



Dying for the Herd



**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH CHICO
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

April 25th, 2021

Rev. Jesse Kearns, Pastor

AGREE TO DIFFER • RESOLVE TO LOVE • UNITE TO SERVE

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Credits at end of bulletin*

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. Welcome and Announcements - (Pastor Jesse)

- Zoom Check-In on Tuesday at 1:00
- Healing Circle Thursday at 2:00 in the Courtyard
- Sacred Grounds, 9:00 next Sunday
- Worship, 10:00 in the sanctuary, Zoom and FaceBook Live

III. Opening Hymn – CH #562 “Because He Lives” (Nancy Thompson)

God sent his son, they called him Jesus
He came to love, heal and forgive
He lived and died to buy my pardon
An empty grave is there to prove my savior lives
Because he lives
I can face tomorrow
Because he lives
All fear is gone
Because I know he holds the future
And life is worth the living
Just because he lives

How sweet to hold a newborn baby
And feel the pride and joy he gives
But greater still the calm assurance
This child can face uncertain day because he lives
Because he lives

I can face tomorrow
Because he lives
All fear is gone
Because I know he holds the future
And life is worth the living
Just because he lives

And then one day I'll cross the river
I'll fight life's final war with pain
And then, as death gives way to vict'ry
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he reigns
Because he lives
I can face tomorrow
Because he lives
All fear is gone
Because I know he holds the future
And life is worth the living
Just because he lives

IV. Call to Worship – (Mary Kearns)

The God of all shepherds has called us here.
We come today, celebrating God's love for us.
The Good Shepherd has given his life for us.
**We come today, thanking Jesus for his witness
and his teaching.**
The Shepherding Spirit moves through us, bringing us
new hope.
**We come today ready to celebrate and to praise
God. AMEN.**

V. 1 John 3:16-24 (Pastor Jesse)

For this is the message you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. We must not be like Cain who was from the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. Do not be astonished, brothers and sisters, that the world hates you. We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death. All who hate a brother or sister are murderers, and you know that murderers do not have eternal life abiding in them. We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

VI. John 10:11-18 NRSV – (Mary Kearns)

Jesus said, 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches

them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

VII. Sermon - "Dying for the Herd" (Pastor Jesse)

VIII. Song of Reflection – CH #558 "Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us" (Nancy Thompson)

Savior, like a shepherd lead us
Much we need Thy tender care
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us
For our use Thy folds prepare
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are
We are Thine, who Thou befriend us

Be the guardian of our way
Keep Thy flock from sin defend us
Seek us when we go astray
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus
Hear Thy children when we pray
Blessed Jesus, oh blessed Jesus
Hear Thy children when we pray

Early let us seek Thy favor
Early let us do Thy will
Blessed Lord and only Savior
With Thy love our bosoms fill
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus
Thou hast loved us, love us still
Blessed Jesus, oh blessed Jesus
Thou hast loved us, love us still
Blessed Jesus, oh blessed Jesus
Thou hast loved us, love us still

IX. Moment for Mission – (Surprise!)

X. Prayers of the People – (Mary Kearns)

XI. Communion Song CH #403 "In Remembrance of Me" (Nancy Thompson)

In remembrance of me eat this bread
In remembrance of me drink this wine
In remembrance of me pray for the time
When God's own will is done

CALENDAR

April 25th-May 2nd, 2021

In remembrance of me heal the sick
In remembrance of me feed the poor
In remembrance of me open the door
And let your brother in, let him in

Take eat and be comforted
Drink and remember too
That this is my body and precious blood
Shed for you, shed for you

In remembrance of me search for truth
In remembrance of me always love
In remembrance of me don't look above
But in your heart, in your heart
Look in your heart for God

Do this in remembrance of me
Do this in remembrance of me
In remembrance of me

XII. Institution of Communion (Elders Barbara Meade and Bill Peterson)

XIII. Postlude - (Nancy Thompson)

XIV. Blessing/Benediction (Pastor Jesse)

This Sunday

9:00 a.m.-Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation
Christian Education, on [Zoom](#)
10:00 a.m.-Socially distanced Indoor Worship in
Sanctuary (masks required) and Worship
Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)

Monday—Admin. Assistant Briony on vacation

Tuesday—Admin. Assistant Briony working from home
1:00 p.m.-Weekly Check-in on [Zoom](#)

Thursday—Admin. Assistant Briony working from home
2:00 p.m.-Healing Circle, Prayer Garden, masks
and 6-ft social distancing

Friday—Admin. Assistant Briony on vacation

Next Sunday

9:00 a.m.-Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation
Christian Education, on [Zoom](#)
10:00 a.m.-Socially distanced Indoor Worship in
Sanctuary (masks required) and Worship
Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)

Looking Ahead

- **May 6th, 7 pm**, via FCC Zoom room, Chico Area Interfaith Council (CAIC) Annual Event
- **May 23rd—Pentecost Picnic In the Park!** Yes! We will be celebrating Pentecost at Wildwood park at **10:00 a.m.** This will be a picnic where everyone can socially distance and **bring their own food.** More information will come as we get closer to the date, announced on Sunday mornings and in the weekly Callerito email.
- **June 3rd Bible Study starts up again, 7 pm.** This Bible Study will be continuing Israel's monarchy with the Book of 2 Samuel. This will be over zoom and *maybe* in person. More information forthcoming! Sign up with Pastor Jesse or Briony in the church office.

Church Office Administrative Assistant Briony works remotely from home on Fridays.

Credits



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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

Changes to In Person Worship

- We are continuing to have live-streaming options via Zoom, and FaceBook Live. **Jesse will only be able to interact with Zoom and FaceBook live people during Prayers of the People.**
- We are meeting in the Sanctuary with every other pew roped off. **As of April 1st, 2021, we are now in the orange tier!** This means we are at 50% of capacity or around 100 people. Services will be socially distanced, masks are required.
- We will take temperatures upon entry and names and contact information will be collected to aid in any contact tracing.
- Communion will be single-serve, pre-packaged sealed cups of juice with wafers sealed on top. Think Lunchables. The wafers are NOT gluten free. You may bring your own communion if you prefer.
- There will be no corporate singing
- **There will be no hymnals or paper bulletins available.** Songs will be on the monitors and the bulletin will be emailed out on Fridays and again on Sunday mornings. **We encourage you to either print your own copy to use during the service, or download it before coming.** There will be no public wifi available as we need ALL the bandwidth to livestream.
- Offering plates will not be passed. You may place your offerings in the plate as directed at the beginning or end of the service.
- Please do NOT attend the in person services if you are unwell, or think you may have been exposed to COVID-19.
- After every service, the sanctuary will be disinfected.
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