



January 14th, 2024  
Rev. Jesse Kearns, Pastor

First Christian Church Chico

(Disciples of Christ)

**AGREE TO DIFFER • RESOLVE TO LOVE • UNITE TO SERVE**

Wi-Fi Network: FCCDOC Password: 5303433727

10 a.m. Sunday Worship • Ph. 530-343-3727 • [chicodisciples@gmail.com](mailto:chicodisciples@gmail.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 – (Nancy Thompson)

## II. Ringing of the Bell

## III. Welcome and Announcements (Barbara Poetker)

- Today – Fellowship following service.
- Monday – Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Church Office Closed
- Tuesday – 2:00 p.m. WICS, Bethany; 7:00 p.m. Elders, Zoom
- Wednesday – 2:00 p.m. String Ensemble, Chapel; 6:00 p.m. Scouts BSA, Koinonia Hall, Fireside.
- Thursday – 8:30 a.m. Worship Breakfast, Cozy Diner; Chico Creek/Chico Ballet rehearsals, Koinonia Hall; 6:30 p.m. Living the Questions Bible Study, Room 6 and Zoom.
- Friday -- Chico Creek/Chico Ballet rehearsals, Koinonia Hall
- Saturday— Chico Creek/Chico Ballet Musical Performance, Koinonia Hall, Fireside, Bethany, 6, 10; 2:00 p.m. Journeys of the Heart Bereavement Group, Spiritual Care Center
- Sunday – 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds Room 6 and Zoom; 10:00 a.m. Worship in sanctuary, Zoom, and FaceBook Live; Fellowship in K-Hall following the service.
- Offerings may be put in the offering plate which is near the bulletins near the entrance of the sanctuary

**IV. Opening Hymn – CH #668 “For the Healing of the Nations”  
(Nancy Thompson)**

For the healing of the nations, God, we pray with one accord;  
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords;  
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word,  
help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release,  
that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.  
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase,  
fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned;  
pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.  
In our common quest for justice may we hallow life’s brief span,  
may we hallow life’s brief span.

You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind;  
For our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind,  
that by our response and service earth its destiny may find,  
earth its destiny may find.

**V. Call to Worship**

God knows each one of us personally and God loves each one of us.

**Thanks be to God for such wondrous love!**

Come this day into the presence of God.

**We come with overflowing hearts!**

Celebrate God’s mercy and compassion.

**Praise be to God who offers us hope. AMEN.**

**VI. Children Fourth Grade and Under Dismissed for Sunday School**

**VII. Laughing Bird Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (Barbara Poetker)**

You have taken a good hard look at me, LORD,  
and you know exactly what makes me tick.

You know when I've got my feet up and when I'm on  
the job;  
you can read my mind like an open book.

You see where I am going and where I stop,  
and you know all about what I do and why.

You know exactly what I am going to say, LORD,  
even before I open my mouth.

You are in front of me, behind me, beside me;  
your hand on my shoulder at every turn.

All this is more than I can get my head around;  
I pinch myself, and struggle to take it in.

It was you who put me together, every part of me;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I sing your praises, LORD,  
for the way you have made me fills me with awe.  
Your creative works blow my mind;  
too wonderful for words.

You could see me clearly before I was born;  
you watched me taking shape in the secret depths  
and laid out the intricacies of nerve and muscle.

You kept your eye on me  
from conception to birth.

My life lay before you like an open book  
before I had even lived a day.

Your thoughts are way beyond my grasp, God,  
and they add up to more than I can count.  
Deeper than the oceans,  
outnumbering the grains of sand;  
I give up trying  
but you are with me just the same.

#### **VIII. John 1:43-51 (NRSV) (Barbara Poetker)**

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to

him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

**IX. Sermon – “Now You See It, Now You Don’t” (Rev. Jesse Kearns)**

**X. Song of Reflection and Invitation – CH #357  
“We Call Ourselves Disciples” (Nancy Thompson)**

We call ourselves disciples as pilgrims on the way.  
We seek the truth in wisdom, and beauty in each day.  
As women, men, and children, we serve, Christ’s path  
to clear.

