

*Transfiguration Sunday*  
*February 19, 2023*



*First Congregational Church of Fresno*  
*United Church of Christ*  
*2131 N. Van Ness Blvd.*  
*Fresno, CA 93704*

*Pastor Ellie Anne Dote*  
*Guest Preaching*

Transfiguration Sunday  
February 19, 2023

## Our Gathering

**Prelude** "Sonata no. 2" - F. Mendelssohn Scott Horton, organ  
*1. Grave; 2. Adagio; 3. Allegro maestoso e vivace*

**Welcome** Pastor Ellie Anne Dote

**\*Call to Worship** Wade Hobson, Liturgist

Let us praise the great and awesome name of the Holy One.

**The Holy One is high on the mountain and exalted among the people.**

Let us praise the great and awesome name of the Mighty One.

**The Mighty God is sovereign, loves justice, and establishes equity..**

Let us praise the great and awesome name of the Everlasting God.

**The Everlasting God hears our cries and answers our call. Praise our God!**

**\*Hymn** "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" #1, pew hymnal

**Opening Prayer** Wade Hobson, Liturgist

**Radiant God, we come to you on the mountaintop to experience your glory.**

**You come to us in the valleys. We meet you in gladness in a place**

**where heaven and earth collide. May our worship of you**

**encourage us on the journey and make us aspire to reflect**

**your kingdom in the world. Transform us and keep us near to you.**

**Amen.**

**Special** "The Lord My Shepherd Is" - A. Lovelace Faye Saxton, Soloist  
Scott Horton, piano

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

***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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## 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.*

\*Hymn

"Transform Us"

Scripture Readings

Matthew 17:1-11

Wade Hobson, Liturgist

Message

Pastor Ellie Anne Dote

Invitation to Prayer

Sung Call to Prayer

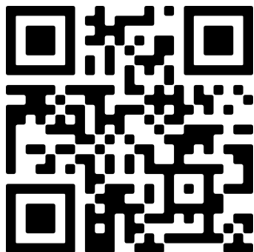
*Lord, listen to your children praying;  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.  
Lord, listen to your children praying:  
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.*

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Prayers of The Church

Invitation to Offering

Wade Hobson, 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**

“Adagio, from Sonata no. 1” - F. Mendelssohn

Scott Horton, organ

**\*Doxology**

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

**Dedication**

**\*Closing Hymn**

“We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding”

#182, pew hymnal

**Benediction**

**\*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 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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**Postlude**

“Fuga, from Sonata no. 2” - F. Mendelssohn

Scott Horton, organ

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

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News from the pews....



*Galloway Memorial Organ  
Evensong*

**Scott Horton**  
organist

**Sunday, March 5, 2023**  
**3:00 p.m.**

Admission Free - Freewill Offering to Benefit  
the Casavant Organ Fund

*First Congregational Church of Fresno*  
2131 N. Van Ness Blvd.  
(559) 227-8489

# This Week at Big Red

## **Monday February 20**

- ♦ 05:00pm: Yoga - Room 1

## **Tuesday, February 21**

- ♦ 06:00pm: Church Council meeting - Parlor

## **Wednesday February 22**

- ♦ 08:00am: Bible Study - Zoom
- ♦ 05:00pm: Yoga - Room 1
- ♦ 07:00pm: Ash Wednesday Service - Sanctuary

## **Thursday February 23**

♦

## **Friday February 24**

- ♦ 09:00pm: BRC Food Pantry prep - Fellowship hall
- ♦ 05:00pm: Yoga - Room 1

## **Saturday February 25**

- ♦ 10:00am: BRC Food Pantry Distribution

## **Sunday February 26**

- ♦ 09:00am: Roots and Branches - Fireside Room
- ♦ 10:00am: Worship Service - Madeleine Guekguezian, Guest Preaching Sanctuary
- ♦ 11:00am: Coffee Hour - Fellowship Hall

# **First Congregational Church of Fresno**

2131 N. Van Ness Blvd., Fresno, CA 93704 | (559) 227-8489

## **Guest Preacher**

Ellie Anne Dote

## **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: Wade Hobson

Ushers: Cliff Dodd, Mike Gostanian, Teresa Fuentes

Technician: Brad Jenkins

Coffee Hour: Pat Morales and Paula Roberts

Acolytes: Addison & Avery Carillo

Altar Flowers: Judy & Randy Oftedal

## **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.



## We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

Matt. 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1988

1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and  
 2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the  
 3 Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our

ho - ly place, Where we wait with hope and long - ing for some  
 flesh-joined Word, Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the  
 faith de - cline, We, like Pe - ter, find it tempt-ing to re -

to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -  
 heav - enly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with  
 main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us

