



# It Is What It Is



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH CHICO  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

February 28th, 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)

- Last week for Week of Compassion Offering
- Zoom Check-In on Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.
- Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Ecumenical Lenten Service in *Faith Lutheran's* Zoom Room 7:00 p.m.
- Sacred Grounds, 9:00 a.m. next Sunday
- Worship, 10:00 a.m. next Sunday

## III. Opening Hymn – CH #442 “We Are Walking”

We are walking in the light of God  
We are walking in the light of God

We are walking in the light of God  
We are walking in the light of God

We are walking, walking  
We are walking, walking  
We are walking in the light of God

(Spanish)

Caminamos en la luz de Dios  
Caminamos en la luz de Dios (2x)

Caminamos, Vamos  
Caminamos, Vamos  
Caminamos en la luz de Dios

(Swahili)

Siya humba ku ken yeni kwen kos  
Siya humba ku ken yeni kwen kos (2x)

Siya humba, humba  
Siya humba, humba  
siya humba ku ken yeni kwen kos

#### **IV. Call to Worship – (Joe Rogers)**

Let us turn our minds from human things.  
Our faith in Jesus saves us.  
Let us set our minds on divine things.  
Our faith in Jesus saves us.

We will deny ourselves and take up our cross.  
Our faith in Jesus saves us.  
We will lose all; that we may gain all.  
Our faith in Jesus saves us.

#### **V. Black History Month Quote (Joe Rogers)**

“Why should white Christians and colored Christians not feel perfectly at home with each other in the same religious gatherings if they are Christians, if they all believe in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, in doing by others as they would be done by, as loving each other as they love themselves, in their oneness in Christ Jesus, and if the same Holy Spirit dwells amidst in all their hearts?”

—*Rev. Francis J. Grimke, former slave who became pastor of the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Presbyterian Church in Washington DC*

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

## **VII. Mark 8:27-38 NRSV – (Mary Kearns)**

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

## **VIII. Sermon - “It Is What It Is” (Pastor Jesse)**

## **IX. Song of Reflection CH #495 “Weave”**

Weave, weave, weave us together  
Weave us together with unity and love  
Weave, weave, weave us together  
Weave us together, together with love (x3)

**X. Moment for Mission – Message from  
Week of Compassion**

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

**XII. Communion Song CP #175 “From This  
Very Place”**

From this very place, Lord, touch the nations  
Let us be a light to every race  
Hear our humble cry that all would know  
    you  
As we go from this very place.

“Til every knee bows and every tongue sings  
    praise  
“Til everyone hears of your grace  
We will lay down our lives  
And pray that your blessings flow  
From this place.

Melt these hearts of stone with your  
    compassion  
Let us see others through eyes of grace

Fill us with the fire of your sweet spirit  
As we go from this very place.

“Til every knee bows and every tongue sings  
    praise  
“Til everyone hears of your grace  
We will lay down our lives  
And pray that your blessings flow  
From this place.

We will lay down our lives and pray that  
    salvation flow from this place  
Let your healing flow from this place  
Let your blessings flow from this place

**XIII. Institution of Communion (Elders  
Georgetanne Bennett and Max Erwin)**

**XIV. Blessing/Benediction**

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

**XVI. Fellowship Time in breakout rooms.**

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## Some FAQs for Visitors

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- **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](http://www.fccchico.com)

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## Calendar

**February 28th—March 7th, 2021**

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### **This Sunday—Week of Compassion**

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

### **Tuesday**

- 1:00 p.m.-Weekly Check-in, [Zoom](#)  
7:00 p.m.-Church Board meeting, [Zoom](#)

### **Wednesday**

- 7:00 p.m.-Ecumenical Lenten Service in [Faith Lutheran's Zoom](#)

### **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](#)



**[Week of Compassion Donate Here](#)**

## **Looking Ahead**

- March-Chico Pride and Trans\* month [click here for information](#)
- March 13th, Spring Renewal over Zoom. [Click here to register](#)
- April 24th, 10am-4pm, via zoom. The 167th Christian Church of Northern California region's Annual Gathering. \$25 per household. [Register here.](#)

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## **In honor of Black History Month**

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### **Hiram Rhodes Revels**

Hiram Rhodes Revels was born free September 27th, 1827 in Fayetteville, North Carolina to free parents of African-American, European, and Native American

Ancestry. His mother was of primarily Scottish descent, and his father was a Baptist preacher. As a time reference, the Emancipation Proclamation was issued in 1863. When he was 11, he moved to Lincolnton, North Carolina to apprentice with his older brother as a barber, a trade that was considered steady and respectable for Black Americans at this time. Three years later, his brother died and the widow transferred the barbershop to Revels. Revels

attended the Beech Grove Quaker Seminary in Union County, Indiana, and was ordained as a minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) in 1845. He served as a preacher, and religious teacher in Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Tennessee, Missouri, and Kansas and as a principal of a black high school in Baltimore, Maryland. "At times, I met with a great deal of opposition," he later recalled. "I was imprisoned in Missouri in 1854 for preaching the gospel to Negroes, though I was never subjected to violence." Revel continued to study religion at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois. During the Civil War, he served as a chaplain in the United States Army and helped recruit and organize two black Union regiments in Maryland and Missouri, and took part in the Battle of Vicksburg in Mississippi.

In 1865, Revels left the AME Church and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, being called as a permanent pastor in 1866 to a church in Mississippi, living there with his wife and five daughters. He continued to

found schools for black children. In 1869, he was elected to represent Adams County in Mississippi State Senate. While he was new to politics, he was considered considerably above average in intelligence and a man of ability. His opening prayer in 1870 to the state legislature was considered one of the most impressive and eloquent that had ever been delivered in the Mississippi Senate Chamber made a profound impression on all who heard him. That same year his election to the United States Senate was certified despite the opposition that cited the Dred Scott Decision declaring Revels, being black, could not be a citizen. This was finally refuted after a great deal of arguing and on February 25th, 1870, with a party-line vote of 48 to 8, Revels became the first African American *and* the first Native American to be seated in the United States Senate. His term lasted only one year, but in that time he advocated compromise and moderation and vigorously supported racial equality to reassure his fellow senators about the abilities of African Americans. He served on the

Committee of Education and Labor and the Committee on the District of Columbia. Instead of calling for continued punishment of ex-Confederates, he pushed for amnesty and provided they swore an oath of loyalty to the United States, the restoration of full citizenship.

After his term as U.S. Senator expired, Revels accepted the position of the first president of Alcorn Agricultural and Mechanical College (now Alcorn State University), as well as teaching philosophy there. He remained active as a Methodist Episcopal minister, continued to teach, and was additionally an editor of the Southwestern Christian Advocate, a Methodist Church newspaper. He died while attending a church conference in Aberdeen, Mississippi on January 16th, 1901 at the age of 73. In 2002, scholar [Molefi Kete Asante](#) listed Hiram Rhodes Revels as one of the [100 Greatest African Americans](#).

Source for information and image:

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiram\\_Rhodes\\_Revels](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiram_Rhodes_Revels)

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