



First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

April 5th, 2026—Easter Sunday

Pastor Rev. Jesse Kearns

10 a.m. Sunday Worship • (530) 343-3727 • chicodisciples@gmail.com
fccchico.com • Wi-Fi Network: FCCDOC • Password: 5303433727

AGREE TO DIFFER • RESOLVE TO LOVE • UNITE TO SERVE

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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 – (Dave Hoppe)

- Today – Fellowship in Koinonia Hall following our worship service
- Monday – Church Office Closed
- Tuesday – 10:45 a.m. Music Practice in Room 4; 7 p.m. Church Board hybrid meeting in the Chapel and on Zoom
- Wednesday – 11:30 a.m. Chico Area Interfaith Council meeting in Fireside
- Thursday – 8:30 a.m. Worship Team Breakfast at Cozy Diner; 6:30 p.m. Bible Study in our FCC Room 6, and Zoom
- Saturday—3 p.m. Emily (Nelson) & Melanie’s wedding celebration in Koinonia Hall
- Next Sunday – Capital Campaign Kick Off Sunday
- Please see the back of your bulletins for the calendar
- Offerings may be put on the offering plate near the bulletins near the sanctuary’s entrance

IV. Greeting One Another

V. Opening Hymn – CH #216 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” (Nancy Thompson)

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia
All creation join to say, Alleluia
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia
Sing O heavens and earth reply, Alleluia

Lives again our glorious king, Alleluia
Where, O death, is now your sting, Alleluia
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia

Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia
Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia

VI. Call to Worship – (Dave Hoppe)

On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.

On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.

On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.

But today, we know the good news is alive and well.

The good news is dancing!

The good news is on the loose!

The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting.

Let us worship our good-news Christ.

VII. Call to Confession

Friends, on Easter Sunday we remember that the world did its worst to God.

The world battered and bruised,
betrayed and abandoned,
crucified and buried the one who embodied the living God.

And despite it all, Jesus *still* chose to return.

Jesus rose again and immediately went to work
spreading God's love to the very people who
had hurt
him. So hear me when I say, there is *nothing* you can
do that could keep God's love at bay.
With that good news mind, let us go to God in
prayer, trusting that Jesus Christ loves, claims,
and seeks us.
Friends, let us pray:

VIII. Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God,
we want to be Easter people.
We want to shout your good news from the
rooftop.
We want to follow the disciples, who ran to look
for you.
We want to follow the angels, who said, "Be not
afraid,"
but we are afraid.
And we don't know where to look.
And we are worried we'll say the wrong thing.
So forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people.
We are best intentions and best laid plans.
We are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias."
We are on our way, but we are not there yet.**

**Show us how to embody your good news in this
world.**

**Show us how to be your Easter people.
With hope for tomorrow, we pray, amen.**

IX. Words of Forgiveness

Family of faith,
even when we are an out-of-tune chorus of
"alleluias," we belong to God.
Jesus died and rose for you. And there is nothing that
could keep God's love at bay.
So join me in this good news declaration:
**Through Jesus Christ we are seen, saved, loved,
and claimed.
This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to
God.
Amen.**

X. Children are Dismissed for Sunday School

XI. Scripture Reading Matthew 28:1-10 (NRSVUE) (Dave Hoppe)

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was
dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went
to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great
earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from

heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

XII. Sermon -- "Good News is Alive in the World" (Rev. Jesse Kearns)

XIII. Song of Invitation – CH #227 "In the Garden" (Nancy Thompson)

I come to the garden alone
While the dew is still on the roses
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear
The Son of God discloses

And he walks with me
And he talks with me
And he tells me I am his own
And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known

He speaks and the sound of his voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing
And the melody that he gave to me
Within my heart is ringing

And he walks with me
And he talks with me
And he tells me I am his own
And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known

I'd stay in the garden with him
Though the night around me be falling
But he bids me go; through the voice of woe
His voice to me is calling.

And he walks with me
And he talks with me
And he tells me I am his own
And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known

**XIV. Moments for Mission: Easter Special
Offering Video**

XV. Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and
The glory forever, Amen.

**XVI. Response CH # 306 "Hear Our Prayer, O
Lord" (Nancy Thompson)**

Hear our prayer, O Lord,
Hear our prayer, O Lord,
Incline Thine ear to us,
And grant us thy peace.
Amen.

**XVII. Communion Song --CH #233 "Alleluia!
Sing to Jesus" (Nancy Thompson)**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus, risen now to reign in love.
Alleluia! Praise the Savior; with the multitudes above.
There the songs of saints and martyrs thunder like a
mighty flood,
"Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by his
blood."

Alleluia! not as orphans we are left in sorrow now.
Alleluia! Christ is near us, faith believes, nor questions
how.
Though the cloud from sight received him when the
forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget the promise, "I am with you
evermore" ?

Alleluia! Bread of Heaven, be on earth our food and
stay.
Alleluia! here the sinful flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, plead
for me,
Where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the
crystal sea.

XVIII. Institution of Communion (Kevin Zeitler, elder)

XIX. Partaking Communion Together

XX. Blessing/Benediction (Rev. Jesse Kearns)

XXI. Postlude (Nancy Thompson)



The Sanctuary flowers were given today to glorify the Lord and in loving tribute to family and friends.

