



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH CHICO
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

Rev. Jesse Kearns, Pastor

December 26th, 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*.

I. Prelude – (Nancy Thompson)

II. Welcome and Announcements - (Mary Kearns)

- December 27 – 31 Office Closed
- Wednesday, December 29 – 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts in Koinonia Hall.
- Friday, December 31, 9:00 - Midnight —North Valley Intergroup New Year's Eve Celebration, Fireside and Koinonia Hall
- Sunday, January 2 – 9:00 a.m. Sacred Grounds in chapel and on Zoom, 10:00 a.m. Worship Service in sanctuary, Zoom and FaceBook Live

III. Opening Hymn – CH #150 “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing” (Nancy Thompson)

Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth, and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful, all ye nations, rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With th' angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark, the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Christ by highest heaven adored
Christ the everlasting Lord

Late in time behold him come
Offspring of the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell
Jesus our Emmanuel
Hark, the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of peace
Hail! the Son of Righteousness
Light and life to all he brings
Risen with healing in his wings
Mild he lays his glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the some of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

IV. Call to Worship – (Mary Kearns)

Like Joseph and Mary, we want to protect the child
Jesus.

We want him to be safe and sound.

And when something unexpected happens, we are
frightened.

We wonder what we should have done differently.

Lord, in this day, help us to remember that God is ever
with us.

**Let us place our trust in God's loving presence as
we grow in our own faith. AMEN.**

V. Children's Moment – (Jesse Kearns)

VI. Luke 2:41-52 NRSV – (Mary Kearns)

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and

came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

VII. Sermon - "Left Behind (Again)" (Jesse Kearns)

VIII. Song of Invitation – CH #167 "Go Tell It on the Mountain" (Nancy Thompson)

Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a Holy light

Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

The shepherds feared and trembled
When, lo! Above the Earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth

Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

Down in a lowly manger
Our humble Christ was born
And brought us all salvation
That blessed Christmas morn

Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

IX. Moment for Mission – (Christmas Project Final Report)

X. Prayers of the People – (Mary Kearns)

**XI. Communion Song CH #163 “Infant Holy,
Infant Lowly” (Nancy Thompson)**

Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging angels singing,
bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all!
Christ the babe is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you!
Christ the babe was born for you!

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

XIII. Partaking Communion Together

XIV. Blessing/Benediction (Jesse Kearns)

XV. Postlude - (Nancy Thomson)

Church office closed December 24th-January 2nd
Christmas Flowers



**Christmas Card List for cards that arrived after last
week’s bulletin printing:**

Thank you to those who sent Christmas Cards

- ✂ Barbara Mann
- ✂ Gracie O’Niel
- ✂ Darrel & Mary Louise Hunter
- ✂ CCHNC (Christian Church Homes)
- ✂ Gene & Diane Engelbrite



January Callers are available in back of Sanctuary and online here: <https://www.fccchico.com/the-caller-newsletter.html>

January/February Upper Room Devotionals are in the front of the Sanctuary on the bookshelves.

Bylaws—We will be voting to approve the amendment of the Bylaws on January 2nd. [Here](#) is the link to vote. Please vote only once, either in person during the 10 am service in the Sanctuary on January 2nd, OR online via the [online survey](#).

- [Here is a PDF of the Bylaws showing the changes as highlighted in a simple format.](#)
- [Here is a PDF of the Bylaws showing all the amendments proposed, including all punctuation changes.](#)

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CALENDAR

Dec. 26th-Jan 2nd, 2022

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](#)
No Fellowship until after January 15th

Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts (Jay Nelson), Koinonia Hall and Fireside

Thursday

11:00 a.m. Music Jam for all fully vaccinated musicians, Room 4

Friday

12:00 p.m. —North Valley Intergroup New Years Eve Celebration, Fireside and Koinonia Hall

Next 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](#)
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Church Office Closed December 24th-December 31st

California Mask Mandate December 15th-January 15th: Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, must wear a mask in public indoor gatherings.

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

