



We Are Not Alone



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH CHICO
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

December 27th, 2020

Pastor Jesse Kearns

AGREE TO DIFFER * RESOLVE TO LOVE * UNITE TO SERVE
PH 530-343-3727 * chicodisciples@gmail.com * fccchico.com

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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 (Pastor Jesse)

- Zoom Check-In on Tuesday at 1:00
- Submissions for “Guess Who’s Library” (no winner yet!)
- WICS Tuesday at 2:00
- Sacred Grounds, 9:00 next Sunday
- Worship, 10:00 next Sunday

III. Opening Hymn – CH #148 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem

Come and behold Him

Born the King of Angels

O come, let us adore Him

O come, let us adore Him

O come, let us adore Him

Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of Light

Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb
Very God
Begotten, not created
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
All glory in the highest
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
Christ the Lord!

IV. Call to Worship – (Joe Rogers)

From the stillness of the blessed night of
Jesus' birth
We come before You, O God, in praise and
thanksgiving.
From the astounding news sung to the
shepherds

We thank You for the gift of Your Son.
Let our hearts keep the joy and peace of
Christmas always.
Let our spirits rejoice in God's presence with
us.
Fill us with Your love, O God.
Pour your peace upon us that we may be
bearers of Your Good News. AMEN!

V. Laughing Bird Psalm (Joe Rogers)

We sing your praises, LORD!
From every corner of the universe,
.....from high and low, near and far,
.....we join the chorus of praise!

With the angels and all who serve you in
heaven,
.....we sing your praises!
With the sun and moon, stars and planets,
.....we sing your praises!
With far flung galaxies and the milky way,
.....we sing your praises!

All of them speak of you in glowing terms,
LORD,
.....for they owe their very existence to you.
You ordered their creation
.....and fixed them in place for all time.

We sing your praises, LORD!
Every creature on earth joins the choir,
.....singing your praises for all they're
worth:
.....dolphins and whales
.....and the ocean itself;
.....bushfire and hail storm,
.....snow and ice,
.....cyclones dancing to your
tune;
.....mountain ranges and rolling hills,
.....orchards and rainforests,
.....animals from both bush and farm,
.....reptiles and birds;
.....people of every race and class,
.....people of power and influence;
.....men and women, old and young,
.....every voice on earth joins as

one!

One and all, we sing your praises, LORD,
.....yours is the only name on our lips!
.....You alone outshine the glory of the
universe!

You have given strength to your people,
.....and honor to your faithful ones,
to those you have chosen
.....and hold close to your heart.

You, LORD, are the greatest!

VII. Luke 2:22-40 NRSV – (Mary Kearns)

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the

law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This

child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.” There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

VIII. Sermon - “We Are Not Alone” (Pastor Jesse)

IX. Song of Reflection CH #147 "Away in a Manger"

Away in a manger
No crib for His bed
The little Lord Jesus
Lay down His sweet head
The stars in the sky
Look down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus
Asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing
The poor Baby wakes
But little Lord Jesus
No crying He makes
I love Thee, Lord Jesus
Look down from the sky
And stay by my side
'Til morning is nigh

Be near me, Lord Jesus
I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever

And love me, I pray
Bless all the dear children
In Thy tender care
And take us to Heaven
To live with Thee there

X. Moment for Mission – (Message from Terrie Hord Owens)

XI. Prayers of the People – (Mary Kearns)

XII. Communion Song CP #162 "What Child is This?"

What child is this
Who's laid to rest
On Mary's lap is Sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherd's watch are keeping
This this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste! haste!
To bring him, Lord!
The babe, the son of Mary

Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through
The cross be borne for me, for you
Hail, hail the Word made flesh
The Babe, the Son of Mary

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh
Come peasant, king to own Him
The King of kings salvation brings
Let loving heart enthrone Him
Raise, raise a song on high
The virgin sings her lullaby
Joy, joy for Christ is born
The Babe, the Son of Mary

**XII. Institution of Communion (Elders
Barbara Poetker and Margaret Maxwell)**

XIII. Blessing/Benediction

XIV. Postlude - (Joshua Hegg)

XV. Fellowship Time in breakout rooms.



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

Calendar

December 27th, 2020-January 3rd, 2021

This Sunday

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

Tuesday

No weekly Check-in this week

Thursday – New Year's Day

No Bible Study this week

Next Sunday

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

*Church Office Closed
December 24th-January 1st*