

Trinity and Communion Sunday

June 4, 2023



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

*Rev. Stephanie Bingham Doss
Guest Pastor*

Trinity Sunday

June 4, 2023

Our Gathering

(*Congregation may stand | Responses: Liturgist/**Congregation/all**)

Prelude

Scott Horton, organ

Welcome

Rev. Stephanie Bingham Doss

***Call to Worship**

Nancy Mack, liturgist

We come today to worship the Triune God, even as we, like the Eleven on the mountainside, have our doubts.

Holy Trinity, meet us in our questions and help us embrace your mystery.

We come to encounter the God who is both immense and particular, greater than words can describe, and yet intimately present with us.

Holy Trinity, surround us with your love that brings order to chaos and community to individualism.

We come to give thanks to the God who created and sustains us, and who calls us to steward the earth and all that live in it.

Holy Trinity, empower us to enter into partnership with you for the flourishing of all creation with gratitude and joy.

We come to receive Christ's commission to make disciples, to baptize, and to teach the gospel wherever we go.

God, immerse us in the life of the Holy Trinity that we might go and welcome others into the dance of the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

***Hymn**

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

#277, pew hymnal

Opening Prayer

Nancy Mack, liturgist

Holy Trinity, three in One. We bless you and sanctify your name. On this Trinity Sunday when we celebrate the wholeness of your being, of your love, and of your presence, we give you thanks. Thank you for giving us a new day to sing your praises in song, word, and deed. Thank you for calling us to this time and place of quiet reflection, of surrender to You of all that impedes us from fully loving, fully trusting, and fully following you. Be with us, speak to us, and fill us. This we pray in the name of God the Creator, Jesus our Savior and the Holy Spirit, our sustainer. Amen.

Special Music

"Simple Gifts"

Youth Handbells
Faye Saxton, director

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.**

The Lord's Prayer

***Our Creator, 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 of Preparation**

"Spirit of the Living God"

#283, pew hymnal

Youth Handbells, Faye Saxton, director

Invitation

Rev. Stephanie Bingham Doss

The Consecration

Set before us are these two sacramental elements of bread and wine.

Remembering how on the night he gathered with his disciples, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and said "This is my body given for you."

Come Holy Spirit, bless this bread and us, that in ways symbolic and real, the bread we share connects us more closely with you and with our neighbors- near and far.

Remember, too, how he took the cup and said that it is offered for the forgiveness of sin.

Come Holy Spirit, bless this cup in ways symbolic and real, that this fruit of the vine reminds us of a divine love- that when poured out it brings the promise of abundant and new life through Jesus our Christ.

Blessing God, may this simple meal bring us into union with you, our ancestors in faith, your people here today, and throughout your world:

each united as body and spirit in the One Body of Christ.

The Sharing

(When invited to come forward, approach the pastor down the center aisle to receive bread; 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 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.)

The Thanksgiving (in unison)

Holy and Abiding Presence of 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.

***Hymn** "Creator God, Creating Still" #278, pew hymnal

Scripture Psalm 8: Matthew 28: 16-20 Nancy Mack, liturgist

Sermon "Explaining the Unexplainable" Rev. Stephanie Bingham Doss

Invitation to Prayer Rev. Stephanie Bingham Doss

Sung Call to Prayer

Lord, listen to your children praying:

Lord send your Spirit in this place.

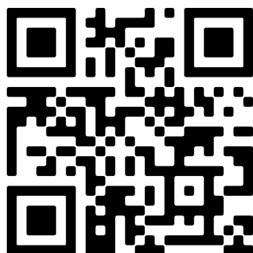
Lord, listen to your children praying:

Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

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Prayers of the Church

Invitation to Generosity Nancy Mack, 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 “Komm, Gott Schöpfer, Heiliger Geist” - J.S. Bach Scott Horton, organ

***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! Amen.**

Dedication Rev. Stephanie Bingham Doss

***Closing Hymn** “Holy God, We Praise Your Name ” #276, pew hymnal

Benediction

***Blessing Song “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.**

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Postlude	"Military March No. 2 in D" - E. Elgar	Scott Horton, organ
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It is our tradition to be seated for the Postlude.

Camp Tam needs your help -

- “ Junior Camp: July 16-22 - Grades 3 thru 6
- “ Junior High: July 23-29 - Grades 7 thru 9
- “ Senior High: July 30-Aug 5 - Grades 10 thru 12



There can be no camp without adult staff. Our children deserve for us to make an effort to ensure camp will happen as planned.

