

New Year's Day with Communion
January 1, 2023



First Congregational Church of Fresno
United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Norman Broadbent
Preaching

Our Gathering

Prelude Christmas Carol Sing

Scott Horton, organ

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Norman Broadbent

***Call to Worship**

Jeannie Hobson

Let all of creation praise the name of the Holy One! The rhythms of life praise the Everlasting God through the markings of time.

Let all of creation praise the name of the Holy One!

The flowers, land, and trees praise the Divine Gardener through rest and renewal.

Let all of creation praise the name of the Holy One!

Living creatures praise the Spirit of God through our breathing, living and being.

Praise God!

***Hymn**

“Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year” page 7

***Call to Reconciliation / Prayer of Confession**

Jeannie Hobson, liturgist

We know all that God has done for us, as well as all we could have done for others. Let us confess to God our failures and foibles, as we pray together, saying,

We could proclaim your name, God of this holy season, but we spend too much time talking about celebrities. We could tell others about all your gracious deeds, but are comparing notes about the exploits of our favorite athletes. We could let your Word guide our lives, but instead we do what the politicians think is best. Why? Because we forget who we are called to be. But you remember, Faithful God. You remember that we put our trust in others, not you; you remember how we chase after idols, not follow you; you remember to save us in our distress, which is why you sent Jesus to us, our Lord, our Savior.

A brief silence is kept.

***Words of Assurance**

Jeannie Hobson, liturgist

In the silence, in the dreams, in the wonder, in the words, God comes to save us and have mercy on us.

It is fitting that we offer our thanks and praise to the One who forgives us. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***A Time for Discovery** *[children are invited to the chancel steps with the pastor]*

***Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still; let this be our song-
no one stands alone, standing side by side.***

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Invitation to Communion

***Hymn of Preparation** “Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face” (v.1,2) page 8

Blessing of the Elements

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***

Sharing the Elements

(Everyone is welcome to this Table of the Lord. When invited to come forward, approach the pastor down the center aisle to receive bread which you may eat as you receive it as a sign of the love and forgiveness offered you, personally, in Christ’s name.

Then proceed to the appropriate return side aisle to receive a cup, and take it back to your pew and wait until invited to partake, a sign of our oneness in Christ. Children are invited to fully take part, and with the following hymn may exit through the front side door to their respective classrooms for the day’s planned activity.)

Unison Words of Thanksgiving

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. May it be so.

***Hymn Reprise** “Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face” (v. 4, 5) page 8

Scripture Readings Isaiah 63:7-9; Hebrews 2:10-18 Jeannie Hobson, Liturgist

Prompting “This Succulent New Year” Rev. Dr. Broadbent

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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Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Dr. Broadbent

Invitation to Offering

Jeannie Hobson



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

*"Das alte Jahr vergangen ist, BWV 614 - J.S. Bach
(The old year has passed)*

Scott Horton, organ

***Doxology and Dedication**

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

Announcements and Last Comments

***Hymn**

"God of Our Life" page 9

***Words of Parting**

***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 o.
Go now in love and show you believe;
reach out to others so all the world can see
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen. Amen. Amen.***

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1989.

Postlude

"Joy to the World/Angels We Have Heard on High" - J. Cotter

Scott Horton
piano

It is our practice to be seated through the Postlude -

This Week at Big Red

Monday January 2

- ♦ 05:00pm: Yoga - Room 1

♦ Office will be closed

Tuesday, January 3

♦

Wednesday January 4

- ♦ 08:00am: Bible Study - Zoom
- ♦ 05:00pm: Yoga - Room 1

Thursday January 5

♦

Friday January 6

- ♦ 03:30pm: Ministry of Church Life meeting - Parlor
- ♦ 05:00pm: Yoga - Room 1

Saturday January 7

Sunday January 8

- ♦ 09:00am: Roots and Branches - Fireside Room
- ♦ 10:00am: Worship - Sanctuary
- ♦ 11:00am: Coffee Hour - Fellowship Hall

