



**First Christian Church**  
**(Disciples of Christ)**

December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025—2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Pastor Rev. Jesse Kearns

10 a.m. Sunday Worship • (530) 343-3727 • [chicodisciples@gmail.com](mailto:chicodisciples@gmail.com)

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**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 – “Show Up” (Music Video)**

**II. Ringing of the Bell**

**III. Welcome and Announcements (Lori Terrell-Adrian)**

- Today – Fellowship in Koinonia Hall following worship; Pick up your Advent Devotional on the tables near the bulletins
- Tuesday – 9:30 a.m. Koinonia Krafters in Fireside; 10:45 a.m. Music Practice in Room 4
- Wednesday – 10 a.m. Uplift Boutique in Room 10; 11:30 a.m. Chico Area Interfaith Council Potluck in Fireside
- Thursday – 8:30 a.m. Worship Team Breakfast at the Cozy Diner
- Saturday—10 a.m. Uplift Boutique in Room 10; Evening Ann Nelson Koinonia Hall and Fireside use
- 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. Call to Worship (Lori Terrell-Adrian)**

Family of faith, God is at work!  
**God is healing and creating,**  
redeeming and dreaming,

calling and sending,  
listening and loving.

**For sure, God is at work!**

So may we worship our God who never gives up.

**May we worship our God who holds onto hope.**

**Amen.**

## **V. Greeting One Another**

## **VI. Candle Lighting Liturgy**

In a world full of fear, where do you see glimmers of  
peace?

**We see glimmers of peace in the quiet of early  
morning, when people shake hands,  
when loved ones say they're sorry, and when the  
church sings together.**

You are right. Even in a fearful world, peace is all around  
us.

Today we light the candle of peace as a reminder of this  
good news.

May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a  
fearful world, peace is present.

We only have to look for it.

*[Light candle.]*

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## **VII. Opening Hymn – CH #138 “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn” (Joshua Hegg)**

Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn,  
for angels herald its dawning,  
sing out your joy, for soon he is born,  
behold! the Child of our longing.  
Come as a baby weak and poor,  
to bring all hearts together,  
he opens wide the heav'nly door,  
and lives now inside us forever.

In deepest night his coming shall be,  
when all the world is despairing,  
as morning light so quiet and free,  
so warm and gentle and caring.  
Then shall the silent join in song,  
The tired shall leap in wonder,  
the weak be raised above the strong,  
and weapons be broken asunder.

Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night,  
though dark the winter and cheerless,  
the rising sun shall crown you with light,  
be strong and loving and fearless;  
Love be our song and love our prayer,  
and love, our endless story,  
may God fill ev'ry day we share,  
and bring us at last into glory.

## VIII. Call to Confession

Near the end of his ministry, John the Baptist reached out to Jesus with a heart full of anxiety. John was in jail. He knew he might not get out, so he asked Jesus, “Did I make a mistake? Am I making a difference here? Or did I get it all wrong?” Like John, let us be fully honest with Jesus about our innermost thoughts. We can pour our heart out to God because God always meets us with grace, tenderness, and mercy. So friends, let us go to God in prayer. Let us be honest, just like John the Baptist. Let us pray.

## IX. Prayer of Confession

**On-the-move God,  
we have every reason to hold onto hope.  
We have every reason to believe that spring will  
come,  
that flowers will bloom, that the sun will rise.  
And yet, too often hope slips through our fingers.  
With anxious hearts we cry out to you,  
“Will change ever come? Will things ever get better?  
Will I ever make a difference?”  
Soothe our wandering hearts and show us the places  
where the sun is shining.  
Show us the places where you are on the move.  
With open hearts we pray,  
amen.**

## X. Children in Fifth Grade and Under are Dismissed for Sunday School

## XI. Isaiah 43:19-21 (NRSVUE) (Lori Terrell-Adrian)

I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert.  
The wild animals will honor me,  
the jackals and the ostriches,  
for I give water in the wilderness,  
rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people,  
the people whom I formed for myself  
so that they might declare my praise.

## XII. Matthew 11:1-11 (NRSVUE) (Lori Terrell-Adrian)

Now when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and proclaim his message in their cities.  
When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What, then, did you

go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

### **XIII. Sermon – “God Is At Work” (Rev. Jesse Kearns)**

### **XIV. Song of Invitation – CH #125 “Come, O Long Expected Jesus” (Joshua Hegg)**

Come, O long expected Jesus,  
Born to set your people free.  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Christ, in whom our rest shall be.  
You, our strength and consolation,  
Come salvation to impart;  
Dear desire of many a nation,  
Joy of many a longing heart.

Born your people to deliver,  
Born a child, and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Born your gracious realm to bring.

By your own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By your all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to your glorious throne.

### **XV. Moments for Mission**

### **XVI. Prayers of the People**

### **XV. Communion Song-- CP #160 “This Is the Place” (Joshua Hegg)**

This is the place to celebrate!  
Leave all your worries behind.  
Let us join hands, forget the past.  
Come share the bread and the wine.

We come here with full hearts,  
Joy and sadness, anger and love.  
Let us remember the wonderful grace  
Given to all from above.

This is the place to celebrate!  
Leave all your worries behind.  
Let us join hands, forget the past.  
Come share the bread and the wine.

This world is a challenging place.  
Hate and hurt feelings we’ll put aside.  
We must hold onto the promise of hope.  
Let our God be our guide.

This is the place to celebrate!  
Leave all your worries behind.  
Let us join hands, forget the past.  
Come share the bread and the wine.

## XVI. Institution of Communion (Georgia Nelson, elder)

## XVII. Partaking Communion Together

## XVIII. Blessing/Benediction (Rev. Jesse Kearns)

## XIX. Postlude (Joshua Hegg)

- **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](http://www.fccchico.com) or scan the QR codes:



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

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### Attendance for November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Online: 12      Sanctuary: 53      **Total: 65**

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- Graphic “Hope Like a Dancer” by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)
- Liturgy adapted from a prayer by Sarah Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)
- Prelude Music Video “Show Up” Lyrics and music by Britt Kusserow | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)
- “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn” Words and Music: Marty Haugen, 1983. © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc.
- “Come, O Long Expected Jesus” Words: Charles Wesley, 1744. Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1830; harm. The English Hymnal, 1906. Music and Words: Public Domain
- “This Is the Place” Words and Music: Andra Moran. © 2003 AMMO music (ASCAP)
- Hymns Used By Permission. For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com). CCLI Copyright License # 37151

## Calendar for December 7<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### This Sunday—2nd Sunday of Advent

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

### Tuesday

- 9:30 a.m. Koinonia Krafters, Fireside
- 10:45 a.m. Music Practice

### Wednesday

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

### Thursday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Team Breakfast at Cozy Diner
- 5:30 p.m. BSA Pack 2, Koinonia Hall & Fireside

### Saturday

- 10:00 a.m. Uplift Boutique (Free Family Resource)
- Evening Ann Nelson Koinonia Hall and Fireside use

### Next Sunday—3rd Sunday of Advent

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

**Advent Devotionals are near the bulletins!**