

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 8, 2023



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

*Rev. Davena Jones
NENC-UCC Conference Minister-Elect*

Our Gathering

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

Prelude Prelude and Fugue in D minor - J.S. Bach Scott Horton, organ

Welcome Rev. Davena Jones, Guest Pastor

***Call to Worship** Kymberly Lindsey, liturgist

One: We come from the East, the West, the South and the North into this sacred space to worship the living God who walks with us.

All: O, God, we worship you for who you are, for loving and granting us your grace.

One: We lift our hands in praise to you and open our hearts to worship you in the fullness of who we are.

All: Let us worship the Lord our God joyful and thankful hearts. Amen.

***Hymn** "Arise, Your Light Is Come" #164, pew hymnal

Opening Prayer Kymberly Lindsey

Jesus, we ask that You bless our time together, that we may hear Your words and apply them to our lives so that You will be honored and glorified. Allow your Holy Spirit to move through us so our faith grows and bears fruit. Amen!

Choral Anthem "Sanctuary" - arr. L. Larson Chancel Choir

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 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	"You Are Salt for the Earth, O People"	#181, pew hymnal
Scripture	Proverbs 3:27-28; Matthew 5:14-16	Kymberly Lindsey
Sermon	"Let Your Light Shine"	Rev. Davena Jones

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	Rev. Davena Jones
Invitation to Generosity	Kymberly Lindsey



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 "Choralvorspiel Liebster Jesu wir sind hier" - 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.**

***Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving**

Rev. Davena Jones

Announcements

Jeannie Hobson, Moderator

****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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***Blessing and Sending Forth**

"This Little Light of Mine"

Rev. Davena Jones

Please join us for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall

First Congregational Church of Fresno

presents a

BACHTOBER CONCERT

Featuring Baroque Masterworks & the Organ Works of
Johann Sebastian Bach



Sunday, October 15, at 3:00 p.m.

Bachtober Festival Chamber Orchestra
led by John Morrice, violin
&
Scott Horton, organist

Admission Free - Freewill Offering to support the Casavant Pipe Organ

First Congregational Church of Fresno, U.C.C.
2131 North Van Ness Boulevard
Information: 227-8489

This Week at Big Red

Monday, October 9

- ♦ 5:00pm: Yoga - Room 1

Tuesday, October 10

Wednesday, October 11

- ♦ 8:00am: Bible Study - Zoom
- ♦ 4:00pm: Yoga - Room 1
- ♦ 6:00pm: Handbell rehearsal - Music Room
- ♦ 7:00pm: Chancel Choir rehearsal - Sanctuary

Thursday, October 12

Friday, October 13

- ♦ 5:00pm: Yoga - Room 1

Saturday, October 14

Sunday, October 15

- ♦ 9:00am: Roots and Branches - Fireside Room
- ♦ 10:00am: Worship Service - Rev. Simon Biasell-Moshrefi - Sanctuary
- ♦ 11:00am: Congregational Meeting followed by Coffee Hour
- ♦ 3:00pm: Bachtober Concert—Sanctuary

New!

In house pantry hours:

**Monday & Wednesday:
9:30am to 3pm**

Friday: 9:30am to 12:30pm

Upcoming Dates to remember



* **Spaghetti Dinner - Oct 20**

* **Halloween Party - October 31**



First Congregational Church of Fresno

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

Guest Pastor

Rev. Davena Jones

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: Kymberly Lindsey

Ushers: Rebecca Kliewer, Gene Kliewer, Teresa Fuentes

Technician: Karisa Garza

Acolytes: Faith and Olivia

Coffee Hour:

First Congregational Church of Fresno Covenant

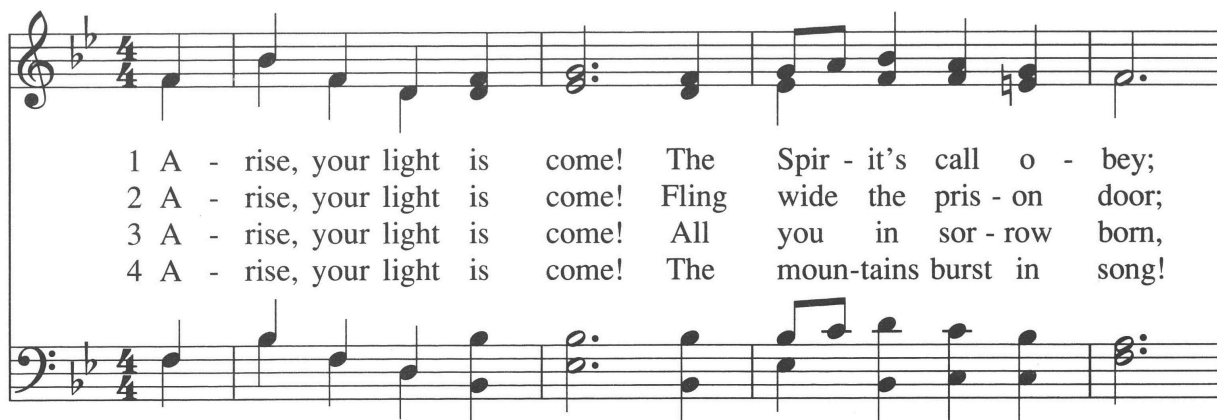
The policy of the Church is based upon the mutual sharing of a covenant in the establishment of the local church as a community of faith. The covenant of the Church shall be that adopted by the Salem Church of Massachusetts in 1629, as follows:

