

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH CHICO  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

Rev. Jesse Kearns, Pastor

December 5th, 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 – (Joshua Hegg)

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

Zoom Check-In on Tuesday at 1:00

Board meeting on Tuesday at 7:00 – New Board

Members are welcome too!

6:00 Boy Scouts in K-Hall

Music practice at 11:00 on Thursday.

Sacred Grounds, 9:00 next Sunday.

Worship, 10:00 in the sanctuary, Zoom and  
FaceBook Live.

Fellowship “Kay’s Coffee Bar” following worship.

## IV. Opening Hymn – CH #136 “Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming” (Joshua Hegg)

Christians all, your lord is coming

Drawing near in holy birth

Ring the bells and sound the trumpets

Let your music fill the earth

Dance and move to show God’s glory

Kneel and pause to hear God’s word

Alleluia! Alleluia! Rise and let your songs be heard.

Christians all, your Lord is coming

Calling you to serve in deed

See the ones who hurt and suffer

Hear their cry and act with speed

Set all selfish ways behind you  
Purge your hearts of sinful greed  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Rise and let your songs be heard

Christians all, your Lord is coming  
He will rise up from the dead  
Lift the cup of sin forgiven  
Bless the host and eat his bread  
Mend the ways where peace is broken  
Give yourselves to true Shalom  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Dwell as one in church and home.

Christians all, your Lord is coming  
Hope for peace is now at hand  
Let there be no hesitation  
Walk in faith where life demands  
Bear the word that God has given  
Share the birth that stirs your soul  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ will come and make you whole.

#### **V. Call to Worship – (Mary Kearns)**

*From the “Canticle of Zechariah” found in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 1 starting with verse 68.*

Blessed be the Lord,  
The God of Israel;  
**He has come to His people and set them free.**

He has raised up for us a mighty Savior,  
**Born of the house of His servant David.**

Through His holy prophets He promised of old  
That He would save us from our enemies,  
From the hands of all who hate us.

**He promised to show mercy to our fathers  
And to remember His holy Covenant.**

This was the oath He swore to our father Abraham:  
To set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
Free to worship Him without fear,  
Holy and righteous in His sight  
All the days of our life.

**You, My child shall be called  
The prophet of the Most High,  
For you will go before the Lord to prepare His way,  
To give his people knowledge of salvation  
By the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our Lord  
The dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
to shine on those who dwell in darkness  
And the shadow of death,  
And to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**Glory to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning.  
is now, and will be forever.**

#### **VI. Children's Moment (Pastor Jesse)**

#### **VII. Malachi 3:1-4 NRSV (Mary Kearns)**

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

#### **VIII. Sermon - "Who Will Endure?" (Pastor Jesse)**

#### **IX. Song of Invitation – CH #148 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (Joshua Hegg)**

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!

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!

Child, for us sinners, poor and in the manger  
We would embrace thee, with love and awe.  
Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?  
O come, let us adore him  
O come, let us adore him  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord we greet thee, born for our salvation  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing  
O come, let us adore him  
O come, let us adore him  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

**X. Moment for Mission – (Farmer’s Market and Christmas Family Project Report)**

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

**XII. Communion Song CP #172 “Gather Your People” (Joshua Hegg)**

Gather your people, O Lord.  
Gather your people, O Lord.  
One bread, one body, one spirit of love.  
Gather your people, O Lord.

Draw us forth to the table of life:  
brothers and sisters,  
each of us called to walk in your light.

Gather your people, O Lord.  
Gather your people, O Lord.  
One bread, one body, one spirit of love.  
Gather your people, O Lord.

We are parts of the body of Christ,  
needing each other,  
each of the gifts the Spirit provides.

Gather your people, O Lord.  
Gather your people, O Lord.  
One bread, one body, one spirit of love.  
Gather your people, O Lord.

No more harm on the mountain of God;  
swords into plowshares.  
Free us, O Lord, from hardness of heart.

Gather your people, O Lord.  
Gather your people, O Lord.  
One bread, one body, one spirit of love.  
Gather your people, O Lord.