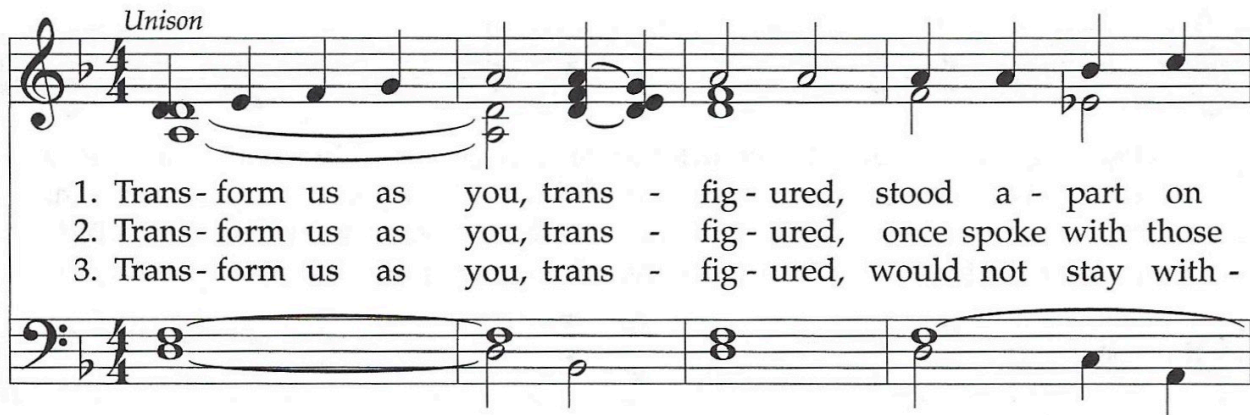
sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, Search - ing  
 won - der how the Law and Proph - ets meet: Christ with  
 cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, That our

like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.  
 gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.  
 dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

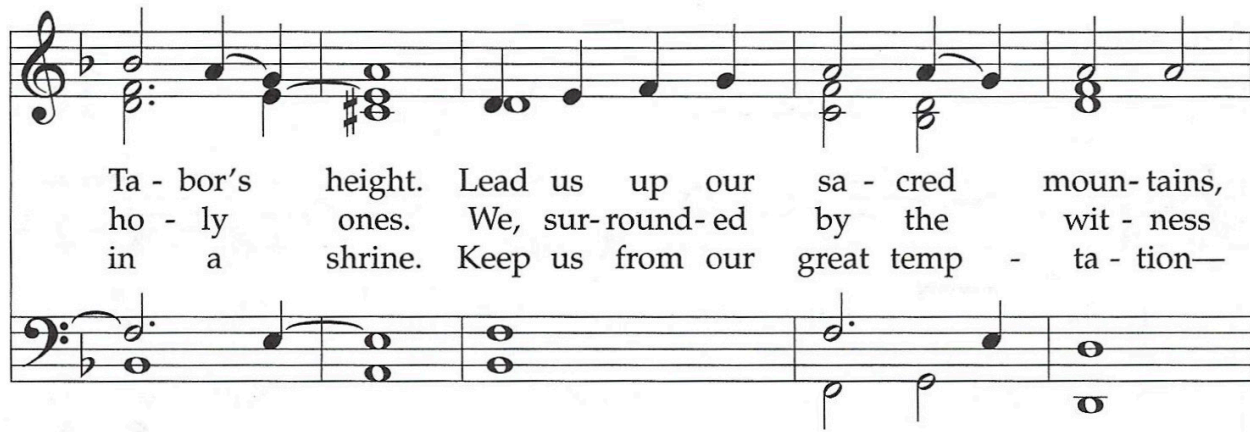


# Transform Us

*Unison*



1. Trans-form us as you, trans-fig-ured, stood a-part on  
 2. Trans-form us as you, trans-fig-ured, once spoke with those  
 3. Trans-form us as you, trans-fig-ured, would not stay with -



Ta-bor's height. Lead us up our sa-cred moun-tains,  
 ho-ly ones. We, sur-round-ed by the wit-ness  
 in a shrine. Keep us from our great temp-ta-tion—



search us with re-veal-ing light. Lift us from where we have  
 of those saints whose work is done, live in this world as your  
 time and truth we quick-ly bind. Lead us down those dai-ly




fall-en, full of ques-tions, filled with fright.  
 Bod-y, cho-sen daugh-ters, cho-sen sons.  
 path-ways where our love is not con-fined.

# Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

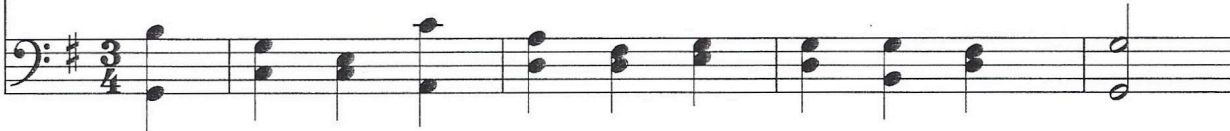
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Walter C. Smith, 1867; alt.


1 Tim. 1:17; Ps. 36:6





1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
3 Your life is life - giv - ing— to both great and small;  
4 So per - fect your glo - ry, so bril - liant your light,



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
not want - ing, not wast - ing, but rul - ing in might;  
in all life you're liv - ing, the true life of all;  
your an - gels a - dore you, all veil - ing their sight;



Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
Your jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove,  
We blos - som and flour - ish as leaves and as flowers,  
All praise we now ren - der as your an - gels do:



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, your great name we praise.  
your clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
then with - er and per - ish— but naught dims your powers.  
in awe at the splen - dor of light hid - ing you.

