



## Things I've Learned About Life and Death

November 5th, 2023 All Saints Sunday  
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](mailto: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 “By the Waters of Babylon” (Joshua Hegg)

### II. Welcome and Announcements (Mary Kearns)

- Monday – 2:30 p.m. String Ensemble, Chapel
- Tuesday – 11:30 a.m. Music Jam, Room 4; 7:00 p.m. Church Board meeting, Zoom.
- Wednesday – 6:00 p.m. Scouts BSA in K-Hall and Fireside.
- Thursday – 8:30 a.m. Worship Team breakfast at Cozy Diner; 6:30 p.m. Bible Study in Room 6 and on Zoom.
- Sunday – Stewardship Sunday, Annual Congregational Business meeting, and Ministry Fair. 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds; 10:00 a.m. Worship in Koinonia Hall, Zoom and FaceBook Live; Fellowship in K-Hall following the service.
- Offerings may be put in the offering plate which is near the bulletins near the entrance of the sanctuary

### III. Opening Hymn – CP # 108 “As the Deer” (Joshua Hegg)

As the deer pants for the water,  
So my soul longs after you.  
You alone are my heart’s desire,  
And I long to worship you.

You alone are my strength and shield;  
To you alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire,  
And I long to worship you.

You're my friend and you are my brother  
Even though you are a king.  
I love you more than any other,  
So much more than anything.

You alone are my strength and shield;  
To you alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire,  
And I long to worship you.

I want you more than gold or silver;  
Only you can satisfy.  
You alone are the real-joy-giver  
And the apple of my eye.

You alone are my strength and shield;  
To you alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire,  
And I long to worship you.

#### **IV. Call to Worship**

Today is All Saints Sunday

**We remember them.**

Our loved ones and friends have died.

**We remember them.**

Come gather and share the love you have and the love  
that remains.

**We remember them.**

We can mourn them together and hold space with  
everyone's sorrow and joy and relief. Death did not  
end the relationship. It was transformed from one  
of presence to one of memory.

**We remember them.**

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

#### **VI. Scripture - Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8 King James Version (Mary Kearns)**

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every  
purpose under the heaven:

A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant,  
and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break  
down, and a time to build up;

A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn,  
and a time to dance;

A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather  
stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to  
refrain from embracing;  
A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a  
time to cast away;  
A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep  
silence, and a time to speak;  
A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and  
a time of peace.

**VII. New Testament Scripture - John 11:35 NRVS  
(Georgeanne Bennett)**

Jesus began to weep.

**VIII. Sermon - “Things I’ve Learned About Life  
and Death” (Mary Kearns)**

**IX. Hymn of Invitation and Reflection – CH  
#643 “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” (Joshua  
Hegg)**

I looked over Jordan, and what did I see,  
Coming for to carry me home?  
A band of angels coming after me,  
Coming for to carry me home.

Swing low, sweet chariot,  
Coming for to carry me home;  
Swing low, sweet chariot,  
Coming for to carry me home.

If you get there before I do,  
Coming for to carry me home;  
tell all my friends I’m coming too,  
Coming for to carry me home.

Swing low, sweet chariot,  
Coming for to carry me home;  
Swing low, sweet chariot,  
Coming for to carry me home.

I’m sometimes up, I’m sometimes down,  
Coming for to carry me home;  
But still my soul feels heavenly bound,  
Coming for to carry me home.

Swing low, sweet chariot,  
Coming for to carry me home;  
Swing low, sweet chariot,  
Coming for to carry me home.

**X. A Ritual of Remembrance (Georgeanne  
Bennett)**

## **XI. Communion Song CH #636 “Abide With Me” (Joshua Hegg)**

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens, God, with me abide;  
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day  
Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;  
Change and decay in all around I see;  
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour;  
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows  
flee;  
In life, in death, O God, abide with me.

## **XII. Institution of Communion (Mary Kearns and Georgeanne Bennett)**

## **XIII. Partaking Communion Together**

## **XIV. Blessing/Benediction**

## **XVI. Postlude (Joshua Hegg)**

**November 12th is our Annual Congregational Meeting and Stewardship Sunday—Worship and Ministry Fair will be in Koinonia Hall!** We will be voting on next year's church leaders during the Sunday morning service on November 12th. This is the same day pledge cards are due. Stewardship letters with pledge cards have been mailed out, and electronic copies of the letter and the pledge card are on our website here: <https://www.fccchico.com/stewardship.html>. Pledge cards and envelopes are also in the pew racks in the Sanctuary. Please return the pledge card by mail, in the offering plate on Sunday mornings, or by dropping it through the church mail slot at any time before November 12th, 2023. Thank you!

## **Nominating Committee Recommendations for the 2024 Church Year**

The Nominating Committee (Peggy Davidson, Chair; Maxwell Erwin; Nancy Thompson; Connie Wakefield; and Rich Campbell) have provided the following slate of nominees for church leadership next year.

This slate was presented to and approved by the Church Board at the October Board Meeting, and this list can now be distributed prior to the annual meeting in accordance with the Bylaws.

Note that there is a missing nominee at Administrative Minister and one on Personnel. The Nominating Committee worked very hard to fill every position, but was unable to find a volunteer in those two positions. The Board will need to appoint leaders to those positions in the future, which is allowed in the bylaws.

### **Proposed Slate of Church Leaders**

- **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** -NONE

- **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
- **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 October 29th, 2023:

Sanctuary: 33    Online: 15    Total: 48

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November 5th-12th, 2023

CALENDAR

### This Sunday—All Saints 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, Koinonia Hall
- 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
- 7:00 p.m. Church Board Meeting, Zoom

### Wednesday

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

### Thursday

- 6:30 p.m. Living the Questions Bible Study, Room 6 and Zoom

### Next Sunday—Annual Congregational Business Meeting; Stewardship Sunday; Ministry Fair

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