



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH CHICO
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

February 14th, 2021
Pastor Jesse Kearns

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 (Pastor Jesse)

- Zoom Check-In on Tuesday at 1:00
- WICS Meeting at 2:00
- Elder's Meeting Tuesday at 7:00
- Ash Wednesday Service 7:00
- Sacred Grounds, 9:00 next Sunday
- Worship, 10:00 next Sunday

III. Opening Hymn – CH #529 “I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me”

I’m so glad Jesus lifted me, I’m so glad
Jesus lifted me

I’m so glad Jesus lifted me singing Glory
hallelujah, Jesus lifted me!

I’m so glad Jesus lifted me, I’m so glad
Jesus lifted me

I’m so glad Jesus lifted me singing Glory
hallelujah, Jesus lifted me!

Evil had me bound, Jesus lifted me, evil had
me bound, Jesus lifted me
Evil had me bound, Jesus lifted me singing
Glory hallelujah, Jesus lifted me!

When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
when I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me
singing Glory hallelujah, Jesus lifted me!

IV. Call to Worship – (Joe Rogers)

The Lord has called you here this day.
Lord, reveal to us your purposes for us.
Open your hearts to receive God's good
news.
Lord, make us ready to serve you.
Come, let us worship God!
Let us sing our praises to the Almighty One.
AMEN.

V. Black History Month Quote (Joe Rogers)

As long as there is poverty in the world I can never be rich, even if I have a billion dollars. As long as diseases are rampant and millions of people in this world cannot expect to live more than twenty-eight or thirty years, I can never be totally healthy even if I just got a good checkup at Mayo Clinic. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be. This is the way our world is made. No individual or nation can stand out boasting of being independent. We are interdependent.

– Martin Luther King, Jr.

VI. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 NRSV – (Mary Kearns)

Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable garland, but we an imperishable one. So I

do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

VII. Sermon - “Crossing the Line” (Pastor Jesse)

VIII. Song of Reflection CP #41 “Hear Our Praises”

May our homes be filled with dancing
May our streets be filled with joy
May injustice bow to Jesus
As the people turn to pray

From the mountains to the valleys
Hear our praises rise to You
From the heavens to the nations
Hear our singing fill the air

May Your light shine in the darkness
As we walk before the cross
May Your glory fill the whole earth
As the water o'er seas

From the mountains to the valleys
Hear our praises rise to You
From the heavens to the nations
Hear our singing fill the air

Hallelujah, hallelujah
Hallelujah, hallelujah...
Hallelujah, hallelujah
Hallelujah, hallelujah...

From the mountains to the valleys
Hear our praises rise to You
From the heavens to the nations
Hear our singing fill the air

IX. Moment for Mission – (Surprise)

X. Prayers of the People – (Mary Kearns)

XI. Communion Song CH #408 “Come Share the Lord”

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

XII. Institution of Communion (Bill Peterson
and Glenn Story)

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

February 14th-21st, 2021

This Sunday – Happy Valentine's Day

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

Monday – Church Office closed in honor of President's Day

Tuesday

- 1:00 p.m.-Weekly Check-in, [Zoom](#)
2:00 p.m.-WICS (Women In Christian Service), [Zoom](#) following the weekly check-in
7:00 p.m.-Elders meeting, [Zoom](#)

Wednesday – Ash Wednesday

- 7:00 p.m.-Worship Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)

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](#)

Looking Ahead

- Ecumenical Lenten Wednesday Worship— Wednesdays at 7 p.m., starting February 24th. This will NOT be in our usual Zoom room.
- March-Chico Pride and Trans* month
- March 13th, Spring Renewal over Zoom.
- April 24th, 10am-4pm, via zoom. The 167th Christian Church of Northern California region's Annual Gathering. \$25 per household. [Register here.](#)



In honor of Black History Month



Ann Lowe

Ann is best known for designing the ivory silk taffeta wedding dress worn by Jacqueline Bouvier for her wedding to John F. Kennedy in 1953. A waterline breaking in Lowe's studio caused the complete ruin of

the bridal party's gowns and set Lowe back \$2,000 (approximately \$19,500 today) as she re-made 2 months of work in less than 10 days. Lowe never told the family of the disaster. When she hand-delivered the gowns and was told she had to enter through a back service entrance, it is said that she responded that if she had to do that she'd take the dresses back...and then walked right in the

front door. *She never received public credit for the wedding dress.* When Jackie Kennedy was asked who made the dress she said “a colored dressmaker did it.”

