

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

October 29, 2023



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

*Rev. Dr. Norman Broadbent
Guest Pastor*

Our Gathering

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

Prelude

Scott Horton, organ

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Norman Broadbent

***Call to Worship**

Lily Cooper, liturgist

One: Let us bring to this worship today who we truly are.

All: *Let us bring ourselves as we are: some weary, some energetic, some contented, some disquieted.*

One: May we bring who we truly are to the God of truth:

All: *Bringing ourselves—some trusting, some doubting—each with our questions and our certainties.*

One: This worship invites you and me to bring who we truly are to the God of new beginnings. To the God of freedom's promise let us bring ourselves.

All: *Our achievements, our failures, our public selves, our hidden selves.*

One: Let us enter into our worship: we broken, we blessed, each made in God's image.

All: *Loved beyond measure and open to God's light and life among us.*

***Hymn**

"O God Grant Us Light"

#469, pew hymnal

Opening Prayer

Lily Cooper

Gracious One, infusing all that is holy and just, you have made welcome all people into the blessings of your creation. Lead us into that promised land where your melodic voice would overwhelm the harsh tones of today's world. Take away the barriers we build to separate people from you, and those we impose among ourselves, so that there may be a shared freedom in your grace and peace. Amen.

Choral Anthem

"Hallelujah! Praise the Lord" by Sean Paul

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.**

Gordon Light, ©1994 Common Cup Company
OneLicense.net License #A-711732

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 | "The Church in Every Age" | #390, pew hymnal |
| Scripture | Deuteronomy 34:1-12 | Lily Cooper |
| Sermon | "Ted Lasso Believes" | Rev. Dr. Norman R. 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.**

1973, Hope, Publishing CO., All rights reserved.
OneLicense.net License #A-711732

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Prayers of the Church | Rev. Dr. Norman Broadbent |
| Stewardship Moment | Parker & Alison Chamberlain |
| Invitation to Generosity | Lily Cooper |



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

"Let the Redeemed of God" by Michael Barrett

Chancel Choir

***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.**

***Unison Dedication**

Rev. Dr. Norman Broadbent

We offer ourselves through these gifts, knowing that they have a purpose in making visible what we believe. In giving, we rededicate our lives - and our presence in this community - to the just peace and reformation these days require. So we will sing your praises forever and ever, God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

#436, pew hymnal

Announcements

Jeannie Hobson, Moderator

***Responsive Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Norman Broadbent

One: Knowing that God sends us forth,
All: *we will not be still, but speak of hope.*
One: Knowing that Jesus inspires us.
All: *we will not be still, but will challenge injustice.*
One: Knowing that the Spirit strengthens us.
All: *we will not be still, but believing, seek peace for all.*

***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.**

1988, Harold Flammer Music. All rights reserved.
OneLicense.net License # A-711732

Postlude

“A Mighty Fortress” by Wayne Wold

Scott Horton, organ

It is our tradition to be seated for the Postlude

This Week at Big Red

Monday, October 30

- ♦ 5:00pm: Yoga - Room 1

Tuesday, October 31

- ♦ 5:00pm: Halloween Party - Fellowship Hall (5pm to 8pm)

Wednesday, November 1

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

Thursday, November 2

Friday, November 3

- ♦ 5:00pm: Yoga - Room 1

Saturday, November 4

Sunday, November 5

- ♦ 9:00am: Roots and Branches - Fireside Room
- ♦ 10:00am: Worship Service - Rev. Simon Biasell-Moshrefi, Designated Term Pastor - Sanctuary
- ♦ 11:00am: Coffee Hour - Fellowship Hall

First Congregational Church of Fresno

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

Guest in the Pulpit

Rev. Dr. Norman Broadbent

Music Director/Organist

Scott Horton

Caretaker/ Event Coordinator

Pat Morales

Accountant

Penny Leas Peterson

Office Manager

Kymberly Lindsey

Office@bigredchurch.org

Technicians

Karisa Garza

Brad Jenkins

Assisting in Today's Service

Organist: Scott Horton

Liturgist: Lily Cooper

Ushers: Mike Gostanian

Technician: Brad Jenkins

Acolytes: Faith and Olivia

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.

Ps. 43:3

Lawrence Tuttiett, 1864; alt.

1 O grant us light, that we may know wis-dom that you a -
 2 O grant us light that we may find where er - ror lurks in
 3 O grant us light, that we may learn how dead is life from
 4 O grant us light, when soon or late, all earth-ly scenes shall

lone can give, That truth may guide us as we go,
 hu - man lore, And turn to you our seek - ing minds,
 you a - part, How sure is joy for all who turn
 pass a - way, In you to find the o - pen gate,

and vir - tue bless the lives we live.
 and love your ho - ly Word the more.
 to you an un - di - vid - ed heart.
 to death - less home and end - less day.