“ Camp Tam is also in desperate need of counselors, a Chaplain and a medical supervisor. Please, if you have an interest in our kids having the unique experience of Camp Tam, consider being a staff member.

Please call or email Jeannie Hobson for answers to your staffing questions and for registration information.

559.903.4542 or email: jeanniehob@comcast.net



Operation
"Let There Be Sound"

**A capital campaign.
Please help Big Red
with its
SOUND SYSTEM
UPGRADE**

JOIN US IN REACHING OUR
GOAL OF \$31,000!

Sound System Upgrade - A Capital Campaign

To Date: \$4,300 has been raised. \$2,000 goes towards the \$3,000 June match challenge.

Campaign runs through September

**All funds will be refunded if campaign
fails to reach its target minimum of
\$15,000**

Donate with cash or check with "Sound
System" memo line or thru the Givelify app.

This Week at Big Red

Monday, June 5

- ♦ 5:00pm: Yoga - Room 1

Tuesday, June 6

Wednesday, June 7

- ♦ 8:00am: Bible Study - Zoom
- ♦ 4:00pm: Yoga - Room 1
- ♦ 4:00pm: Mental Health Discussion Group - Fireside Room

Thursday, June 8

Friday, June 9

- ♦ 5:00pm: Yoga - Room 1

Saturday, June 10

Sunday, June 11

- ♦ 9:00am: Roots and Branches - Fireside Room
- ♦ 10:00am: Worship Service - Charlene Lund, Guest speaking - Sanctuary
- ♦ 11:00am: Coffee Hour
- ♦ 2:00pm: Christian Ed Swim Party and Pot Luck

First Congregational Church of Fresno

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

Guest Pastor

Rev. Stephanie Bingham Doss

Music Director/Organist

Scott Horton

Caretaker/ Event Coordinator

Pat Morales

Accountant

Penny Leas Peterson

Office Administrator

Kymberly Lindsey

Office@bigredchurch.org

Technicians

Karisa Garza

Brad Jenkins

Assisting in Today's Service

Organist: Scott Horton

Liturgist: Nancy Mack

Ushers: Cliff Dodd and Mike Gostanian

Technician: Karisa Garza

Acolytes: McKenna and Sarah

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.

Descant

4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God the Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Saints a - dore you tru - ly,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though we know but dim - ly,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God the Al - might - y!

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing we praise your maj - es - ty.
 Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 Though the eyes of hum - an - kind your glo - ry may not see,
 All your works shall praise your name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim bow be - fore you on - ly,
 You a - lone are ho - ly, you a - lone are wor - thy,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 From the be - gin - ning, God e - ter - nal - ly.
 Per - fect in power, in love and pur - i - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

This hymn by Reginald Heber was published in a book of hymns for Banbury Parish Church in England. Nicaea, one of nearly 300 tunes by John B. Dykes, was named for the famous council that defined the doctrine of the Trinity.

Tune: NICAEA 11.12.12.10.
 John B. Dykes, 1861
 Descant David McK. Williams, 1948

Creator God, Creating Still

278

Jane Parker Huber, 1977; rev. 1993

Rom. 5:1-5

1 Cre - a - tor God, cre - at - ing still, by will and word and deed,
 2 Re - deem-er God, re - deem-ing still, with o - ver-flow-ing grace,
 3 Sus - tain - er God, sus - tain - ing still, with strength for ev - ery day,
 4 Great Tri - une God, for this new day we need your pres-ence still.

Cre - ate a new hu - man - i - ty to meet the pres-ent need.
 Pour out your love on us, through us, make this a ho - ly place.
 Em - power us now to do your will. Cor - rect us when we stray.
 Cre - ate, re - deem, sus - tain us now to do your work and will.

Jane Parker Huber's second hymn was written during a time of particular focus on language. By describing the Triune God in terms of function rather than in terms of persons, she hoped to avoid a tendency to think we know God by knowing formulas.

Tune: ST. ANNE C.M.
 William Croft, 1708

Spirit of the Living God

283

Daniel Iverson, 1926

Acts 11:15; 2 Cor. 3:1-6; Gal. 5:25

Chorus 1

F Gm D Gm F Dm C F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me;

Chorus 2

F Gm D Gm F Bb/C C7 F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Verse

Bb F G7 C

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Chorus 3

F Gm D Gm F Dm C7 F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Presbyterian minister Daniel Iverson was inspired to write this chorus one evening while attending revival services led by the George T. Stephans Evangelistic Party in Orlando, Florida, in 1926. It became widely popular at similar meetings before it was published several years later.