Given by	Celebrating or in memory of...
Barbara Mann	<i>In memory of Doug Mann & in celebration of Easter Flowers</i>
Lauren & Rich	<i>In memory of Terrie Thomas, friend and tender gardener</i>
Lori Terrell-Adrian	<i>In celebration of my family</i>
Ed & Wanda Kremers	<i>In honor of our parents, siblings, and our health</i>
Bennett-Johnson	<i>In memory of our mothers</i>
Nancy Thompson	
Marie Grandeen	<i>In celebration of Spring Renewal</i>
Peggy Davidson	<i>In celebration of my family</i>
Karen Read	<i>In honor of Geneva & Clay Wallen, and Velma & Cecil Read</i>



THIS DAY: WHEN LOVE ANSWERS

"Mary Magdalene went, telling the news to the disciples: "I saw the Master!" And she told them everything he said to her." (John 20:18)

Supporting general ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).
Received in most congregations.

**Sunday, March 29
& April 5, 2026**

or two alternative Sundays in your congregation

THIS DAY: WHEN LOVE ANSWERS



"Mary Magdalene went, telling the news to the disciples: "I saw the Master!" And she told them everything he said to her."

(John 20:18)

This day, was unlike any other day. **This day**, on the first day of the week, the grief, expectations, and questions of Mary Magdalene and Simon Peter were disrupted by resurrection.

This day, the followers of Jesus discovered that Jesus was risen. At the tomb they found a teacher and a teaching that changed the world.

This day, love provided limitless answers and a new world became possible.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Peter and the other Disciple ran to the tomb looking for Jesus, and love answered. Mary Magdalene went looking for Jesus in the midst of her sorrow, uncertainty, and longing, and love answered.

First, in ways they could not comprehend, and then by giving them an encounter and an answer to share. Through the Easter Offering, the church responds to God's love made known in the resurrection by sharing in God's answers to the needs of the world.

Love answers congregations and communities in the midst of transition through our gifts:

- On days and seasons when Congregations and Regions raise up new leaders, our gifts provide education, mentors, and support.
- On days and seasons when health and social service ministries are needed most, our gifts provide housing, medical, and mental health resources.
- On days and seasons when conflict is present internationally and climate challenges compound our concerns, our gifts enable global mission partners to respond with care.

Love provides more than one answer and an encounter with the risen Christ through our gifts:

- To support chaplains serving hospitals, schools, and in the military
- To equip ministers and elders, and to multiply new worshipping communities gathering in diverse languages and styles
- To sustain the church and our witness in the world through stewardship education

Your gift supports ministries that embody resurrection hope and God's limitless love **on this day and every day** throughout the year.

The Easter Offering supports these general ministries of The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ):

Center for Faith and Giving, Obra Hispana, Communication Ministries, Christian Unity and Interfaith Ministry, Disciples of Christ Historical Society, Disciples Home Missions, Disciples Women, Disciples Overseas Ministries (Global Ministries), Higher Education and Leadership Ministries, National Benevolent Association, National Convocation, New Church Ministry, North American Pacific/Asian Disciples, Office of the General Minister and President, and Treasury Services.

Please give generously to the Easter Offering on Sunday, **March 29** and **April 5** or two alternative Sundays in your congregation using the giving envelopes or online at disciplesmissionfund.org/give.

- **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 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 subscribe to our mailing lists, see a map of our facility, donate online, and learn more about us!** www.fccchico.com or scan the QR codes:



Scan Me to Visit our Website



Scan Me to

Donate

- **Deadlines:** Sunday Bulletin-Wednesdays, 10 am; Callerito weekly email-Thursday 10 am; Caller, monthly newsletter-15th at noon.

Attendance: March 29th, 2026

Online: 11 Sanctuary: 56 Total: 67

Credits

- Bulletin Graphic: “Meet Me in Galilee” by Hannah Garrity and Prayers by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org
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Calendar for April 5th-12th, 2026

Sunday—Easter Sunday

- 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service, Chico First Baptist
- 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation Christian Education, Room 6 & on [Zoom](#)
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary & Worship Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) & [Facebook](#)
- Fellowship, Koinonia Hall
- 1:00 p.m. Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva, Sanctuary

Monday—Church Office Closed

Tuesday

- 10:45 a.m. Music Practice, Room 4
- 7:00 p.m. Church Board hybrid meeting, Chapel and Zoom

Wednesday

- 10:00 a.m. Uplift Boutique (Free Family Resource)
- 11:30 a.m. Chico Area Interfaith Council, Fireside
- 6:00 p.m. BSA Troop 2, Fireside, Koinonia Hall

Thursday

- 8:30 am Worship Team Breakfast, Cozy Diner;
- 6:00 p.m. BSA Pack 2, Fireside, Koinonia Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Bible Study, Room 6 and Zoom

Saturday

- 10:00 a.m. Uplift Boutique (Free Family Resource)
- 3:00 p.m. Emily (Nelson) & Melanie's Wedding celebration, Koinonia Hall

Sunday—Capital Campaign Kick Off Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation Christian Education, Room 6 & on [Zoom](#)
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary & Worship Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) & [Facebook](#)
- Fellowship, Koinonia Hall
- 1:00 p.m. Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva, Sanctuary