



November 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

10 a.m. Sunday Worship • Ph. 530-343-3727 • chicodisciples@gmail.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. Ringing of the Bell

III. Welcome and Announcements – (Lori Adrian)

- Today – Fellowship following service. 12:30 p.m. SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) meeting, Room 6.
- Monday – 2:30 p.m. String Ensemble, Chapel
- Tuesday – 11:30 a.m. Music Jam practice, Room 4; 2 pm WICS, Bethany; 7:00 p.m. Elders meeting, Zoom
- Wednesday – 6:00 p.m. Scouts BSA, Koinonia Hall, Fireside
- Thursday – Thanksgiving! Church Office Closed. No Bible Study.
- Friday – Church Office Closed. No Healing Circle this week—rescheduled for December 1st
- Sunday – 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds Room 6 and Zoom; 10:00 a.m. Worship in sanctuary, Zoom, and FaceBook Live; Fellowship in K-Hall following the service. 3:00 p.m. Decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas!
- Offerings may be put in the offering plate which is near the bulletins near the entrance of the sanctuary

IV. Opening Hymn –CP #39 “Shine, Jesus, Shine” (Joshua Hegg)

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
Mirror’d 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.

V. Call to Worship – (Lori Adrian)

The time for harvest is close at hand. What have you
done with the gifts God has given you?

**We have brought our gifts to the house of the
Lord.**

Praise God for the gifts and for opportunities for
service that they represent.

**We praise God for all the ways in which our lives
have been blessed.**

Generous God, accept our gifts and our lives this day.
Loving God, accept our praise and gratitude.

AMEN.

VI. Children Fourth Grade and Under Dismissed for Sunday School

VII. Psalm 123 Laughing Bird Version (Lori Adrian)

It is to you that we look for help, LORD;
to you who rules from the throne of heaven!

When people are injured,
they look to the doctors for help;
when they lie in hospital,
they look to the nurses for compassion;
and in the same way
we look to you, the LORD our God:
we depend on your kindness and care.

Treat us with compassion, LORD, treat us with
compassion.
We've endured more than our fair share of contempt.

We have had an absolute gutful
of being put down by the arrogant
and treated like dirt by those who've got it easy.

VIII. Matthew 25:14-30 (NRSV)

“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was

afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

IX. Sermon – “Heavenly Economics” (Rev. Jesse Kearns)

**X. Hymn of Invitation and Reflection – CH# 606
“God, Whose Giving Knows No
Ending” (Joshua Hegg)**

God, whose giving knows no ending
From your rich and endless store
Nature’s wonder, Jesus’ wisdom,
Costly cross, grave’s shattered door:
Gifted by you, we turn to you,
Offering up ourselves in praise;
Thankful song shall rise forever
Gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing
Toward the goals of Christ Your Son
All at peace in health and freedom
Races joined the church made one
Now direct our daily labor
Lest we strive for self alone
Born with talents make us servants
Fit to answer at Your throne

Treasure too You have entrusted
Gain through powers Your grace conferred
Ours to use for home and kindred
And to spread the gospel word
Open wide our hands in sharing
As we heed Christ's ageless call
Healing, teaching and reclaiming
Serving You by loving all

XI. Moments for Mission

XII. Prayers of the People

**XIII. Communion Song – CH #395 “Seed
Scattered and Sown” (Joshua Hegg)**

Seed, scattered and sown, wheat gathered and grown
Bread broken and shared as one, the Living Bread of
God.

Vine, fruit of the land, wine work of our hands
One cup that is shared by all; the Living Cup, the
Living Bread of God.

Is not the bread we break
A sharing in our Lord?
Is not the cup we bless
The Blood of Christ outpoured?

Seed, scattered and sown, wheat gathered and grown
Bread broken and shared as one, the Living Bread of
God.

Vine, fruit of the land, wine work of our hands
One cup that is shared by all; the Living Cup, the
Living Bread of God.

The seed which falls on rock,
will wither and will die.
The seed within good ground
will flower and have life.

Seed, scattered and sown, wheat gathered and grown
Bread broken and shared as one, the Living Bread of
God.