Ann Cole Lowe was born December 14th, 1898 in rural Clayton, Alabama. She was the granddaughter of Georgia Thompkins who was the child of an enslaved woman and an Alabama plantation owner. Ann grew up helping her grandmother and mother who sewed for the first families of Montgomery, Alabama and other members of high society. “She learned from them,” National Museum of American History Curator Emeritus Nancy Davis has [said](#). “She was really gifted, but she was also part of this lineage of seamstresses... and really capable ones.” As a child of 6, Ann created flowers from fabric, which would become her specialty. In 1912 (when Ann was 14), Ann married Lee Cohen, with whom she had a son, Arthur Lee. When her mother died suddenly In 1914, Ann Lowe was just 16 years old. At the time of this

death, Ann’s mother had been working on four ball gowns for the First Lady of Alabama, Elizabeth Kirkman O’Neal—Ann finished the dresses. Ann’s husband didn’t approve of Ann working but after a year Ann started working again. Her husband filed for divorce. In 1917, she enrolled at S. T. Taylor Design School, where the headmaster hadn’t realized she was black until she arrived. He tried to make her leave but she refused. She was shunned by her white schoolmates and was required to attend classes in a room alone. Despite all this, her work was so skilled, her garments so perfectly stitched, that it was used as an example and she graduated in approximately half the normal time!

In 1919, Lowe and her son, Arthur, moved to Tampa, Florida to work for a socialite there, and soon opened her first dress salon which catered to high society. Here, she was best known for exquisite ball gowns, original designs, and working fast—*sometimes fabric would be dropped off in the morning by a*

socialite for a gown to wear that night! In 1928, Lowe and her son moved to New York City, and after not getting credit for her work, she opened a salon called Ann Lowe's Gowns in 1950 in New York City on Lexington Avenue where she catered to Manhattan's social elite. Lowe was a self-proclaimed snob and was quoted in a 1966 article in Ebony magazine saying "I love my clothes and I'm particular about who wears them. I am not interested in sewing for [cafe society](#) or [social climbers](#). I do not cater to Mary and Sue. I sew for the families of the [Social Register](#)."

Lowe was constantly talked out of charging more for her work by her clientele and as a result she charged so much less than other (white) designers that she was known as the Big Apple's "best-kept secret." The lower costs (pennies to the dollar) encouraged repeat customers but meant the business was always on the edge of a financial emergency. Her son helped managed her businesses until

1958 when he died in a car accident. In the following years, financial and medical emergencies plagued her. Her right eye was *removed* due to glaucoma and her left eye required surgery for cataracts but the eye was saved. She kept working by feel. She finally retired in 1972, at the age of 71. Broke, she lived with her adopted daughter until February 25th, 1981 when she died after a long, undisclosed illness.

Nancy Davis, a curator emeritus in the Division of Home and Community Life at the National Museum of American History said of Ann's work, "Everything is so perfect—and she didn't charge enough for the cost of the fabrics or the handwork that went into them." When Christian Dior first saw her work, he asked "Who made this gown?" Smithsonian curator, Elaine Nichols says, "[Ann Lowe] was exceptional; her work really moves you." Ann Lowe's designs are on display at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Smithsonian Institution's National

Museum of African American History and Culture, and the Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology. Lowe died in obscurity, forgotten by a field in which she excelled, erased because she was a black woman. She is now, after her death, recognized as a pioneer couturier.

Sources:

- Image: Ann Lowe pictured in *Ebony* magazine in 1966.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ann_Lowe
- <https://fashionhistory.fitnyc.edu/1898-1981-ann-low/>
- <https://www.elle.com/fashion/a29019843/jackie-kennedy-wedding-dress-designer-ann-low/>
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