

First Sunday in Advent

November 27, 2022



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FRESNO
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Dr. Norman Broadbent,
Guest Preaching

November 27, 2022

“Calm and Bright: Hope”

Prelude	Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659" - J.S. Bach	Scott Horton
	Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645" - J.S. Bach	organ

Welcome Rev. Dr. Norman Broadbent

Threshold Introit “One Candle Is Lit” (*vs 1, p. 6*) Congregation and Chancel Choir

LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE - HOPE Parker Chamberlin
Alison Chamberlin

The season of waiting begins with a vision of hope. Hope is not blind optimism but is where expectation and commitment meet. We light this first Advent Candle to celebrate a Hope bonded to something more than sentiment- a deep desire...

..that good will conquer evil, that unconditional love is the most powerful force in the world which can truly change the world, that forgiveness is available to each of us, freeing us to own the guilt of the past, and that each of us here is loved and valued.

[The first candle is lit]

May our faith help us to never lose Hope and to offer Hope to all around us making our lives, our families, our communities, and our world a brighter place.

O come, Emmanuel, and fill us with your hope and light, to make the world so calm and bright.

* **Hymn** “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (*Verses. 1-2, 5-6*) #116 pew hymnal

* **Unison Advent Collect** Karson Kalashian, Liturgist

Come, Lord, Jesus- our choicest gift, our dearest guest: Let not our hearts be crowded rooms that have no space for you, but a quiet home of prayer and praise; where the cares of life are put aside and wide, sweet spaces are left for you as we prepare to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child embracing the earth with glory and being for us a living Hope in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anthem

“Walk in Light” - K. Marrolli

Chancel Choir

Time for Discovery: - Colors of Advent– **Green**

**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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- When invited, all in the sanctuary may come forward with your strip of green cloth to place in the manger-

***Hymn**

“O How Shall I Receive

#102 pew hymnal

Today’s Cluster of Readings

Karson Kalashian, Liturgist

**Psalm 1:3, Psalm 104, Jeremiah 17:7-8, Job 14:7, 1 Chronicles 16:33,
Revelation 22:1-5**

Prompting

“The Hidden Life of Trees”

Rev. Dr. Broadbent

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.**

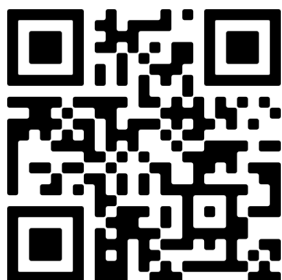
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Church at prayer (Prayers of Concern; Pastoral Prayer)

Rev. Dr. Broadbent

Invitation to Generosity

Karson Kalashian, Liturgist



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

“Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland” - A.N. Vetter

Scott Horton, organ

***Doxology and dedication**

***We give God but God's own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is God's alone, we give it gratefully. Amen.***

***Announcements and closing thoughts**

***Hymn**

“Christ the Apple Tree”

Lyric: Anonymous 18th Century Tune: Tallis' Canon 8.8.8.8, Thomas Tallis, c. 1561

***The tree of life my soul hath seen, Laden with fruit, and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ, the apple tree***

***His beauty doth all things excel: By faith I know, but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ, the apple tree***

***For happiness I long have sought and pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed in all but now I see 'tis found in Christ, the apple tree***

***I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile:
Under the shadow I will be of Jesus Christ, the apple tree***

***This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul all hopes to be with Jesus Christ, the apple tree***

***Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Broadbent

Blessing Hymn

“Go Now in Peace”

**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.**

We Go Out to Love and Serve the World



Please join us
for
Advent Family
TIME

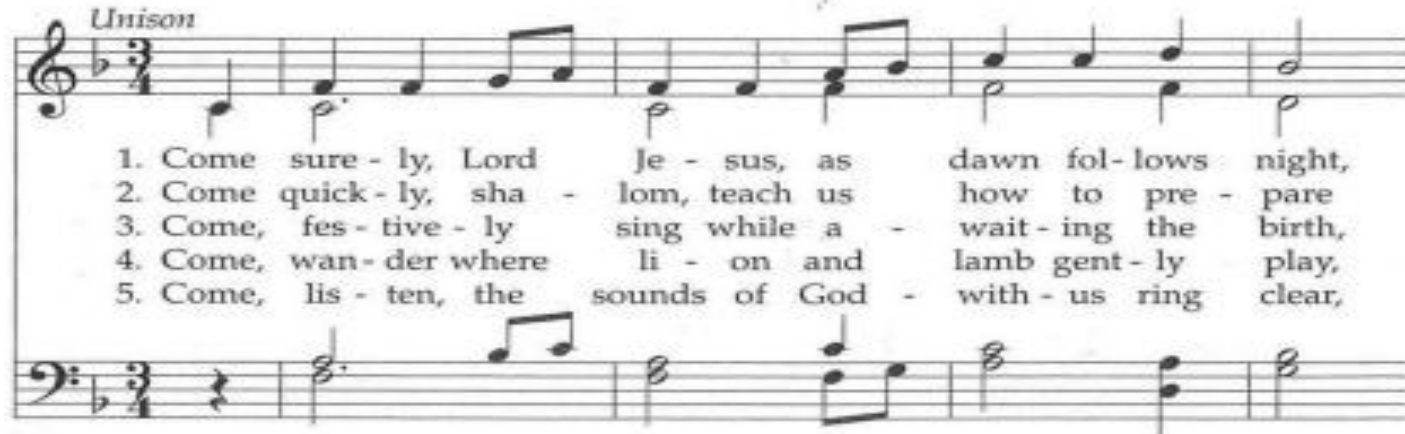
Big Red Church
December 4, 2022
Fellowship Hall
following worship