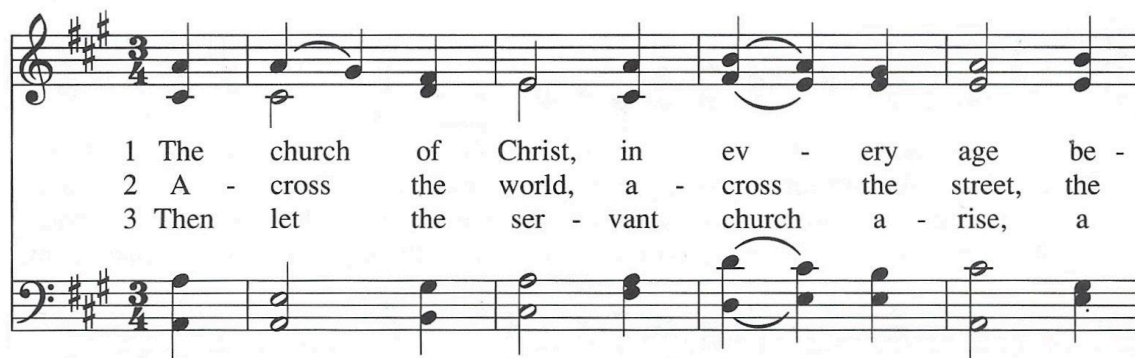
Ordained a priest of the Church of England, Lawrence Tuttiett served a parish at Warwickshire. His last two appointments were in Scotland. Henry W. Baker, an important English hymnal editor, wrote this tune while an undergraduate at Oxford.

Tune: HESPERUS L.M.
 (QUEBEC)
 Henry W. Baker, 1854

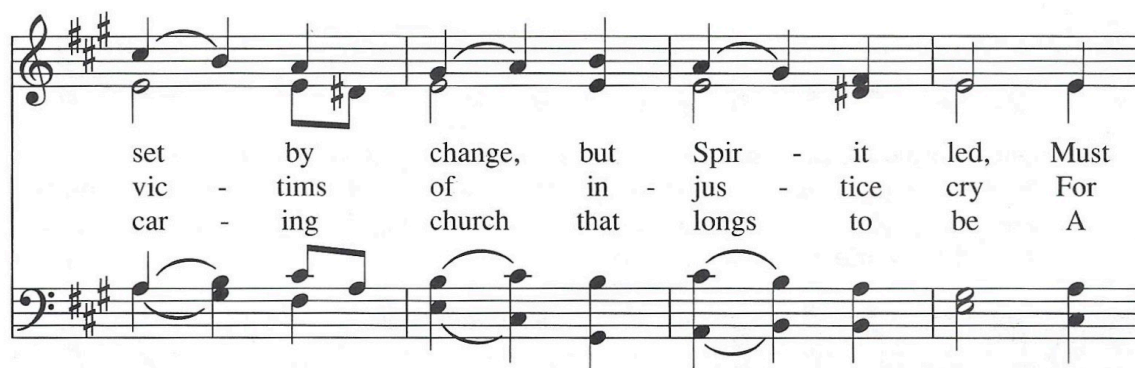
The Church of Christ, in Every Age

306


Fred Pratt Green, 1969



1 The church of Christ, in ev - ery age be -
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a



set by change, but Spir - it led, Must
vic - tims of in - jus - tice cry For
car - ing church that longs to be A



claim and test its her - i - tage and
shel - ter and for bread to eat, and
part - ner in Christ's sac - ri - fice, and



keep on ris - ing from the dead.
nev - er live be - fore they die.
clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.

Poet Fred Pratt Green has been a chaplain, parish minister, administrator, and playwright. Since retiring from parish responsibilities in 1969, he has been an active hymnwriter and makes his home in Norwich, England.

Tune: WAREHAM L.M.
William Knapp, 1738

God of Grace and God of Glory

436

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt.

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 From the e - vils that sur - round us and as - sail the
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that
 5 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your power; crown your an - cient church - 's sto - ry;
 Sav - ior's ways, from the fears that long have bound us—
 your con - trol. Shame our reck - less, self - ish glad - ness,
 they may be ar - mored with all Christ - like grac - es,
 we de - plore; let the search for your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 free our hearts for faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 in the fight to set us free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 make our bro - ken spir - its whole, make our bro - ken spir - its whole.
 in the quest for lib - er - ty, in the quest for lib - er - ty.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Harry Emerson Fosdick, a prophetic preacher and writer, taught at Union Theological Seminary from 1915 to 1946. This hymn was written for the opening service and dedication of Riverside Church, New York City, which he served for twenty years.

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.
 John Hughes, c. 1907