

All Saints Sunday

November 6, 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 the offering plate during the service.

**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	Hymn Sing	Scott Horton
Welcome		Rev. Raygan Baker
*Call to Worship		Liturgist: Maggie Kalashian

God of Sarah and Hagar,
We praise you for protecting and guiding us.

God of Moses and Miriam,
We thank you for liberating your children from oppression.

God of Peter and Paul,
We bless you even in the midst of conflict.

God of Hildegard and Julian,
We glory in your tangible presence among us.

God of Luther and Calvin,
We rejoice in your Spirit's presence in all times and places.

Alpha and Omega, Beginning and End,
Holy God, we welcome you to this place today!

*Hymn	"For All the Saints"	#299 , pew hymnal
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Prayer of Confession

Liturgist: Maggie Kalashian

***Most merciful God,
We confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.***

*You call to us through the voices of the poor and the powerless,
But we close ourselves off from their need:
You call to us through the cries of those who struggle
to change structures of oppression,
but we turn away from their challenge:
You hint, you invite, you surround us with calls to love you more fully,
and follow you more faithfully,
but we cling to comfort and safety:*

***We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your abundant ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.***

(A silence is held for personal prayer and reflection)

Words of Assurance

Liturgist: Maggie Kalashian

Scripture Reading: Luke 20:27-38

Choral Anthem "O, That I Had A Thousand Voices" - J. Althouse Chancel Choir
Robbyn Mosley, cornet

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.**

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

*God, by the bread of heaven and the cup of life, you make us one body.
Bind us together by your spirit that we might live into your hopes for us, a
community centered in Christ and rich in compassion, commitment,
courage, and care. Amen.*

Scripture Reading:

2 Kings 5:1-16

Liturgist: Maggie Kalashian

Sermon

*Hymn

"God, We Thank You for Our People"

#376 , pew hymnal

Remembering the Saints:

*After the names have been called, you are invited to light a candle of remembrance for
a loved one.*

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

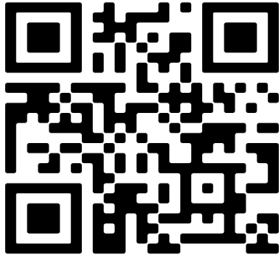
Liturgist: Maggie Kalashian

Offertory

"We Are Grateful" - Ray Rep

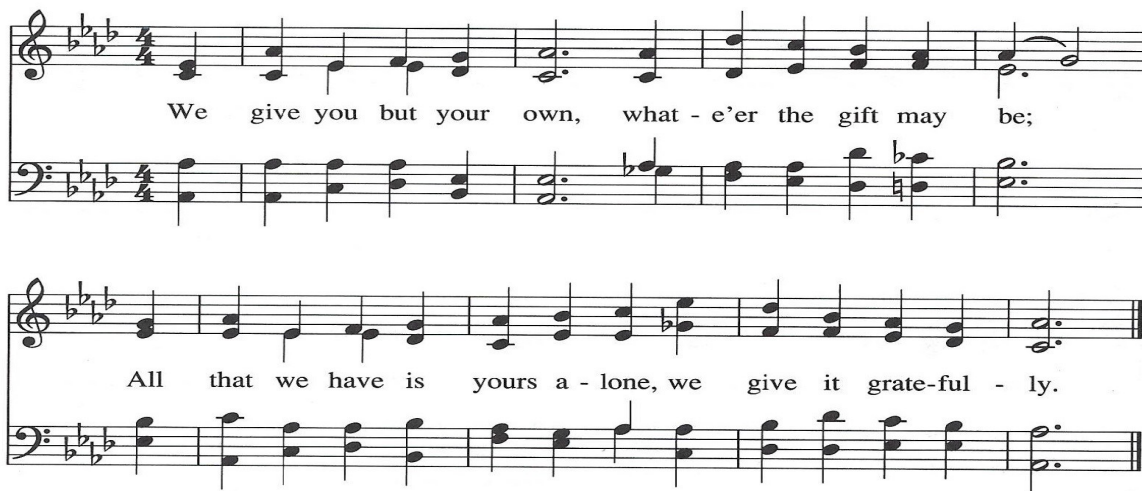
Chancel Choir

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)



We give you but your own, what - e'er the gift may be;

All that we have is yours a - lone, we give it grate-ful - ly.

*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 "Now Thank We All Our God" - arr. A. Travis Scott Horton, organ
It is our tradition to be seated for the Postlude.