Deadline to submit photos for Grapevine is Monday Jan. 2; email to office@bigredchurch.org

First Congregational Church of Fresno

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Guest Preacher

Rev. Dr. Norman Broadbent

Music Director/Organist

Scott Horton

Caretaker/ Event Coordinator

Pat Morales

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Office Administrator

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Custodian

Gregory Chavarria

Technicians

Karisa Garza

Brad Jenkins

Assisting in Today's Service

Organist: Scott Horton

Liturgist: Jeannie Hobson

Ushers: Rebecca & Gene Kliwer, Teresa Fuentes

Technician: Brad Jenkins

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.

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Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year

Luke 2:8-14

17th-century Slovak

Transl. Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1969; alt.

Unison

1 Now greet the swift - ly chang - ing year with
 2 Christ's love a - bun - dant far ex - ceeds the
 3 With such a God to lead our way in
 4 "All glo - ry be to God on high and

joy and pen - i - tence sin - cere; re - joice, re - joice, with
 vol - ume of a whole year's needs; re - joice, re - joice, with
 haz - ard and pros - per - i - ty, what need we fear in
 peace on earth," the an - gels cry; re - joice, re - joice, with

thanks em - brace an - oth - er year of grace.
 thanks em - brace an - oth - er year of grace.
 earth or space in this new year of grace?
 thanks em - brace an - oth - er year of grace.

This seventeenth-century New Year's hymn was included in the Tranoscius, a collection published by the Czech Lutheran pastor Juraj Tranovský (1591–1637). Translator Jaroslav Vajda is also known for his original hymn texts.

Tune: SIXTH NIGHT 8.8.8.6.
 Alfred V. Fedak, 1984

Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face

Horatius Bonar, 1855; alt.

1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;
 2 Here would I feed up - on the bread of God,
 3 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
 4 Too soon we rise; the sym - bols dis - ap - pear;
 5 We have no help but yours, nor do we need

here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen;
 here share the cup, the gra - cious gift of heaven;
 this is the heaven - ly ta - ble spread a - new;
 the meal, but not your love, is past and gone.
 an - oth - er strength than yours to lean up - on.

Here grasp with firm - er hand the e - ter - nal grace,
 Here would I lay a - side each earth - ly load,
 Here let me feast, and, feast - ing, still pro - long
 This joy - ful feast con - firms that you are here,
 It is e - nough, O Lord, e - nough in - deed;

And all my wea - ri - ness up - on you lean.
 here taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - given.
 the brief, bright hour to - geth - er here with you.
 now and for - ev - er, as our shield and sun.
 our faith is in your might, your might a - lone.

Horatius Bonar, a founder of the Free Church of Scotland and author of 600 hymns, wrote this hymn at his brother's request. It was first printed in a leaflet for the author's church, St. Andrew's Free Church in Greenock, Scotland.

Tune: MORECAMBE 10.10.10.10.
 Frederick C. Atkinson, 1870
 Alternate tune: LANGRAN

1. God of our life, through all the cir - cling years, we trust in you;
 2. God of the past, our times are in your hand; with us a - bide.
 3. God of the com-ing years, through paths un - known we fol - low you;

in all the past, through all our hopes and fears, your hand we view.
 Lead us by faith to hope's true prom-ised land; be now our guide.
 when we are strong, Lord, leave us not a - lone; our faith re - new.

With each new day, when morn-ing lifts the veil,
 With you to bless, the dark-ness shines as light,
 Be now for us in life our dai - ly bread,

we own your mer - cies, Lord, which nev - er fail.
 and faith's fair vi - sion chan - ges in - to sight.
 our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

WORDS: Hugh T. Kerr, 1916; alt., 1928
 MUSIC: Charles Henry Purday, 1860; harm. John Weaver, 1986

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 10 4.10 4.10.10

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