






February 25th, 2024—Second Sunday in Lent  
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**

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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 – (Nancy Thompson)

## II. Ringing of the Bell

## III. Welcome and Announcements (Amber McGill)

- Today – Fellowship following service **in Fireside**.
- Please see the back of your bulletins for the calendar.
- Offerings may be put in the offering plate which is near the bulletins near the entrance of the sanctuary.

## IV. Opening Hymn – CH #453 “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service” (Nancy Thompson)

Called as partners in Christ’s service,  
Called to ministries of grace,  
We respond with deep commitment  
Fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing,  
Side by side and friend with friend,  
Equal partners in our caring  
To fulfill God’s chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,  
Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
Let us follow, never faltering,  
Reconciling folk on earth.  
Men and women, richer, poorer,  
All God's people young and old,  
Blending human skills together  
Gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,  
In a small or global sense,  
Help us bear each other's burdens,  
Breaking down each wall or fence.  
Words of comfort, words of vision,  
Words of challenge, said with care,  
Bring new power and strength for action,  
Make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow  
Ways to order human life  
That surround each person's sorrow  
With a calm that conquers strife.  
Make us partners in our living,  
Our compassion to increase,  
Messengers of faith, thus giving  
Hope and confidence and peace.

## V. Call to Worship (Amber McGill)

God welcomes the dreamers and the doubters,  
**the courageous and the fearful,**  
the hungry and the hopeful,  
**the impatient and the reserved.**  
God welcomes the young and the old,  
**the poets and the prophets,**  
the faithful and the tired,  
**the curious and the convicted.**  
Wherever you are on your journey,  
wherever your boat is at sea,  
**there is room for all to gather here.**  
This is God's house.  
**Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.**

## VI. Call to Confession

In our scripture passage for today, Peter is out on a boat with the disciples when a storm hits. Instead of cowering in fear, Peter spots Jesus on the water and bravely crawls out of the boat to move closer to Christ.

Friends, I think the prayer of confession is one way that we do the same; it's one way that we can crawl out of our boats.

And here's what I mean:

In the prayer of confession, we are honest about the storms that rage within and around us. In this prayer, we speak with honesty in an effort to move closer to God.

This is our moment to crawl out of the boat.  
So friends, let's be like Peter.  
Join me in being courageous.  
Join me in truth-telling.  
Join me in prayer.  
It's time to get our feet wet.  
Let us pray together:

## **VII. Prayer of Confession**

**Gracious God,**  
**There are days that threaten to swallow us,**  
**days when the storms of life feel too big.**  
**In those moments, we often cling to the sides of**  
**our ships in fear,**  
**spending more energy hiding from storms than**  
**looking for you.**  
**Forgive us for doubting ourselves.**  
**Forgive us for doubting you.**  
**Rescue us from the storms of today and from the**  
**fears that trap us.**  
**With hope in our hearts we pray,**  
**amen.**

## **VIII. Words of Forgiveness**

Family of faith,  
You could get out of the boat and walk on water like  
Peter,  
or fall to your knees and stay in one place.  
No matter what you do,  
Christ's love for you is unchanging.  
Fearful or brave,  
faithful or doubting,  
Christ is always walking toward you.

So hear and believe this good news:  
God's love is stronger than any storms.  
On our best days,  
and on our worst days,  
we are seen, forgiven, and loved.  
God is always walking toward you.  
Thanks be to God! Amen.

## **IX. Affirmation of Faith**

**I believe in a God who moves toward me when**  
**storms rage.**  
**I believe in a God who invites me to be brave.**  
**I believe in a God whom the wind and waves**  
**obey.**  
**I believe in a God who knows my name.**  
**I believe in a God of love. I am not afraid.**  
**Amen.**

## **X. Children Fourth Grade and Under Dismissed for Sunday School**

### **XI. Scripture Reading Matthew 14:22-33 (Amber McGill)**

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

## **XII. Sermon – "Exposed" (Rev. Jesse Kearns)**

### **XIII. Song Invitation – CH #602 "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" (Nancy Thompson)**

O Master, let me walk with thee  
in lowly paths of service free;  
tell me thy secret; help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move  
by some clear, winning word of love;  
teach me the wayward feet to stay,  
and guide them in the homeward way.

Teach me thy patience; still with thee  
in closer, dearer company,  
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,  
in trust that triumphs over wrong.

In hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broadening way,  
in peace that only thou canst give,  
with thee, O Master, let me live.

### **XI. Moments for Mission**

### **XII. Prayers of the People**

**XIII. Communion Song CH #384 “Here at Thy Table, Lord” (Nancy Thompson)**

Here at thy table, Lord, this sacred hour,  
O let us feel thee near, in loving power;  
calling our thoughts away from self and sin.  
As to thy banquet hall we enter in.

Sit at the feast, dear Lord, break thou the bread;  
fill thou the cup that brings life to the dead;  
that we may find in thee, pardon and peace;  
and from all bondage win a full release.

Come then, O holy Christ, feed us, we pray;  
touch with thy pierced hand each common day;  
making this earthly life full of thy grace,  
till in the home of heaven we find our place.

**XIV. Institution of Communion (Max Erwin, elder)**

**XV. Partaking Communion Together**

**XVI. Blessing/Benediction (Rev. Jesse Kearns)**

**XVII. Postlude – (Nancy Thompson)**



- **Daylight Saving Time Begins** Sunday, March 10th!



**Easter Flowers**

- **Easter Flowers**  
Once again, we will be decorating the Sanctuary with seasonal flowers. Envelopes are in the pew racks. The cost is \$12. The deadline to order flowers is Palm Sunday, March 24th.



## Attendance

February 18th, 2024:

Sanctuary: 35

Online: 14

Total: 49

## Credits

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## February 25th-March 3rd, 2024 CALENDAR

### This Sunday—Week of Compassion Ends; Second Sunday in Lent

- 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation Christian Education, Room 6 and on [Zoom](#)
- 10:00 a.m. 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

- Safe Space, Koinonia Hall

### Tuesday

- 1:00 p.m. String Ensemble, Chapel
- Safe Space, Koinonia Hall

### Wednesday

- 9:00 a.m. PEO, Fireside
- 6:00 p.m. Ecumenical Lenten Soup Supper, Faith Lutheran Church
- Safe Space, Koinonia Hall

### Thursday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Breakfast, Cozy Diner
- 11:30 a.m. Music Practice, Room 4
- 6:30 p.m. Bible Study, Room 6 and [Zoom](#)
- Safe Space, Koinonia Hall

### Friday

- 3:00 p.m. Crafting Companions, Room 6
- Safe Space, Koinonia Hall

### Saturday

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

### Next Sunday—Third Sunday in Lent

- 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation Christian Education, Room 6 and on [Zoom](#)
- 10:00 a.m. 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 (last day), Koinonia Hall

## 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.