In joyful expectation we see God’s reign draw near.

The cup and cross before us, proclaim our hope  
above,  
The sign of our Redeemer, the vessel of his love.  
Once more the cross is lifted, the cup poured out for  
all.

When gathered at the table we hear our common call.

We’re baptized in the Spirit, in waters God provides.  
In Christ we rise to newness, for in him we have died.  
Now dead to powers of evil, and free from hopeless  
fears,  
We live with faith and purpose, creative through the  
years.

We join with all disciples to live the Word in deed,  
To share the cup of water and bread with all in need;  
To work till God’s compassion and righteousness  
prevail,  
Till all this planet’s people know justice without fail.

So now the vision brightens, the light of Christ burns  
still  
In hearts of all disciples to be the church God wills.  
From quiet meditation, and joyous hymns of praise,  
We go to do God’s mission! Christ, lead us all our  
days!

**XI. Moments for Mission (Georgia Nelson)**

**XII. Prayers of the People**

**XIII. Communion Song CH #528 “Give Thanks”  
x2 (Nancy Thompson)**

Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ His Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Give thanks to the Holy One  
Give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ His Son.

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”;  
Let the poor say, “I am rich”  
Because of what the Lord has done for us

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”;  
Let the poor say, “I am rich”  
Because of what the Lord has done for us  
Give thanks.

#### **XIV. Institution of Communion (Max Erwin, Kevin Zeitler, elders)**

#### **XV. Partaking Communion Together**

#### **XVI. Blessing/Benediction (Rev. Jesse Kearns)**

#### **XVII. Postlude – (Nancy Thompson)**

- Upper Room Devotionals for January/February are on the bookshelves in the entrance of the Sanctuary
- January Callers are in the Sanctuary on the tables near the bulletins.
- **Game Day Coming Soon!** The first Game Day will be Saturday, February 3rd, from 1-5 p.m. in the Bethany Room. This is a snack potluck, so bring a snack to share! Everyone is welcome. Please see Amber McGill for more information.

- **NEW FCC Chico Family Directories.** Printed copies of the Church Family Directory are in the Sanctuary, on the tables near the entrance. They can be mailed by requesting them through the church office (530-343-3727 or [chicodisciples@gamil.com](mailto:chicodisciples@gamil.com)). You may also request a PDF of the directory, or you can access the directory online at <https://servantkeeper.com/directory/FCCChico/login> Just contact the church office for the password. This link is on our website, under the About Us tab.

## Attendance

### Attendance for January 7th, 2024:

Sanctuary: 28    Online: 11    Total: 39

## Credits

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January 14th-21st, 2024

CALENDAR

### This Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation Christian Education, Room 6 and on [Zoom](#)
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary and Worship Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)
- Fellowship, Koinonia Hall
- 1:00 p.m. Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva, Sanctuary

**Monday—Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day; Church Office Closed**

### Tuesday

- 2:00 p.m. WICS, Bethany
- 7:00 p.m. Elders, Zoom.

### Wednesday

- 2:00 p.m. String Ensemble, Chapel
- 6:00 p.m. Scouts BSA, Koinonia Hall, Fireside

### Thursday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Breakfast, Cozy Diner
- Chico Creek/Chico Ballet rehearsals, Koinonia Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Living the Questions Bible Study, Room 6, Zoom

### Friday

- Chico Creek/Chico Ballet rehearsals, Koinonia Hall

### Saturday

- Chico Creek/Chico Ballet Musical Performance, Koinonia Hall, Fireside, Bethany, 6, 10
- 2:00 p.m. Journeys of the Heart Bereavement Group, Spiritual Care Center

### Next Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation Christian Education, Room 6 and on [Zoom](#)
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary and Worship Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)
- Fellowship, Koinonia Hall
- 1:00 p.m. Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva, Sanctuary

## 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](http://www.fccchico.com)
- **Masks:** Masks are recommended but not required. Adult and child size masks are available in the Sanctuary as well as hand sanitizer.