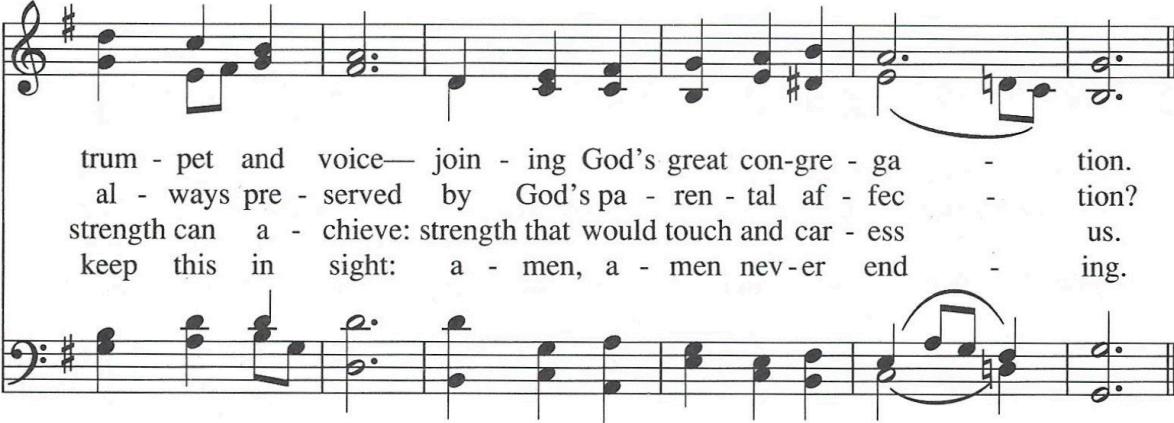
1 Sing praise to God, who has shaped and sus - tains all cre -  
 2 Praise God, our guard - ian, who lov - ing - ly of - fers cor -  
 3 Sing praise to God, with sin - cere thanks for all your suc -  
 4 Sing praise, my soul, the great name of your high God com -



a - tion! Sing praise, my soul, in pro - found and com -  
 rec - tion, Who, as on ea - gle's wings, saves us from  
 cess - es. Mer - ci - ful God ev - er loves to en -  
 mend - ing. All that have life and breath join you, their



plete ad - o - ra - tion! Glad - some re - jice— or - gan and  
 sin - ful de - jec - tion. Have you ob - served, how we are  
 cour - age and bless us. On - ly con - ceive, what god - ly  
 notes sweet - ly blend - ing. God is your light! Soul, ev - er



trum - pet and voice— join - ing God's great con - gre - ga - tion.  
 al - ways pre - served by God's pa - ren - tal af - fec - tion?  
 strength can a - chieve: strength that would touch and car - ess us.  
 keep this in sight: a - men, a - men nev - er end - ing.

Joachim Neander was a dedicated, caring pastor of the Reformed Church in Düsseldorf, Germany. This was the most familiar of his fifty-six hymn texts, which were published along with many of his original tunes in 1680, the year of his death.

Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN 14.14.4.7.8.  
 Erneuerten Gesangbuch, Stralsund, 1665  
 Adapt. and harm. William S. Bennett, 1863

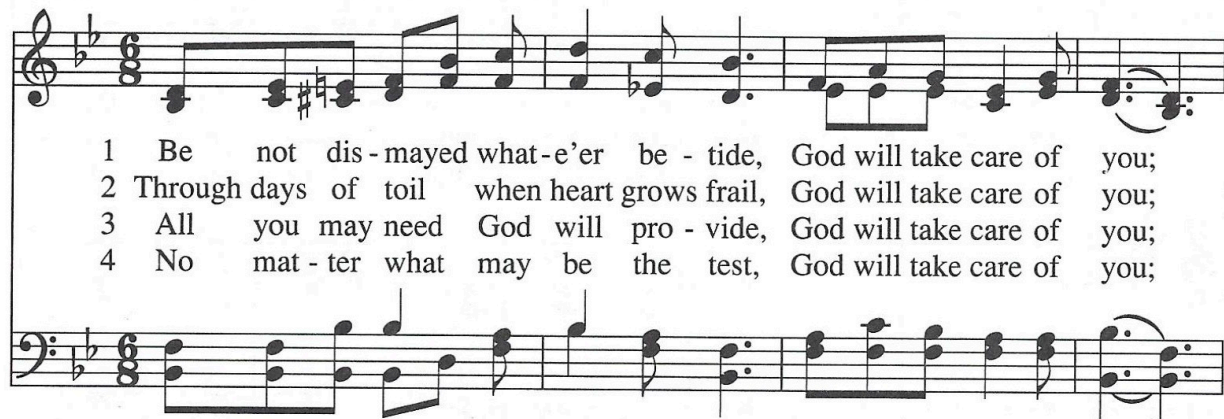
# Be Not Dismayed

(God Will Take Care of You)

