



April 16th, 2023

Rev. Jesse Kearns, Pastor

First Christian Church Chico

(Disciples of Christ)



**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 – (Joshua Hegg)

## II. Welcome and Announcements – (Maxwell Erwin)

- Today – Fellowship following service.
- Monday – 4:00 p.m. String Ensemble practice in Chapel.
- Tuesday – 2:00 p.m. WICS in Bethany Room, 7:00 p.m. Elder’s Meeting on Zoom.
- Wednesday – 6:00 p.m. Scouts in K-Hall and Fireside
- Thursday – 8:30 a.m. Worship Team Breakfast at Cozy Diner. 11:30 a.m. Music Jam, 4
- Friday – 4:00 p.m. Graham Kearns and Samantha Marvel’s wedding rehearsal in Sanctuary.
- Saturday – 3:00 p.m. Graham Kearns and Samantha Marvel’s wedding.
- 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 collection plate which is near the bulletins near the entrance of the sanctuary

### **III. Opening Hymn – CH #216 “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”**

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 thy 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 was led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted head, Alleluia!  
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

### **IV. Call to Worship – (Maxwell Erwin)**

It is a good and joyful thing to give thanks to you,  
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.  
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the  
breath of life.

When our love failed, your love remained steadfast.  
When captive to fear and oppression,  
You made covenant to be our sovereign God,  
brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey,  
and set before us the way of life.

By your great mercy we have been born anew  
to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son  
from the dead  
and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled,  
and unfading.

Now, as your people,  
we boldly declare your wonderful deeds in Christ,  
who called us to freedom, life, and wholeness.  
By your Spirit keep us in Christ,  
unite us to one another and to all the world,  
sustain the sick and comfort the dying,  
strengthen all who minister in your name,  
lift us from doubt and despair,  
and lead us at last to your heavenly banquet.  
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit  
in your holy Church, all  
honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and  
forever.

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

## VI. Psalm 16, Laughing Bird Version (Maxwell Erwin)

Protect me, God,  
.....you are my place of refuge.

I'm acknowledging you as the one in charge, LORD;  
.....you are the best thing that's ever happened to me.

I delight in the company of those  
.....who dedicate themselves to you;  
.....they are the salt of the earth.

Those who worship other things  
.....will have nothing but grief.  
I will not buy into their futile devotions;  
.....I will not utter the names they revere.

You are all I want, LORD, and all I need;  
.....you hold my future in your hands.

You mark out the best of everything for me;  
.....you've set me up with a bright future.

I heap accolades on you, LORD,  
.....for you always give me wise advice;  
even in the dead of night  
.....you fill my heart with your teachings.

I'll always stick close behind you, LORD;  
.....with you near by,  
.....I'll never be pushed off track.

You fill me with delight, LORD;  
.....joy erupts from deep in my bones;  
.....my body relaxes, safe in your care.

You'll never let the grave drag me down;  
.....your faithful servants are never left for dead.

You set my feet on a life-giving track, LORD.  
.....To be in your presence is absolute bliss.  
.....All I could dream of comes from your hand.

The sound of singing rings out  
.....from the homes of all who are honest and true.  
They sing of what you have done, LORD,  
.....for you raised your hand and saved the day.

Now we know that our lives are safe;  
.....we will live to tell of what you have done.  
You gave us the tough medicine we deserved, LORD,  
.....but you didn't let death get its claws into us.

The minute they open the city gates  
.....— the gates of justice —  
we'll be the first through, LORD;  
.....eager to tell you how thankful we are.

These gates belong to you, LORD,  
.....those you have put right can come on through.

Thank you for answering our prayers, LORD;  
.....for coming to our rescue and putting us right.

From a rejected stone found in a rubbish pile  
.....you cut and polished a priceless jewel.  
This is obviously your work, LORD,  
.....and we can hardly believe our eyes!

Today is your day, LORD, a day to honour you;  
.....we will celebrate with joy and laughter.

## **VII. John 20:19-31 NRSV – (Maxwell Erwin)**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when

Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

## **VIII. Sermon – “Peace Be With You” (Jesse Kearns)**

## **IX. Song of Invitation – CH #619 “My Life Flows On” (Joshua Hegg)**

My life flows on in endless song;  
above earth’s lamentation,  
I hear the clear, though far off hymn  
that hails a new creation.

No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I’m clinging.  
Since love is Lord of heav’n and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife,  
I hear the music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul.  
How can I keep from singing?

No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I’m clinging.  
Since love is Lord of heav’n and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die?  
I know my Savior liveth.  
What though the darkness gather round?  
Songs in the night he giveth.

No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I’m clinging.  
Since love is Lord of heav’n and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,  
a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his!  
How can I keep from singing?

No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I’m clinging.  
Since love is Lord of heav’n and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?

## **X. Moments for Mission**

### **XI. Prayers of the People (Mary Kearns)**

### **XII. Communion Song CH #561 “It Is Well With My Soul” (Joshua Hegg)**

When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul),  
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should  
come,  
let this blest assurance control:  
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
and has shed his own blood for my soul.

It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul),  
it is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!  
My sin, not in part but the whole,  
is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more,  
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul),  
it is well, it is well with my soul.

May God haste the day when my faith shall be sight,  
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;  
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,  
even so, it is well with my soul.

It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul),  
it is well, it is well with my soul.

### **XIII. Institution of Communion (Peggy Davidson and Nancy Morgans-Ferguson)**

### **XIV. Partaking Communion Together**

### **XV. Blessing/Benediction**

### **XVI. Postlude – (Joshua Hegg)**

**May/June Upper Room Devotionals are available  
on the bookshelves in the Sanctuary narthex  
(entrance).**

#### **Credits**

- Bulletin graphic: Photo by [Alice Donovan Rouse](#) on [Unsplash](#)
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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. 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**

- 4:30 p.m. String Ensemble Rehearsals, Chapel

**Tuesday**

- 2:00 p.m. WICS, Bethany
- 7:00 p.m. Elders, Zoom

**Wednesday**

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

**Thursday**

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Team Breakfast at Cozy Diner
- 11:30 a.m. Music Jam, Room 4

**Friday—Church Office closed, Admin. Assistant Briony has Fridays in April as vacation days**

- 4:00 p.m. Graham Kearns and Samantha Marvel’s wedding rehearsal, Sanctuary

**Saturday**

- 3:00 p.m. Graham Kearns and Samantha Marvel’s wedding, Sanctuary, Reception to follow in Koinonia Hall

**Next Sunday—Joyful Hosannas**

- 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

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.