Tune: IVERSON 7.5.7.5.8.7.5.
Daniel Iverson, 1926


Holy God, We Praise Your Name

276

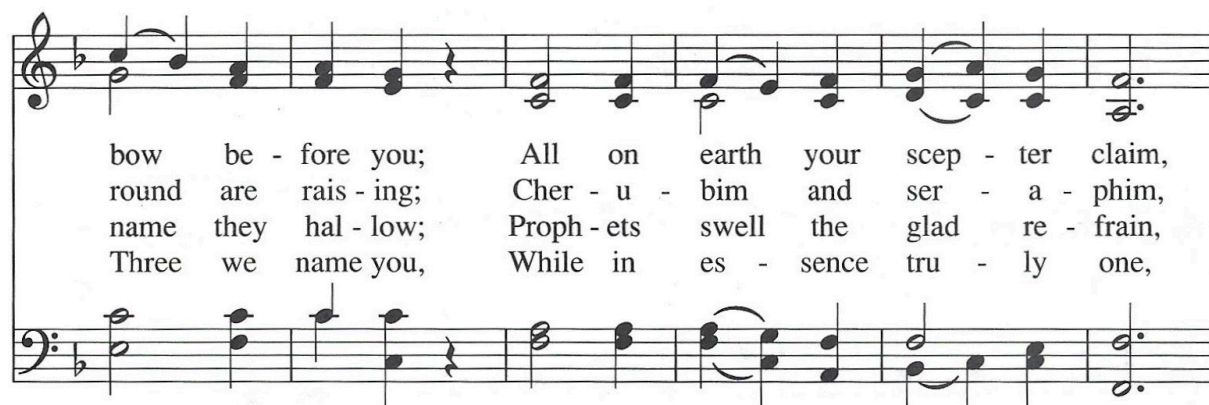
Anon., German, c. 1774

Rev. 4:8-11

Transl. Clarence Alphonsus Walworth, 1853; alt.



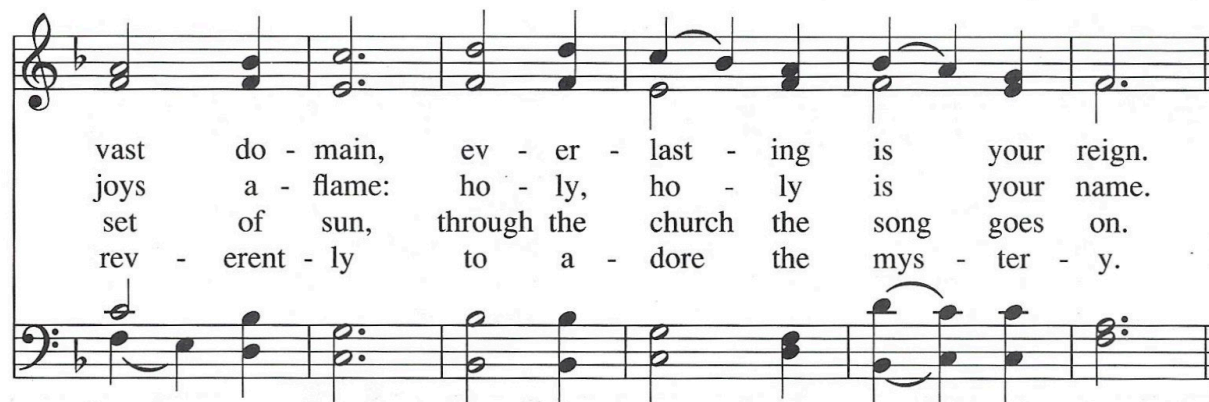
1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Sov - ereign God, we
 2 Hark, the glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
 3 All a - pos - tles join the strain as your sa - cred
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,



bow be - fore you; All on earth your scep - ter claim,
 round are rais - ing; Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name they hal - low; Proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 Three we name you, While in es - sence tru - ly one,



all the heaven - ly hosts a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, Fill the heavens with
 and the bless - ed mar - tyrs fol - low; And from morn to
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you; So we gath - er



vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
 joys a - flame: ho - ly, ho - ly is your name.
 set of sun, through the church the song goes on.
 rev - erent - ly to a - dore the mys - ter - y.

This German Catholic hymn, based on the Te Deum Laudamus, appeared with this tune in a hymnal published by command of Austrian empress Maria Theresa. In the nineteenth century it became popular in Protestant worship.

Tune: GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH
 7.8.7.8.7.7.

Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, c. 1774
 Alt. Johann Gottfried Schicht, 1819