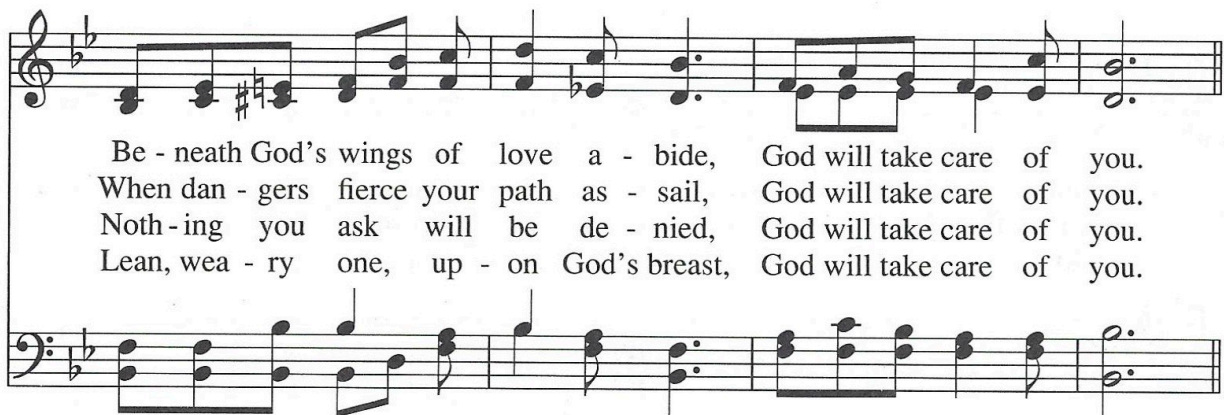
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Civilla D. Martin, 1904; alt.

Ps. 91

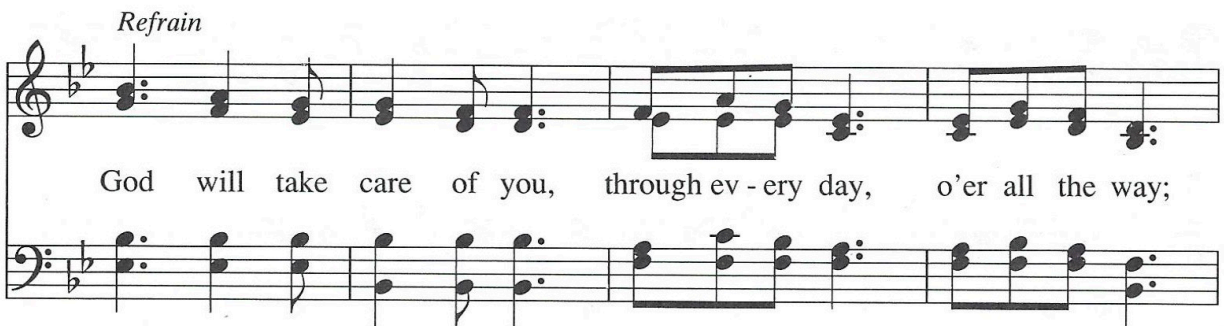


1 Be not dis-mayed what-e'er be - tide, God will take care of you;  
2 Through days of toil when heart grows frail, God will take care of you;  
3 All you may need God will pro - vide, God will take care of you;  
4 No mat - ter what may be the test, God will take care of you;



Be - neath God's wings of love a - bide, God will take care of you.  
When dan - gers fierce your path as - sail, God will take care of you.  
Noth - ing you ask will be de - nied, God will take care of you.  
Lean, wea - ry one, up - on God's breast, God will take care of you.

*Refrain*



God will take care of you, through ev - ery day, o'er all the way;



God will take care of you, God will take care of you.  
take care of you

*This early hymn by Civilla Martin was written in 1904 and set to music by her husband, a Baptist minister, as a contribution to a songbook he was compiling for a school. This is one of several such collaborations.*

Tune: MARTIN C.M. with refrain  
W. Stillman Martin, 1905