



**Don't Let Them Pull You Down**

**February 19th, 2023**  
**Rev. Jesse Kearns, Pastor**

**First Christian Church Chico**

**(Disciples of Christ)**



**AGREE TO DIFFER • RESOLVE TO LOVE • UNITE TO SERVE**

**Wi-Fi Network: FCCDOC Password: 5303433727**

Ph. 530-343-3727 • [chicodisciples@gmail.com](mailto:chicodisciples@gmail.com) • [fccchico.com](http://fccchico.com)

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**Welcome Visitors!** We are excited that you have chosen to worship with us today; all are welcome and beloved—all races, gender identities, sexual orientations, socio-economic statuses, *everyone*.

## **I. Prelude – (Joshua Hegg)**

## **II. Welcome and Announcements – (Lori Adrian)**

- Today – Fellowship following service in Fireside.
- Monday – Church Office closed in observance of President's Day
- Tuesday – 11:30 a.m. Music jam in Room 4; 2:00 p.m. WICS, Bethany; 7:00 p.m. Elder's Meeting on Zoom.
- Wednesday – Noon Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary
- Thursday – 8:30 a.m. Worship Team Breakfast at Cozy Diner; 4:30 p.m. String Ensemble practice in chapel; 7:00 p.m. Lenten Bible Study in Room 6 and on Zoom.
- Friday – 1:00 p.m. Healing Circle in Bethany
- Saturday – 2:00 p.m. Journeys of the Heart Bereavement Group in Spiritual Care Center.
- Sunday – 9:00 a.m Sacred Grounds; 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary, Zoom and FaceBook Live; Fellowship in K-Hall following the service; Safe Space Winter Shelter ends.

### III. Opening Hymn – CP #39 “Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Lord, the light of your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us  
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father’s glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light

Lord, I come to your awesome presence  
From the shadows into your radiance  
By the blood I may enter your brightness  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness  
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father’s glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow

Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light

As we gaze on your kingly brightness  
So our faces display your likeness  
Ever changing from glory to glory  
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story  
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father’s glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light.

### IV. Call to Worship – (Lori Adrian)

As God called to Moses from the mountain,  
**we are called to be God’s people.**

As Jesus called the disciples to climb with him  
to the peak of another mountain,  
**we are called to follow wherever he leads.**

As the disciples stood in awe at the sound of God's voice,  
**we are called to worship in wonder and praise.**

**V. Children Fourth Grade and Under Dismissed for Sunday School**

**VI. Matthew 17:1-9 NRSV – (Lori Adrian)**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

**VII. Sermon - "Don't Let Them Pull You Down" (Jesse Kearns)**

**VIII. Song of Invitation – CH #531 "Thank You, Lord" (Joshua Hegg)**

Thank you, Lord  
Thank you, Lord  
Thank you, Lord  
I just want to thank you, Lord

Been so good,  
Been so good,  
Been so good, Lord  
I just want to thank you, Lord

Been my friend,  
Been my friend  
Been my friend, Lord  
I just want to thank you, Lord

**IX. Moment for Mission – Message From Week of Compassion**

**X. Prayers of the People (Jesse Kearns)**

## XI. Communion Song CH #424 “I’m Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table” (Joshua Hegg)

I’m gonna eat at the welcome table  
I’m gonna eat at the welcome table, Allelu  
I’m gonna eat at the welcome table  
I’m gonna eat at the welcome table, Allelu

I’m gonna eat and drink with my Jesus  
I’m gonna eat and drink with my Jesus, Allelu  
I’m gonna eat and drink with my Jesus  
I’m gonna eat and drink with my Jesus, Allelu

I’m gonna join with sisters, brothers,  
I’m gonna join with sisters, brothers, Allelu  
I’m gonna join with sisters, brothers,  
I’m gonna join with sisters, brothers, Allelu

## XII. Institution of Communion (Georgeanne Bennett and Nancy Morgans-Ferguson)

## XIII. Partaking Communion Together

## XIV. Blessing/Benediction

## XV. Postlude – (Joshua Hegg)

Upper Room Devotionals are in the Sanctuary  
Narthex on the bookshelves.

**Lenten Devotional:** As Pastor Jesse mentioned in his February Caller article, we can print and mail Lenten Devotionals upon request. Our friends at *A Sanctified Art* have provided a **special e-reader version** of this year’s Lenten devotional. If you are interested in the e-reader version, please contact the church office, 530-343-3727, [chicodisciples@gmail.com](mailto:chicodisciples@gmail.com). **In order to protect their work, please refrain from sharing this link or posting it on social media.**

## Upcoming Events

- Ash Wednesday, February 22nd, Noon Service in Sanctuary
- Wednesdays, March 1st-29th, Ecumenical Lenten Soup Suppers (6 pm) and Services (7 pm), Faith Lutheran, 667 E 1st Ave, Chico; **FCC Chico serving soup on March 8th**
- Palm Sunday, April 2nd
- Maundy Thursday, April 6th, 7 pm service in Fireside
- Easter Sunday, April 9th, Sunrise Service at 7 am, and 10 am service
- Pentecost in the Park, May 21st, Wildwood Park

# RISE UP ANEW: SUNNY DAY CAMP



On a dark night in early December 2021, entirely out of season, tornadoes tore across eight states, killing more than 80 people and devastating many communities. Just eight months later, on a warm Saturday in July, two Disciples churches and several community organizations made sure that dozens of children impacted by those winter storms in western Kentucky spent time outside with friends and caregivers, reveling in a bright and sunny day.

As their churches were recovering from the storms, caring for their members and communities, and even hosting long-term recovery volunteers, pastors at First Christian Church of Madisonville and First Christian Church of Princeton dreamed of a way to connect with the region's youngest survivors—children from kindergarten to fifth grade who were affected by the tornadoes.