There will be crafts
and carols and
refreshments



One Candle Is Lit

Unison



1. Come sure - ly, Lord Je - sus, as dawn fol - lows night,
2. Come quick - ly, sha - lom, teach us how to pre - pare
3. Come, fes - tive - ly sing while a - wait - ing the birth,
4. Come, wan - der where li - on and lamb gent - ly play,
5. Come, lis - ten, the sounds of God - with - us ring clear,



1. our hearts long to greet you, as ros - es, the light.
2. for a gift that com - pels us with jus - tice to care.
3. join an - gels in danc - ing from heav - en to earth.
4. where e - vil is ban - ished and faith takes the day,
5. and signs of a cross in the dis - tance ap - pear.



1. Sal - va - tion, draw near us, our vi - sion en - gage.
2. Our spir - its are rest - less till sin and war cease.
3. Wave ban - ners of good news, lift high thank - ful praise.
4. a babe in a man - ger to fool the world's eyes.
5. The Word once made flesh, yet the Word ev - er near.



1. One can - dle is lit for the hope of the age.
2. One can - dle is lit for the reign of God's peace.
3. One can - dle is lit for the joy of these days.
4. One can - dle is lit for God's lov - ing sur - prise.
5. One can - dle is lit for the Christ - birth - day here.

Isa. 11:1-12; Exod. 19-20:17

Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, 1710
Based on ancient antiphons from Advent Vespers
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851, and others; alt.
St. 2, 7, transl. Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916; alt.

Unison

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, and
 3 O come, O come, O A - do - nai, who
 4 O come, O shoot of Jes - se, free your
 5 O come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and

ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly
 or - der all things far and nigh; To us the path of
 came to all on Si - nai high, And from its peak a
 own from Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny, From depths of hell your
 o - pen wide your heaven - ly home; Make safe the path to

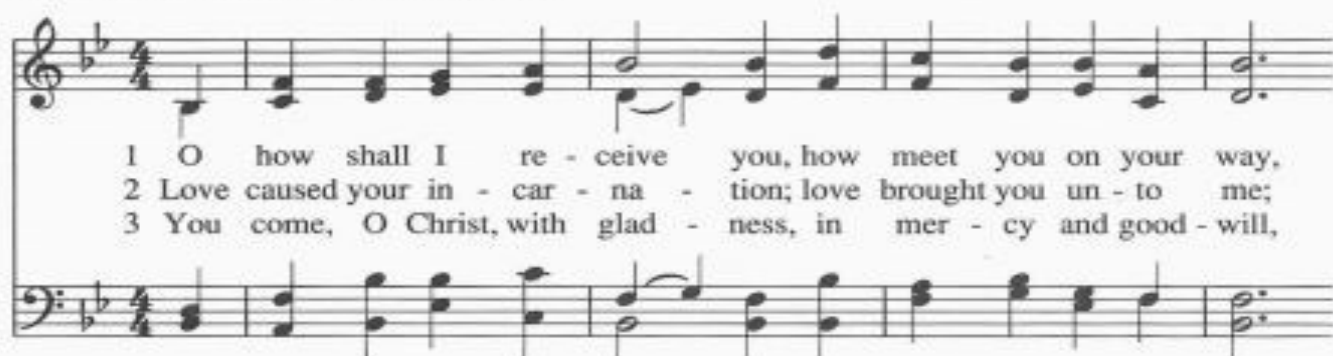
ex - ile here, un - til the Child of God ap - pear.
 knowl - edge show, and help us in that way to go.
 sin - gle law pro - claimed in maj - es - ty and awe.
 peo - ple save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.
 end - less day, to hell's de - struc - tion close the way.

