



October 29th, 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

II. Welcome and Announcements

- Monday – 2:30 p.m. String Ensemble, Chapel
- Wednesday – 7:00 p.m. Scouts BSA in K-Hall and Fireside.
- Thursday – 8:30 a.m. Worship Team breakfast at Cozy Diner; 4:30 p.m. String Ensemble practice in the Chapel, 7:00 p.m. Bible Study in Room 6 and on Zoom.
- Saturday – 9 a.m. Annual Holiday Bazaar, K-Hall
- Sunday – All Saints Sunday. 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds; 10:00 a.m. Worship in sanctuary, 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 – CH# 614 “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

I’m gonna live so God can use me
Any time and anywhere
I’m gonna live so God can use me
Any time and anywhere

I'm gonna work so God can use me
Any time and anywhere
I'm gonna work so God can use me
Any time and anywhere

I'm gonna pray so God can use me
Any time and anywhere
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
Any time and anywhere

I'm gonna sing so God can use me
Any time and anywhere
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
Any time and anywhere.

IV. Call to Worship – (Kevin Zeitler)

Good morning!
Good morning to you!
Today is a day that God created!
We shall rejoice and be glad in it.
Thanks be to God!
AMEN.

V. Children Fourth Grade and Under Dismissed for Sunday School

VI. Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 Laughing Bird Version (Connie Wakefield)

Lord, in every generation
you have been house and home to us.

You are God, and have been from time before time;
even before you brought the mountains to birth;
even before you created the planet or anything on it.

You tell us when our time is up,
and return us to the earth from which we came.

From where you look,
a thousand years is like the blink of an eye,
and the ancient past like yesterday.

Our lives pass as if you had erased them completely;
they are gone like a dream.
Like cut flowers they are fresh and new one day,
and faded memories the next.

It's time for a change, LORD.
Hasn't this gone on long enough?
For pity's sake, it's time to give us a break.

Let a new day dawn
and give us our fill of your love and loyalty,
so that our lives may be full of smiles and laughter
till the end of our days.

Give us more days of happiness
than the days of suffering you sent.
May the years where evil reigned
be canceled out by years of joy.

Make your actions clear to those of us in your service;
let your children see your strength in all its glory.

Put us in your good books, O Lord our God,
and give us a rich return for all our labour —
may the work of our hands turn to gold!

VII. Daniel 3:16-30 NRSV – (Kevin Zeitler)

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king,
“O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to present a
defense to you in this matter. If our God whom we
serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing
fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us.
But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will
not serve your gods and we will not worship the
golden statue that you have set up.”

Then Nebuchadnezzar was so filled with rage against
Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face was
distorted. He ordered the furnace heated up seven
times more than was customary, and ordered some of
the strongest guards in his army to bind Shadrach,
Meshach, and Abednego and to throw them into the
furnace of blazing fire. So the men were bound, still

wearing their tunics, their trousers, their hats, and
their other garments, and they were thrown into the
furnace of blazing fire. Because the king’s command
was urgent and the furnace was so overheated, the
raging flames killed the men who lifted Shadrach,
Meshach, and Abednego. But the three men,
Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down, bound,
into the furnace of blazing fire. Then King
Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up quickly.
He said to his counselors, “Was it not three men that
we threw bound into the fire?” They answered the
king, “True, O king.” He replied, “But I see four men
unbound, walking in the middle of the fire, and they
are not hurt; and the fourth has the appearance of a
god.” Nebuchadnezzar then approached the door of
the furnace of blazing fire and said, “Shadrach,
Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High
God, come out! Come here!” So Shadrach, Meshach,
and Abednego came out from the fire. And the
satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king’s
counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had
not had any power over the bodies of those men; the
hair of their heads was not singed, their tunics were
not harmed, and not even the smell of fire came from
them.

Nebuchadnezzar said, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants who trusted in him. They disobeyed the king’s command and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God. Therefore I make a decree: Any people, nation, or language that utters blasphemy against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb, and their houses laid in ruins; for there is no other god who is able to deliver in this way.” Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the province of Babylon.

VIII. Sermon - “Shiny Idols” (Jesse Kearns)

IX. Hymn of Invitation and Reflection – CH #615 “I Shall Not Be Moved”

I shall not be, I shall not be moved.
I shall not be, I shall not be moved;
Like a tree planted by the water, I shall not be moved.

When my cross is heavy, I shall not be moved,
When my cross is heavy, I shall not be moved;
Like a tree planted by the water, I shall not be moved.

I shall not be, I shall not be moved.
I shall not be, I shall not be moved;
Like a tree planted by the water, I shall not be moved.

When my burden’s heavy, I shall not be moved,
When my burden’s heavy, I shall not be moved;
Like a tree planted by the water, I shall not be moved.

I shall not be, I shall not be moved.
I shall not be, I shall not be moved;
Like a tree planted by the water, I shall not be moved.

If my friends forsake me, I shall not be moved,
If my friends forsake me, I shall not be moved;
Like a tree planted by the water, I shall not be moved.

I shall not be, I shall not be moved.
I shall not be, I shall not be moved;
Like a tree planted by the water, I shall not be moved.

X. Moment for Mission

XI. Prayers of the People

XII. Communion Song CH #585 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge,
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
You will find a solace there

XIII. Institution of Communion (Nancy Morgans-Ferguson, and Georgia Nelson, elders)

XIV. Partaking Communion Together

XV. Blessing/Benediction

XVI. Postlude

- **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

From the FCC Bylaws, Article VII Section C:

Additional nominees for any office may be made from the congregation in this manner: With the approval of the nominee, a petition signed by at least ten (10) active members shall be in the hands of the nominating committee at least ten (10) days prior to the date set for the annual election. If such additional nominations are made, the committee shall announce to the congregation the revised slate, including all nominees for each vacancy.

- **Annual Holiday Bazaar is Saturday, November 4th, 2023, 9 am to 1 pm.** Sign up for booths in the entrance of Koinonia Hall.
- **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!
- **All Saints Sunday. On November 5th,** we will be remembering and honoring our beloved “saints” who have gone before us. 2023 has been a hard year for our church, and many of us have lost loved ones in the past few years. We are setting aside this day to honor them with music, poetry and Scripture. We will light candles and tell stories. We will explore what it means to lament and why lamenting is an act of love. If you wish, you may bring “linking objects” to church with you. There will be tables set up to receive them. These might be photos and/or any small objects that remind you of your loved ones.

- **Upper Room Devotionals** are available in the Sanctuary narthex on top of the bookshelves.

Attendance

Attendance for October 22nd, 2023:

Sanctuary: 38 Online: 15 Total: 53

Credits

- “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” Words: African-American spiritual. Music: African-American spiritual; arr. Bill Thomas 1994. Arr. © 1995 Chalice Press
- “I Shall Not Be Moved” Words and music: African-American spiritual.
- “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” Words: Joseph Scriven, 1855. Public Domain. Music: Charles C. Converse, 1868. Public Domain. CCLI Song #27714
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Oct. 29th-Nov. 5th, 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, 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

Wednesday

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

Thursday

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

Saturday

- 9:00 a.m. Annual Holiday Bazaar! Koinonia Hall, Fireside

Next Sunday—All Saints Sunday; Daylight Saving Time Ends

- 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

**Admin. Assist. Briony will be on vacation
Tue. Oct 24-Tue. Oct 31st**

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.

Annual Holiday Bazaar

First Christian Church

November 4th, 2023

9 am to 1 pm



Proceeds Support Community Outreach

Cash * Checks * Credit Cards Accepted
295 E. Washington Ave Chico * fccchico.com