We Covenant with the Lord and one with another; and do bind ourselves in the presence of God to walk together in all his ways, according as he is pleased to reveal himself to us in his blessed word of truth.

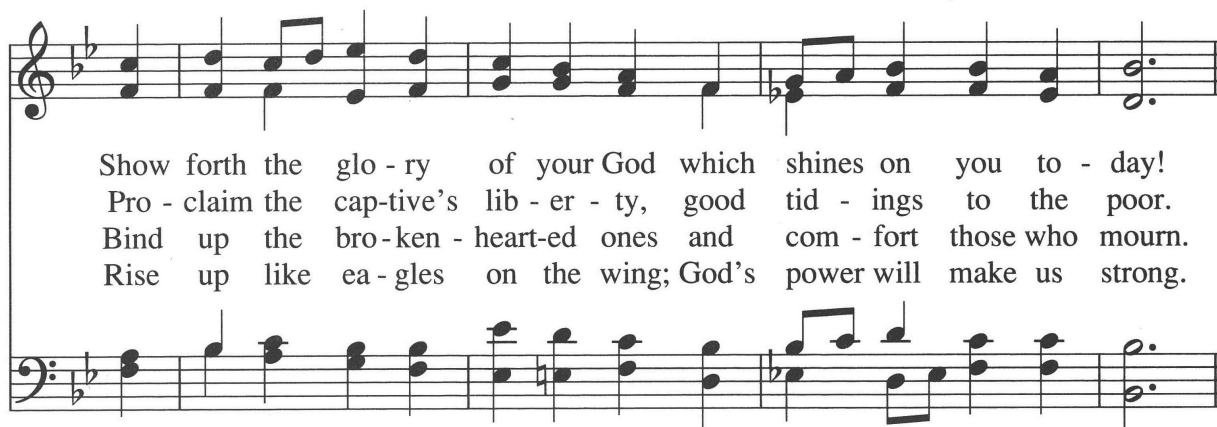
Arise, Your Light Is Come

Isa. 60:1; 61:1-2; Luke 4:14-21

Ruth Duck, 1973



1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song!



Show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day!
 Pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 Bind up the bro-ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

This hymn was first published by the Ecumenical Women's Center of Chicago in the 1974 collection of hymn adaptations, Because We Are One People. Ruth Duck later included it in her own collection, Dancing in the Universe.

Tune: FESTAL SONG S.M.
William Walter, 1872

You Are Salt for the Earth, O People

181

Paraphr. by Marty Haugen, 1986; alt.

Matt. 5:13-15

Unison

D (allow to ring off)

1 You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: salt for the reign of God!
 2 You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: light for the Cit-y of God!
 3 You are a seed of the Word, O peo-ple: bring forth the reign of God!
 4 We are a blessed and a pil-grim peo-ple: bound for the reign of God!

Share the fla-vor of life, O peo-ple: life in the Cit-y of God!
 Shine so ho-ly and bright, O peo-ple: shine for the Cit-y of God!
 Seeds of mer-cy and seeds of jus-tice, grow in the Cit-y of God!
 Love our jour-ney and love our home-land: love is the Cit-y of God!