We Go Out to Love and Serve the World



*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

This Week at Big Red

Monday, Nov 7

- ♦ **5:00 pm:** Yoga—Nursery

Tuesday, Nov 8

Wednesday, Nov 9

- ♦ **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, Nov 10

Friday, Nov 11

- ♦ **5:00pm:** Yoga - Nursery

Saturday Nov 12

- ♦ **9:00am:** Holiday Boutique
Fellowship Hall

Sunday, Nov 13

- ♦ **9:00 am:** Roots & Branches
Fireside Room
- ♦ **10:00am:** Worship & Baptism service - 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

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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: Maggie Kalashian

Ushers: Rebecca Kliwer, Gene Kliwer, Mike Gostanian

Technician: Brad Jenkins

Coffee Hour: Pat Morales

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.

THIS IS WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE BIG RED CHURCH

NOV 12
Holiday Boutique

NOV 19
BRC Pantry
Food
Distribution

NOV 20
Thanksgiving
Luncheon

NOV 20
Service of
Release

DEC 11 A
Celebration of
Christmas

DEC 21
Longest Night
Service

DEC 24
Family Christmas
Eve Service

DEC 24
Candlelight Christmas
Eve Service

Heb. 12:1

William W. How, 1864; alt.

1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who to the
 2 You were their rock, their ref - uge, and their might: you, Christ, the
 3 Still may your peo - ple, faith - ful, true, and bold, live as the
 4 Ringed by this cloud of wit - ness - es di - vine, we fee - bly
 5 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long, steals on the

world their stead-fast faith con - fessed, your name, O Je - sus,
 hope that put their fears to flight; 'mid gloom and doubt, you
 saints who no - bly fought of old, and share with them a
 strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet in your love our
 ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, then hearts are brave a -

be for - ev - er blessed.
 were their one true light.
 glo - rious crown of gold. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 faith - ful lives en - twine.
 gain, and faith grows strong.

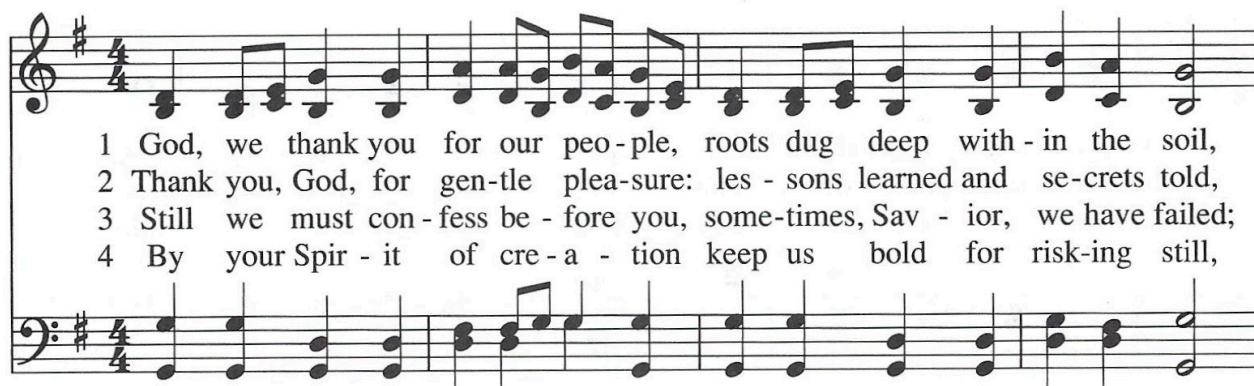
This traditional All Saints Day hymn originally consisted of eleven stanzas written for the Sarum Hymnal (1869) and set to a tune by that name, Sarum. It has grown in popularity since it was later paired with the enduring Sine Nomine in The English Hymnal (1906).

