



## I. Prelude – (Nancy Thompson)

## II. Welcome and Announcements - (Pastor Jesse)

- Zoom Check-In on Tuesday at 1:00
- Music Jam Thursday at 11:00
- Healing Circle Friday at 1:00 in Room 6
- Sacred Grounds, 9:00 next Sunday
- Worship, 10:00 in the sanctuary, Zoom and FaceBook Live

## IV. Opening Hymn – CH #334 “Sing My Song Backwards” (Nancy Thompson)

Sing my song backwards, from end to beginning,  
Friday to Monday, from dying to birth.  
Nothing is altered, but hope changes everything:  
sing “Resurrection!” and “Peace upon Earth!”

Whisper a hope through the fear of Gethsemane,  
horror and emptiness darker than night;  
visit the wounds, and the failure of Calvary;  
sing “Resurrection!” and bathe them in light.

Gather the bones and the sinews of memory--  
healings and parables, laughter and strife,  
joy with the outcasts and love for the enemy--  
breathe “Resurrection!” and dance them to life.



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH CHICO  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

Rev. Jesse Kearns, Pastor

August 22nd, 2021

**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*.

Stretch out a rainbow from cross to nativity.

Deck out a stable with shepherds and kings,  
angels and miracles, glory and poetry--  
Sing my song backwards, till all the world sings!

## V. Call to Worship – (Mary Kearns)

Whom do you seek here in this place?

**We seek God, the Creator, who brought us to life.**

Who has told you of God?

**Jesus Christ, God's Son, has shown us the love of  
God through his life.**

Discipleship is difficult. Are you ready?

**We want to be ready. Lord, strengthen and  
sustain us this day. AMEN.**

## VI. Children's Moment

### VII. 1 Kings 8:1, 6, 10-11, 22-30, 41-43 NRSV – (Mary Kearns)

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion. Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. And when the

priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the Lord, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, "O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David. "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your

servant prays toward this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive.

Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays toward this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.

### **VIII. Sermon - “Whose House Is It Anyway?” (Pastor Jesse)**

### **IX. Song of Invitation – CH #381 “Take My Gifts” (Nancy Thompson)**

Take my gifts and let me love you,  
God who first of all loved me,  
gave me light and food and shelter,  
gave me life and set me free.

Now because your love has touched me,  
I have love to give away,  
now the bread of love is rising,  
loaves of love to multiply!

Take the fruit that I have gathered  
from the tree your Spirit sowed,  
harvest of your own compassion,  
juice that makes the wine of God,  
spiced with humor, laced with laughter--  
flavor of the Jesus life,  
tang of risk and new adventure,  
taste and zest beyond belief.

Take whatever I can offer--  
gifts that I have yet to find,  
skills that I am slow to sharpen,  
talents of the hand and mind,  
things made beautiful for others  
in the place where I must be:  
take my gifts and let me love you,  
God who first of all loved me.

### **X. Moment for Mission – (Surprise)**

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

**XII. Communion Song CH #408 “Come, Share the Lord” (Nancy Thompson)**

We gather here  
In Jesus’ name  
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame  
For thru his loving son  
The father makes us one  
Come take the bread  
Come drink the wine  
Come share the lord

No one is stranger here  
Ev’ry one belong  
Finding our forgiveness here  
We in turn forgive all wrongs

He joins us here  
He breaks the bread  
The lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead  
The one we love the most, is now our gracious host  
Come take the bread  
Come drink the wine  
Come share the lord

We are now a family  
Of which the lord is head  
Though unseen he meets us here  
In the breaking of the breads

We’ll gather soon  
Where angels sing  
We’ll see the glory of our lord and coming king  
Now we anticipate  
The feast for which we wait  
Come take the bread  
Come drink the wine  
Come share the Lord

**XIII. Institution of Communion (Elders Georgia Nelson and Margaret Maxwell)**

**XIV. Partaking Communion Together**

**XV. Blessing/Benediction (Pastor Jesse)**

**XVI. Postlude - (Nancy Thomson)**

**August 22nd-29th**

# CALENDAR

## **This Sunday**

9:00 a.m.-Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation Christian Education, Chapel and on [Zoom](#)

10:00 a.m.-Indoor Worship in Sanctuary (please bring masks) and Worship Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)

## **Monday**

6:30 p.m.-Journeys of the Heart Bereavement, Spiritual Care Center

## **Tuesday—Torres Shelter Meals**

1:00 p.m.-Check-in on [Zoom](#)

## **Wednesday**

9:00 a.m.-PEO meeting, Fireside

## **Thursday**

11:00 a.m.-Music Jam practice, all fully vaccinated musicians welcome! Room 4

## **Friday**

1:00 p.m.-Healing Circle, Room 6 (please wear a mask)

## **Next Sunday—5th Sunday**

9:00 a.m.-Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation Christian Education, Chapel and on [Zoom](#)

10:00 a.m.-Indoor Worship in Sanctuary (please bring masks) and Worship Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)

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

## Looking Ahead

### Looking Ahead

- Thursday, September 2nd—Bible Study begins

## Credits



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- “Sing My Song Backwards” Words: Brian Wren, 1974, rev. 1994. Music: Ann Loomes, 1974. Words © 1983 Hope Publishing Co.; music © 1983 Ann Loomes
- “Take My Gifts” Words: Shirley Erena Murray, 1988. Music: Colin Gibson, 1988. © 1992 Hope Publishing Co. CCLI # 1031022
- “Come, Share the Lord” Words and Music: Bryan Jeffery Leech, 1984. © 1984 Fred Bock Music Company. CCLI# 106408

## 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)



### Stewardship Sunday is November 21st, 2021

Stewardship letters with pledge cards are being 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 plates on Sunday mornings, or by dropping it through the church mail slot at any time before November 21st, 2021. Thank you!