Vine, fruit of the land, wine work of our hands
One cup that is shared by all; the Living Cup, the
Living Bread of God

As wheat upon the hills
Was gathered and was grown
So may the church of God
Be gathered into one

Seed, scattered and sown, wheat gathered and grown
Bread broken and shared as one, the Living Bread of
God.

Vine, fruit of the land, wine work of our hands
One cup that is shared by all; the Living Cup, the
Living Bread of God

XIV. Institution of Communion (Max Erwin and Nancy Morgans-Ferguson, elders)

XV. Partaking Communion Together

XVI. Blessing/Benediction

XVII. Postlude (Joshua Hegg)

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- Thanksgiving Special Offering. **The Thanksgiving Offering benefits the Colleges, Universities, Seminaries, and Divinity Houses affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).** This Special Offering will be taken on Sunday, November 12th and 19th, and offering envelopes will be in the Sunday bulletins. You can also donate online either at fccchico.com or <https://disciplesmissionfund.org/give/>
- **Advent Devotionals! Limited paper copies are now in the Sanctuary!** We will be using Sanctified Art's Advent Devotional "How Does A Weary World Rejoice?" that will have art, poetry, and reflections for Advent in Luke's Gospel. The devotional is 30 pages so we are trying to print only as many as we need. **If you would like one and there aren't any left, please let the church office know (chicodisciples@gmail.com or 530-343-3727) and we'll print one just for you!**

Our friends at A Sanctified Art have provided a special e-reader version of this year's Advent devotional, which you can access on your computer and mobile devices—email the church office and we'll send you the link!

- **November 26th:** We will be decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas at **3 p.m.**
- **December 3rd:** First Day in Advent; Hanging of the Greens! The Elders will host Fellowship and there will be a candy cane hunt and gift bags for children!

Annual Congregational Meeting and Stewardship Sunday: November 12th, 2023

Our Annual Business Meeting was on Sunday, November 12th.

The congregation voted to accept the slate of leaders that Board Chair Max Erwin presented. (See results below). 26 Ballots were cast and the slate of 2024 Church Leaders was elected unanimously. 9 Ballots were cast electronically, and 17 in person.

- **Moderator**-Maxwell Erwin
- **Vice-Moderator**-Gary Cantwell
- **Secretary**-Carolyn Driscoll
- **Treasurer**-Nancy Thompson
- **Congregational Life Ministry Leader**-Peggy Davidson
- **Outreach Ministry Leader**-Georgia Nelson

- **Administrative Ministry Leader** –To be appointed by Church Board
- **Member At Large**-Bill Peterson
- **Financial Secretary**-Georgeanne Bennett
- **Assistant Financial Secretary**-Carolyn Driscoll
- **Personnel Committee**- (3-year term, ending 12/31/26)-Kathy Moran and another to be appointed by Church Board
- **Endowment Trustees** (3-year term, ending 12/31/26)-Nancy Thompson, Marie Grandeen
- **Elders** (2-year term, ending 12/31/25)-Barbara Poetker, Gary Cantwell, Dave Hoppe, Nancy Morgans-Ferguson, Joe Rogers

Attendance

Attendance for November 12th, 2023:

In person: 30 Online: 14 Total: 44

Credits

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- “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending” Words: Robert L. Edwards, 1961. Music: Wyeth’s Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813. Words © 1961, renewed 1989, The Hymn Society; used by permission of Hope Publishing Co. CCLI# 5356074
- “Seed, Scattered and Sown” Words: Dan Feiten, 1987. Music: Dan Feiten, 1987; arr. Eric Gunnison and R.J. Miller, alt. © 1987 Ekklesia Music, Inc. CCLI# 1187639
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This Sunday

- 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
- 12:30 p.m. SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) meeting, Room 6.
- 1:00 p.m. Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva, Sanctuary

Monday

- 2:30 p.m. String Ensemble, Chapel

Tuesday

- 11:30 a.m. Music Jam, Room 4
- 2:00 p.m. WICS, Bethany
- 7:00 p.m. Elders meeting, Zoom

Wednesday

- 6:00 p.m. Scouts BSA, Koinonia Hall, Fireside

Thursday—Thanksgiving! Church Office Closed

- NO Bible Study

Friday—Church Office Closed

- NO Healing Circle this week

Next Sunday

- 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
- **3:00 p.m. Decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas!**

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.