Tune: SINE NOMINE 10.10.10.4.
 Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

God, We Thank You for Our People

376

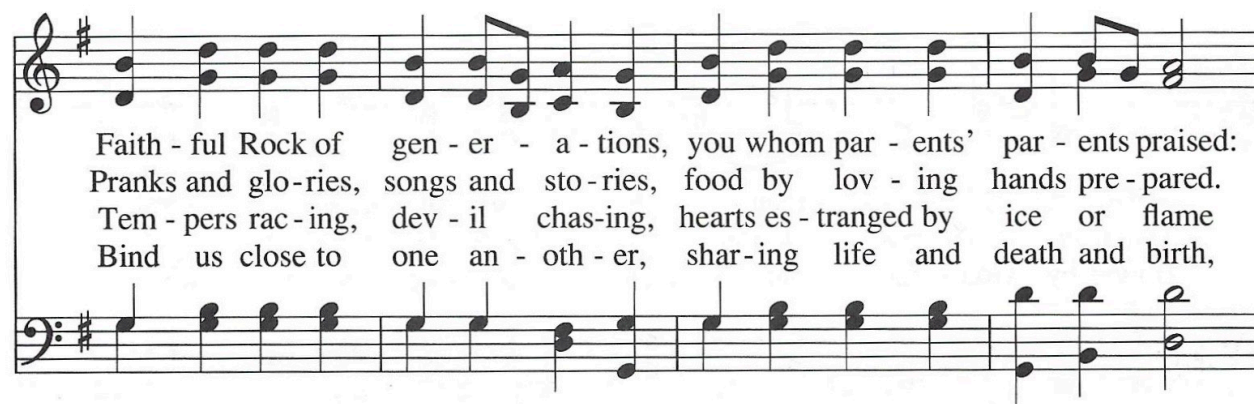
Ruth Duck, 1986



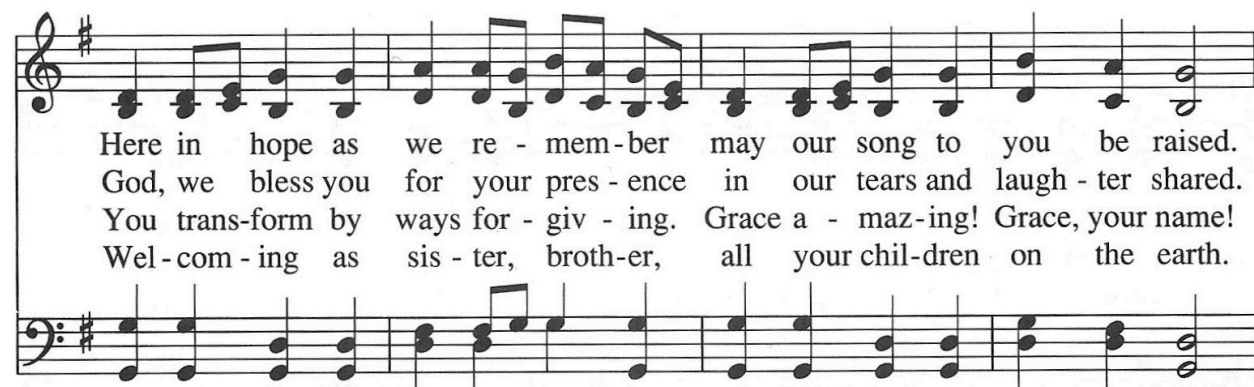
1 God, we thank you for our peo-ple, roots dug deep with - in the soil,
2 Thank you, God, for gen-tle plea-sure: les - sons learned and se-crets told,
3 Still we must con-fess be - fore you, some-times, Sav - ior, we have failed;
4 By your Spir - it of cre - a - tion keep us bold for risk-ing still,



har - dy spir - its, rich in lov - ing, strong for strug - gle, bold for toil.
hopes and mem-ories saved as trea - sure, passed to young ones by the old,
though we wor-ship and a - dore you, some-times love has not pre-vailed.
ea - ger in an - ti - ci - pa - tion, ev - er strong to do your will.



Faith - ful Rock of gen - er - a - tions, you whom par - ents' par - ents praised:
Pranks and glo-ries, songs and sto-ries, food by lov - ing hands pre - pared.
Tem - pers rac - ing, dev - il chas-ing, hearts es - tranged by ice or flame
Bind us close to one an - oth - er, shar-ing life and death and birth,



Here in hope as we re - mem-ber may our song to you be raised.
God, we bless you for your pres - ence in our tears and laugh - ter shared.
You trans-form by ways for - giv - ing. Grace a - maz-ing! Grace, your name!
Wel-com - ing as sis - ter, broth-er, all your chil-dren on the earth.

Ruth Duck created this text at the request of Harold (Hal) McSwain, Jr., for a family reunion. She found her inspiration in the stories of Harold, Sr., and in her own family heritage. The hymn speaks to any community that has shared life together for a long time.

Tune: HOLY MANNA 8.7.8.7.D.
William Moore, 1825