Refrain

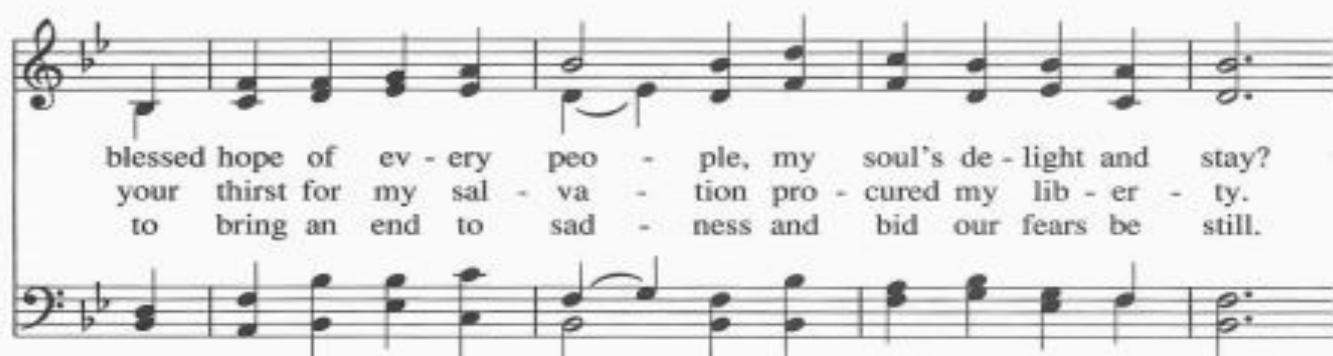
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

O How Shall I Receive You

102

*Paul Gerhardt, 1653**Transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, and others; alt.*

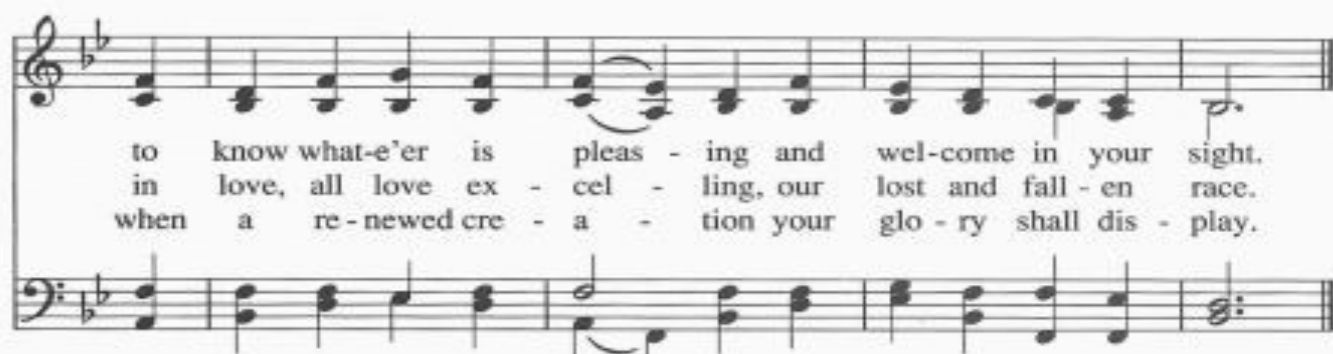
1 O how shall I re - ceive you, how meet you on your way,
2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you un - to me;
3 You come, O Christ, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good - will,



blessed hope of ev - ery peo - ple, my soul's de - light and stay?
your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.
to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.



O Je - sus, Je - sus, give me now by your own pure light,
O love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day



to know what-e'er is pleas - ing and wel - come in your sight,
in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race.
when a re - newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.

As a German Lutheran pastor serving during the Thirty Years' War, Paul Gerhardt's trials were legion. In the midst of it all, he composed more than a hundred hymns, among them some of the finest and most beloved in Christian hymnody.

Tune: ST. THEODULPH 7.6.7.6.D.
(VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN)
Melchior Teschner, 1615

This Week at Big Red

Monday November 28

- ♦ 5:00pm: Yoga - Room 1

Tuesday, November 29

Wednesday November 30

- ♦ 8:00am: Bible Study - Zoom
- ♦ 5:00pm: Yoga - Room 1
- ♦ 6:00pm: Handbell rehearsal Music Room
- ♦ 7:00pm: Chancel Choir rehearsal - Sanctuary

Thursday December 01

Friday December 02

- ♦ 5:00pm: Yoga - Room 1

Saturday December 03

Sunday December 04

- ♦ 10:00am: 1st Sunday of Advent Worship Service - Sanctuary
- ♦ 11:00am: Advent Family Time & Coffee Hour - Fellowship Hall



A Celebration of Christmas

*Sunday, December 11th
3:00 p.m.*

*Featuring the Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir
& Musicians of First Congregational Church*

First Congregational Church of Fresno

"The Big Red Church"

2131 N. Van Ness Boulevard
Fresno, CA 93704

559.227.8489

Free Concert - Free-will offering will benefit the Casavant Pipe Organ Fund

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

Guest Preaching

Rev. Dr. Norman Broadbent

Music Director/Organist

Scott Horton

Caretaker/ Event Coordinator

Pat Morales

Accountant

Penny Leas Peterson

Office Administrator

Kymberly Lindsey

Office@bigredchurch.org

Custodian

Gregory Chavarria

Technicians

Karisa Garza

Brad Jenkins

Assisting in Today's Service

Organist: Scott Horton

Liturgist: Karson Kalashian

Advent Candle Lighters: Parker and Alison Chamberlin

Ushers: Mike Gostanian, Rebecca & Gene Kliewer

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.