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

December 6th, 2020

Rev. Jesse Kearns, Pastor

AGREE TO DIFFER • RESOLVE TO LOVE • UNITE TO SERVE

Ph. 530-343-3727 • chicodisciples@gmail.com • fccchico.com

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An Unexpected Gift 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, more.

I. Prelude - “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (Andra Moran)

II. Welcome (Pastor Jesse)

No Zoom Check-in this week or next

Wednesday, Chico Area Interfaith Council, [11:30 – 1:00](#)

Thursday Bible Study on 1-2 Samuel continues.

Sacred Grounds, 9:00 next Sunday

Worship, 10:00 next Sunday

III. Opening Hymn – CH #159 “There’s a Song in the Air”

There’s a song in the air! There’s a star in the sky!
There’s a mother’s deep prayer and a Baby’s low cry!
And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,
For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

There’s a tumult of joy o’er the wonderful birth,
For the virgin’s sweet Boy is the Lord of the earth.
Ay! the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,
For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

In the light of that star lie the ages impearled;
And that song from afar has swept over the world.
Every hearth is aflame, and the beautiful sing
In the homes of the nations that Jesus is King!

We rejoice in the light, and we echo the song

That comes down through the night from the
heavenly throng.

Ay! we shout to the lovely evangel they bring,
And we greet in His cradle our Savior and King!

IV. Invocation – (Joe Rogers)

Peacemaking God, we turn to you in prayer. All
around us are stories of destruction, of despair, of
death, of darkness. These days seem long in our quest
to be offering good news of Your everlasting peace.
Come now, Advent God, and create a way. Be in our
midst as we seek respite from the warring factions of
politics, of hate, of fear. We know it's not supposed
to feel so hard, so painful. Usher us towards the path
where You will meet us in unexpected encounters as
we covenant together, again, to be speakers of peace,
we pray. Amen.

V. Advent Candle Lighting: Peace Candle – (?)

VI. Candle Lighting Song – CH #128 “One Candle is Lit” vs. 2 (Josh)

VII. Micah 5:2-7 – (Andra Moran)

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me

one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength
of the Lord,

in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

If the Assyrians come into our land
and tread upon our soil,
we will raise against them seven shepherds
and eight installed as rulers.

VIII. Sermon - “Peace is an Unexpected Gift” (Pastor Jesse)

IX. Song of Reflection CH #150 “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

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 the angelic host proclaim:
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King!

Christ by highest heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man 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
Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King!

X. Moment for Mission – (Safe Space video message)

XI. Prayer and Reflection Time – (Mary Kearns)

XII. Communion Song CP #159 “All Are Welcome”

All are welcome friend and stranger
At the banquet of the Savior
All are welcome, All are welcome

From woman who comes crying
Leaving tears at Jesus' feet
To a man who know the right way
But he cannot see

All are welcome friend and stranger
At the banquet of the Savior
All are welcome, All are welcome

From the ones who feel forgotten
Those who sense their place is gone
To the ones who live in hunger
Here you belong

All are welcome friend and stranger
At the banquet of the Savior
All are welcome, All are welcome

Go into the streets and cities
To the farms and families
Tell about the splendid table
God's mercy

All are welcome friend and stranger
At the banquet of the Savior
All are welcome, All are welcome

**XII. Institution of Communion (Elders Max
Erwin and Georgeanne Bennett)**

XIII. Blessing/Benediction

XIV. Postlude - (Joshua Hegg)

XV. Fellowship Time in breakout rooms.

Credits:

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Charles Wesley "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" arr. and addtl. text Andra Moran ©2014 AMMO Music (ASCAP)



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 6th-13th, 2020

This Sunday—Second Sunday of Advent: Peace

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

Monday

9:00 a.m. Organ Tuning

Tuesday

No Weekly Check-in on Zoom this week or next

Wednesday

9-11 a.m. Drop off time for Christmas Projects
Christmas Projects!

For more information see the weekly Calleritos

Thursday

1:00 p.m. Bible Study, [Zoom](#)

Next Sunday—Third Sunday of Advent: Joy Christmas Special Offering

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