






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**

10 a.m. Sunday Worship • Ph. 530-343-3727 • chicodisciples@gmail.com
fccchico.com  [fccchico](https://www.facebook.com/fccchico)  [fccchico](https://www.instagram.com/fccchico)  [ChicoFCC](https://twitter.com/ChicoFCC)  [FCCChico](https://www.youtube.com/FCCChico)

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. Ringing of the Bell

III. Welcome and Announcements – (Georgeanne Bennett)

- Today – Fellowship celebrating March Birthdays 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. Call to Worship – (Georgeanne Bennett)

If you ask the sky who God is,
the sky will tell you of God's reach.

If you ask the day who God is,
the sun will tell you of God's warmth.

If you ask the night who God is,
the moon will tell you of God's comfort.

“The heavens are telling the glory of God”

Are you listening?

We are listening!

We will sing of God's glory.

Let us worship Holy God.

V. Opening Hymn – CP # 7 “Let Us Go to the House of the Lord” (Joshua Hegg)

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

Called from ev’ry nation, called from ev’ry race,
gathered here for worship, in this holy place.
God is here among us; lift your hearts and sing;
make the walls and rafters ring.

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”
I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

Here the poor are welcomed, here the lost are
claimed.
Broken lives are mended; deepest fears are named.
Here the wise are children, and the weak are strong.
Here, in Christ, we all belong.

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”
I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

Words that must be spoken, grace that must be heard,
mercy and forgiveness from God’s holy Word
Here will be repeated, peace to all proclaimed,
shouted out in Jesus’ name.

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”
I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

VI. Call to Confession

In our scripture for today, Jesus asks the disciples,
“Who do you say that I am?”
Peter said, “You are the Messiah.”
Have you ever wondered if his voice faltered when he
answered?
Did he respond loudly and with confidence, or with a
tentative whisper?
We’ll never know. The text doesn’t provide those
details. But we can trust that, no matter how we
speak to God, when we speak, God is listening.
So friends, join me in the prayer of confession.
Whether you whisper these words or speak them
with conviction, may you trust that our gracious
and merciful God is listening with love. Let us pray
together:

VII. Prayer of Confession

Holy God,

Some days, we are quick to declare your goodness.

Like Peter, we see you in our midst and we are
confident in our faith.

Other days, we are distracted and uncertain, desperate
for answers.

Forgive us for losing sight of you.

Some days we are quick to trust your blessings—
**trusting that we are called, that we can make a
difference.**

Other days, our praise falls silent and doubt creeps in.

Forgive us for losing sight of ourselves.

We know that fear and doubt are part of the journey
of faith.

But for the days when we are far from you and far
from ourselves, we ask for your tender grace.

**Pull us closer toward you. Remind us of the
mountaintop moments of our faith. Amen.**

VIII. Words of Forgiveness

Friends,

Whether you speak to God

in a whisper or with clear conviction,

with questions or with answers,

with hope in your heart or with doubt in your
throat—

God will *always* listen with love and mercy.

So rest in this good news:

regardless of how loudly you live your faith—you
belong to God.

You are loved. You are claimed. You are forgiven.

Speak *that* good news with confidence. Amen.

IX. Affirmation of Faith

Jesus asked the disciples, “But what about you? Who
do you say that I am?”

Church, what do you say?

**Jesus is a hand reaching out in the storm,
the voice of truth spoken over us,
and love without walls.**

**Jesus is justice for the weary,
healing for the hurt,
and welcome for the stranger.**

**Jesus is teacher, Messiah, and friend—
with me on the mountain
and beside me in the valley.**

**Jesus is a star in the night,
and the love that knows my name.**

Jesus asked, “Who do you say that I am?”

Like Peter, we say,

**“Jesus, you are the Messiah, son of the Living
God.”**

X. Children Fourth Grade and Under Dismissed for Sunday School

**XI. Scripture Reading Matthew 16:13-20 (NRSV)
(Georgeanne Bennett)**

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

XII. Sermon – “Praise the Mount” (Rev. Jesse Kearns)

XIII. Hymn of Invitation – CH #354 “Seek Ye First” (Joshua Hegg)

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And God’s righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Seek and ye shall find,
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

XIV. Moments for Mission

XV. Prayers of the People

**XVI. Communion Song – CH #330 “Alleluia!
Hear God’s Story” (Joshua Hegg)**

Alleluia! Hear God’s story,
still unfolding with each dawn.
Taste the wine and body broken:
God’s creative love lives on.
Who the neighbor? Who the hungry?
Who is thirsty for shalom?
God of journey, in your story;
lead us, with the neighbor, home.

Alleluia! Sing the story;
God’s great faithfulness proclaim.
Tell of prophets and apostles;
sing the pow’r of Jesus’ name.
Who the neighbor? Who the list’ner?
Who has ears to hear our song?
God of hist’ry, tune our voices,
make our hopeful witness strong.

Alleluia! Dance the story;
every sinew now engage.
Tethered close in truthful worship,
boldly face the coming age.
Who the neighbor? Who the watchful?
Who will welcome life's embrace?
God of gospel, tell the story
through our dancing of your grace.

**XVII. Institution of Communion (Gary Cantwell
and Nancy Morgans-Ferguson, elder)**

XVIII. Partaking Communion Together

XIX. Blessing/Benediction

XX. Postlude (Joshua Hegg)

- **Upper Room Devotionals** for March and April are on the tables near the bulletins in the Sanctuary.
- **Daylight Saving Time Begins** Sunday, March 10th!
- **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 25th, 2024

Attendance not taken

Credits

- “Who Do You Say That I Am?” by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org
- Prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.
- “Let Us Go to the House of the Lord” Words: Lutheran Book of Worship. Music: Jay Beech. Words © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by Permission.
- “Seek Ye First” Words and Music: Karen Lafferty, 1972 © 1972 Maranatha! Music CCLI# 1352
- “Alleluia! Hear God's Story” Words: Mary Anne Parrott, 1986. Music: Polish folk melody; adapt. A.E. Rusbridge. Words © 1995 Chalice Press; adapt. © Rosalind Rushbridge.
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This Sunday—Third Sunday of 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 celebrating March Birthdays, **Fireside**
- 1:00 p.m. Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva, Sanctuary
- Safe Space (last day), Koinonia Hall

Tuesday

- 1:00 p.m. String Ensemble, Chapel
- 7:00 p.m. Church Board Meeting, [Zoom](#)

Wednesday

- 6:00 p.m. Ecumenical Lenten Soup Supper, FCC Chico Serving!, Faith Lutheran Church
- 6:00 p.m. BSA Scouts, Koinonia Hall and Fireside

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](#)

Friday

- 3:00 p.m. Crafting Companions, Room 6

Saturday

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

Next Sunday—Fourth Sunday of Lent; Daylight Saving Time Begins

- 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, Koinonia Hall
- 1:00 p.m. Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva, Sanctuary

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
- **Masks:** Masks are recommended but not required. Adult and child size masks are available in the Sanctuary as well as hand sanitizer.