How could they care for children who had been through so much, so little of it they could understand? In the season after such fear, how could these children feel loved and have access to the care they needed? How could the church help them blossom and flourish—how could they, in the words of Lamentations, rise up anew?

With the support of Week of Compassion; gifts and volunteers from both congregations; and the expertise of Children's Disaster Services (a Week of Compassion partner), a medical team at Baptist Health Deaconess Madisonville, and Child Life Disaster Services (a local network of specialists with expertise in trauma, positive coping, and resilience), the Sunny Day Camp was born.

Children spent an entire day, at no cost to their families, going about perfectly typical day camp fare at the Western Kentucky 4-H Camp: canoeing, crafts, swimming, meals and snacks. And alongside these gifts of normalcy, trained professionals provided age-appropriate opportunities for processing grief and trauma. Children connected with therapy animals, worked with disaster relief counselors, and had a local physician available for care onsite.

A living witness to God's constant mercies, and committed to healing and wholeness especially among the youngest and most vulnerable, these churches and their local partners put your Week of Compassion gifts to work, transforming suffering into hope, so that churches, communities, and children can rise up anew, together.

Our hope is rooted and nourished by God's steadfast, abundant, enduring, ever-in-supply and in season compassion. Remembering the compassion of God can ease the pain of what seems like a never-ending news cycle of devastation.

*Yet it is because I remember all this that I have hope. YHWH's favor is not exhausted, nor has God's compassion failed. They rise up anew each morning, so great is God's faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:21-23, The Inclusive Bible)*

Singing this promise can give us the strength of heart to **RISE UP ANEW** when our hearts are weary from the work of caring about and for all those in need in this beautiful and broken world.

When rains come and waters rise, generosity follows close behind.

When fires rage and destruction looms, support and help are stirred up too.

When war and disease and drought are too close for too long, compassion comes closer, and God's mercies are made known through the gifts of God's people.

Through domestic disaster response in familiar communities; preparedness training



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for congregations and individuals; refugee response in the aftermath of national conflicts; and ecumenical partnerships that engage international disaster response and support basic human needs for shelter, food, education, and livelihoods Week of Compassion proclaims this truth: God's mercies **RISE UP ANEW** each day.

Because of your generosity, Week of Compassion meets people and communities in the midst of grief and lament, in the deepest moments of 'How could this happen?', as the very real presence of God's unfailing compassion.



## SPECIAL OFFERING 2023 FEBRUARY 19-26

As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world, with a vision of a world where God's people transform suffering into hope.



## Credits

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- “Thank You, Lord” Words: Traditional African-American song. Music: Traditional African-American melody; harm. J. Jefferson Cleveland and Verolga Nix, alt. Harm. © 1981 The United Methodist Publishing House
- “I’m Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table” Words: African-American spiritual, alt. Music: African-American spiritual; arr. Carl Ditson, alt. Arr. © 1980 G. Shirmer, Inc. Public Domain CCLI License #7073273
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February 19th-26th, 2023

CALENDAR

### This Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation Christian Education, Room 6 and on [Zoom](#)
- 10:00 a.m. Indoor Worship in Sanctuary and Worship Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)
- **Fellowship, Fireside**
- 1:00 p.m. Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva, Sanctuary
- Safe Space, Koinonia Hall

### Monday—President’s Day; Church Office Closed

- Safe Space, Koinonia Hall

### Tuesday

- 11:30 a.m. Music Jam, Room 4
- 2:00 p.m. WICS, Bethany
- 7:00 p.m. Elders, [Zoom](#)
- Safe Space, Koinonia Hall

### Wednesday—Ash Wednesday

- Noon-Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary
- Safe Space, Koinonia Hall

### Thursday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Team Breakfast at Cozy Diner
- 4:30 p.m. String Ensemble Rehearsals, Chapel
- 7:00 p.m. Lenten Bible Study, 6/Zoom
- Safe Space, Koinonia Hall

### Friday

- 1:00 p.m. Healing Circle, Bethany
- Safe Space, Koinonia Hall

### Saturday

- 2:00 p.m. Journeys of the Heart Grief Group, Spiritual Care Center
- Safe Space, Koinonia Hall

### Next Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation Christian Education, Room 6 and on [Zoom](#)
- 10:00 a.m. Indoor Worship in Sanctuary and Worship Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)
- Fellowship, **Fireside**
- 1:00 p.m. Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva, Sanctuary
- Safe Space, Koinonia Hall



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- Palm Sunday, April 2nd
- Maundy Thursday, April 6th, 7 pm service in Sanctuary
- Easter Sunday, April 9th, Sunrise Service at 7 am, and 10 am service
- Pentecost in the Park, May 21st, Wildwood Park

## Some FAQs for Visitors

- **What is Communion?** Communion is a part of each Sunday morning where we remember the last meal that Jesus ate with the disciples by eating bread and drinking grape juice.
- **May I receive Communion?** Yes! Everyone is invited to receive -- we have no barrier to participating in communion.
- **What's a "Doxology"?** Some Sundays we will sing a "doxology" (literally "saying of glory") after we receive the offering. It is a prayer written in 1674 and is popular in Protestant Churches -- plus, we love the words.
- **Do we say the Lord's Prayer together?** We do pray the Lord's Prayer together occasionally on Sunday mornings during the prayer time.
- **What else should I know?** We'd love to share more of our loving and inclusive community with you. At FCC, you'll find all generations worshipping together and participating in church activities. We have activities for kids and youth, and we love to share in community together.
- **Visit our website to donate online, subscribe to our mailing lists, and learn more about us!** [www.fccchico.com](http://www.fccchico.com)
- **Masks:** Masks are recommended but not required. Adult and child size masks are available in the Sanctuary as well as hand sanitizer.