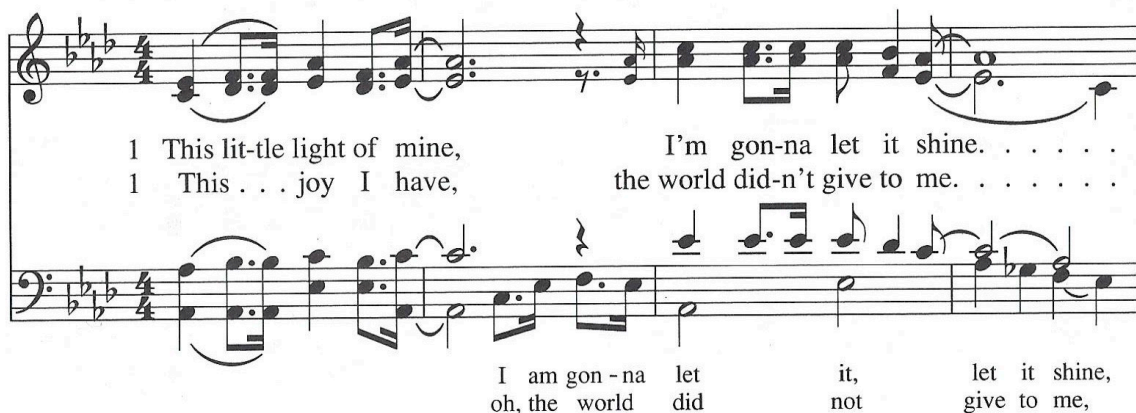
Refrain

Bring forth the reign of mer-cy, bring forth the reign of peace;

Bring forth the reign of jus-tice, bring forth the Cit-y of God!

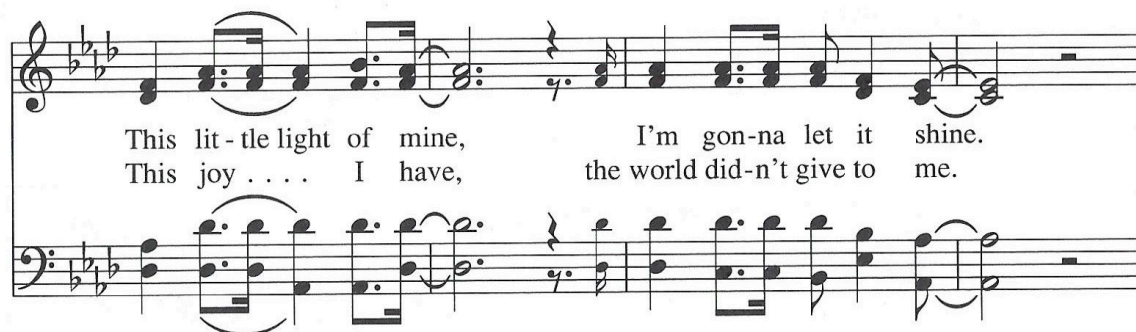
During a residency at Holden Village, a retreat center in the state of Washington, Marty Haugen wrote this hymn to be used as a "processing song" for outdoor worship. The lectionary readings focusing on Jesus' teaching about the "reign of God" provided the basis for the text.

Tune: BRING FORTH Irr. with refrain
 Marty Haugen, 1986



1 This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
 1 This . . . joy I have, the world did-n't give to me.

I am gon-na let it, let it shine,
 oh, the world did not give to me,

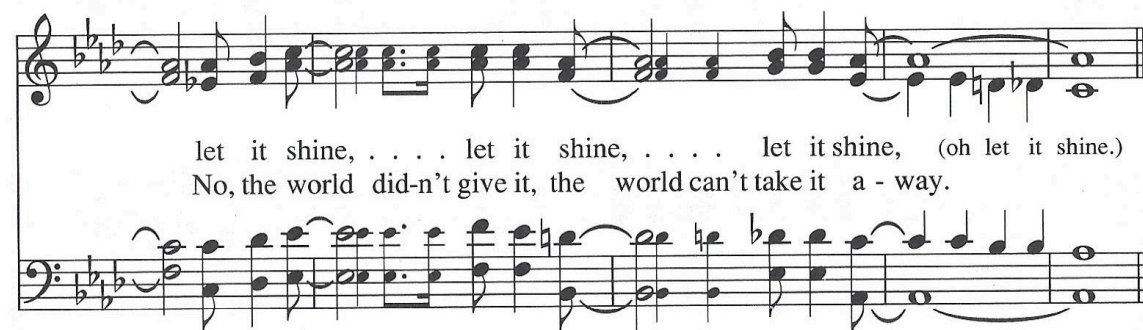


This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
 This joy . . . I have, the world did-n't give to me.



This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine,
 This . . . joy I have, the world did-n't give to me.

Hal - le-lu - jah,
 Hal - le-lu, the



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, (oh let it shine.)
 No, the world did-n't give it, the world can't take it a - way.

"This Little Light" continued:

- 2 Ev-ery-where I go . . .
- 3 All-through the night . . .

"This Joy I Have" continued:

- 2 This love I have . . .
- 3 This hope I have . . .
- 4 This faith I have . . .
- 5 This peace I have . . .