Wash us, Lord, in the waters of life;  
waters of mercy,  
waters of hope that flow from your side.

Gather your people, O Lord.  
Gather your people, O Lord.  
One bread, one body, one spirit of love.  
Gather your people, O Lord.

**XIII. Institution of Communion (Margaret Maxwell and Georgeanne Bennett)**

**XIV. Partaking Communion Together**

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

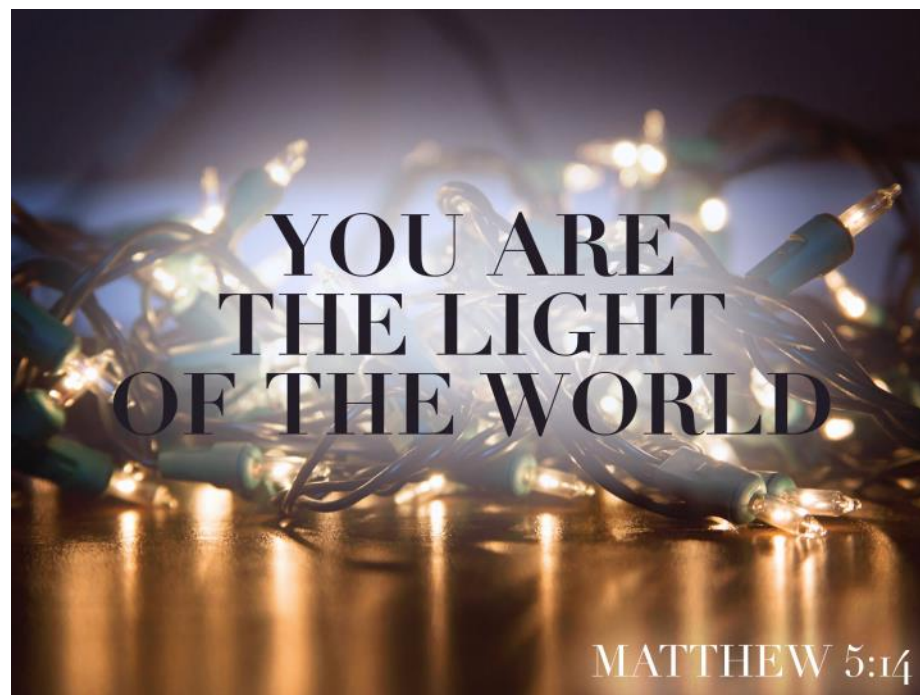
**XVI. Postlude - (Joshua Hegg)**



## Advent 2021: Seeking God Among Us

- ✧ Second Sunday of Advent: Peace **December 5th**, \*Malachi 3:1-4, “Who Will Endure?”
- ✧ Third Sunday of Advent: Joy **December 12th**, \*Zephaniah 3:14-20, “As It Is and Will Be”, Christmas Special Offering
- ✧ Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love, **December 19th**, \*Luke 1:39-45 (46-55), Special Music Sunday, Christmas Special Offering
- ✧ **December 24th**: Candlelight Christmas Eve Service 7:00 p.m. with First Baptist, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, and Chico Friends Quakers at [First Baptist Church](#) (850 Palmetto Ave, Chico). The theme is “One Night in Bethlehem”

**Church office closed December 24th-January 2nd**



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Dec. 5th-12th 2021

## CALENDAR

### **This Sunday—2nd Sunday of Advent: Peace**

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](#)  
After Church-Fellowship “Kay’s Coffee Bar”, Fireside

### **Tuesday**

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

7:00 p.m.-Church Board Meeting on [Zoom](#)

### **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

### **Next Sunday—3rd Sunday of Advent: Joy**

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](#)  
After Church-Fellowship “Kay’s Coffee Bar”, Fireside

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

**Mask Guidelines for California** Due to the Delta and Omicron variants, CDC and CDPH recommend everyone, regardless of vaccination status, wear a mask. We are asking everyone to please wear a mask if you are able to.

## 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.
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[www.fccchico.com](http://www.fccchico.com)