Laity Sunday Service October 16, 2022





Rev. Raygan Baker

WELCOME

What is Laity Sunday? Observed on the third Sunday in October, this day calls the Church to celebrate the ministry of Christians of all ages in the home, workplace, congregation, community, and world.

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

"Prelude and Fugue in E Minor" - J.S. Bach Scott Horton, organ "Holy Manna" - arr. S. Geschke Hand bells

Welcome Rev. Raygan Baker

*Call to Worship

Liturgist: Gayle Thornton

We are pulled in many directions.

Many duties and tasks seek to lay claim on our lives.

This day, in this place, let service to God be your choice.

This day, in this place, we open our hearts and spirits to God.

Blessed be the God of creation who has called us here.

Praise be to God who sustains and nurtures our lives.

*Hymn

"How Firm a Foundation"

#407 pew hymnal

Liturgist: Gayle Thornton

Prayer of Confession

O God, our God,

We confess that we have not always lived for you. You have invited us into new life, yet we have closed our eyes and ears and hearts against that invitation. You have shown us the way to love, yet we have chosen too often the path of uncaring. You have called us to the ministry of reconciliation, yet often we find ourselves tempted to turn away from others. You have challenged us to generosity, but many times we would rather keep to ourselves. Enter our lives, God, once again. Release us from the bonds of self- centeredness. Create in us a renewed openness to your love, that we may share your love with others. Amen,

(A silence is held for personal prayer and reflection)

Words of Assurance Liturgist: Gayle Thornton

Scripture Reading: Luke 18:1-8

Special Music "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" - Bach/Gross Hand bells

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

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

Because the broken bread has meant our healing, because the outpoured cup has meant our life, because our common sharing has meant the communion of our souls, and because we have here been graced by your presence, God, we give you thanks and pray that our lives may be renewed In the life and the love of Jesus Christ. Amen

Scripture Reading: Joshua 24:1-26 Liturgist: Gayle Thornton

A Church Family Moment Hank Delcore

*Hymn "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" #23, 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

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

"O Lord, My God, You Are My Refuge" - Bach/Hopson

Chancel Choir

Liturgist: Gayle Thornton

***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.

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Postlude "A Bachtober Preview"

Scott Horton, organ

It is our tradition to be seated for the Postlude.

We Go Out to Love and Serve the World

First Congregational Church of Fresno

presents a

BACHTOBER CONCERT

Featuring the Organ Works of

Johann Sebastian Bach



Sunday, October 16, at 3:00 p.m. Scott Horton, organist

Admission Free - Freewill Offering to support the Casavant Pipe Organ

First Congregational Church of Fresno, U.C.C. 2131 North Van Ness Boulevard Information: 227-8489

News from the pews...

Big Red is looking for volunteers to help with Halloween on Van Ness.

What is Halloween on Van Ness...only the best Halloween party in Fresno!

We need folks to help decorate the Fellowship Hall on the afternoon of Oct 30th (Sunday).

We need folks to assist in giving out goodies to the costumed little munchkins and their parents.

We need folks to assist with making hot dogs.

We need fun loving people to remember Halloween as the greatest night out of their youth.

Also needed: hot dogs, buns, cookies, candy, pumpkins, decorations and funds for the fun.

Sign up sheet for donations will be in Fellowship Hall.

Thank you in advance for your generosity of spirit and person.

Dine in at The Old Spaghetti Factory to help support The Big Red Church Pantry First Congregational Church, Fresno. When you dine in: November 3rd, 2022 Show this flyer to your server and we will donate 10% of your total purchase (pre-tax) to help support The Big Red Church Pantry.

Fundraiser coupon available in church office and after Coffee Hour, see Randy Oftedal

This Week at Big Red

Monday, Oct 17

• 5:00 pm: Yoga—Nursery

Tuesday, Oct 18

• 6:00 pm: Council meeting

Wednesday, Oct 19

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

Thursday, Oct 20

 2:00 pm: Ministry of Outreach meeting - Parlor

Friday, Oct 21

- 3:30 pm: Ministry of Church Life meeting - Parlor
- 3:30 pm: *Grapevine submission deadline - office@bigredchurch.org
- 5:00pm: Yoga Nursery

Saturday Oct 22

Sunday, Oct 23

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

*Please be aware, if submitting announcements or articles for publication, they must be submitted by the deadline, failure to adhere to the posted dates and times could delay publication of your event announcement. Requests should be made via email, whenever possible.

Blessings and peace...K.

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

Music Director/Organist

Scott Horton

Caretaker/ Event Coordinator

Pat Morales

Office Administrator

Kymberly Lindsey
Office@bigredchurch.org

Custodian

Gregory Chavarria

Technicians

Karisa Garza Brad Jenkins

Accountant

Penny Leas Peterson

Assisting in Today's Service

Organist: Scott Horton

Liturgist: Gayle Thornton

Ushers: Hank Delcore, Cliff Dodd, Joel Bright

Technician: Brad Jenkins

Coffee Hour: Kymberly Lindsey

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.

How Firm a Foundation

"K" in John Rippon's Selection of Hymns, 1787; alt. Isa. 43:2-5; 2 Tim. 2:19; Heb. 13:5 laid, you How firm foun da tion has been 1 a 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed, I call "When through the deep wa ters you to go, fi - ery path shall lie, "When through tri als your way "The has leaned for soul that on Je sus pose, paid! ri - fice God the Word, in the in by sac I God, I will still give you aid; for your am flow; of shall not you the riv woe 0 ver ers all suf fi cient shall be your sup ply; my grace I will de its foes; I will not sert to not, What said, been more can God say than to you has I'll help you, and stand strength - en you, cause you to For I will be with you, your trou bles to bless, I signed the shall not you; for de flame hurt have shake, That soul, though all hell should en deav or to fled? to you, who for ref uge to Je sus have hand." held cious, om ni po tent by my gra up er - ing de liv you from your deep est dis tress." fined." make just gold is re your soul to pure as I'll no nev er for sake!" nev er, no nev er,

In 1787, John Rippon, English Baptist clergyman, identified the author of this hymn as "K"; no one has yet verified a complete name. The pentatonic melody has been known by several names since it first appeared in Funk's Genuine Church Music (1832).

Tune: FOUNDATION 11.11.11.11. Early United States melody from Funk's Genuine Church Music, 1832 Alternate tune: ADESTE FIDELES Frederick William Faber, 1854; alt.



Of Huguenot Protestant ancestry, Frederick William Faber was influenced by the Oxford Movement and eventually became a Catholic priest. He wrote 150 hymns to correspond to the number of psalms.

Tune: IN BABILONE 8.7.8.7.D.

Dutch melody

Arr. Julius Röntgen, 1906

Alternate tune: HOLY MANNA