



*When Religion
Becomes Toxic*



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH CHICO
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

January 31st, 2021
Pastor Jesse Kearns

AGREE TO DIFFER * RESOLVE TO LOVE * UNITE TO SERVE
PH 530-343-3727 * chicodisciples@gmail.com * fccchico.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 (Joshua Hegg)

II. Welcome (Pastor Jesse)

- Zoom Check-In on Tuesday at 1:00
- Board Meeting at 7:00
- Bible Study Thursday at 7:00
- Sacred Grounds, 9:00 next Sunday
- Worship, 10:00 next Sunday

III. Opening Hymn – CP #7 “Let Us Go to the House of the Lord”

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

I was glad when they said to me “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

Called from every nation, called from every race,
gathered here for worship, in this holy place

God is here among us; lift your hearts and sing, make the walls and rafters ring!

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go
to the house of the Lord!”

I was glad when they said to me “Let us go
to the house of the Lord!”

Here the poor are welcomed, here the lost
are claimed,

broken lives are mended deepest fears are
named

Here the wise are children, and the weak
are strong, Here in Christ we all belong!

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go
to the house of the Lord!”

I was glad when they said to me “Let us go
to the house of the Lord!”

Words that must be spoken, grace that must
be heard,

mercy and forgiveness from God’s holy
Word

Here will be repeated, peace to all
proclaimed, shouted out in Jesus’ name!

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go
to the house of the Lord!”

I was glad when they said to me “Let us go
to the house of the Lord!”

IV. Call to Worship – (Joe Rogers)

Come, let us praise the Lord!

We praise God with our whole heart!

God’s works are great!

Open our hearts and spirits to see your
works, O Lord!

Come, let us worship the Lord who has
saved us!

May our lives reflect the wondrous love of
God that all may see and know of God’s
greatness. AMEN.

V. Laughing Bird Psalm 111 (Joe Rogers)

Wow! More power to you, LORD!

.....We can’t thank you enough.

With all who stand for justice

.....our hearts burst with gratitude.

The things you do are fantastic, LORD,
.....and those who see and understand
.....never tire of exploring them.

Your works are magnificent, majestic,
.....and their integrity will never be
eroded.

You have a reputation for doing amazing
things,
.....and all of them generous and
merciful.

You nourish those who honour you
.....and you are always true to your
word.

You have left your people in no doubt
.....about your power;
.....you have given them the whole
world on a plate.

Everything you put your hands to
.....is faithful, fair and trustworthy,
.....as is everything you say.

What you say goes, now and forever,
.....and no one can afford to ignore it.

You rescue your people and bring them
home safe,
.....for you have committed yourself to
them
.....for all time.

The mere mention of your holy name
.....makes us go weak all over!

Wisdom is born when your awesome
presence
.....knocks us to our knees
and those who never lose sight of that
.....have got their heads on straight.

Awestruck, we give you honour and respect
for ever.

VI. Mark 1:21-28 NRSV – (Mary Kearns)
They went to Capernaum; and when the
Sabbath came, he entered the synagogue

and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, 'What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.' At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

VII. Sermon - "When Religion Becomes Toxic" (Pastor Jesse)

VIII. Song of Reflection CH 561 "It Is Well With My Soul"

When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to
say

It is well, it is well with my soul
It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul

Though Satan should buffet, though trials
should come
Let this blest assurance control
That Christ (yes, He has) has regarded my
helpless estate
And has shed His own blood for my soul
It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul

My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought
(a thought)
My sin, not in part, but the whole (every bit,
every bit, all of it)
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more
(yes!)
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul
Sing it as well
It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul
And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall
be sight
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall
descend
Even so, it is well with my soul!
It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul
Sing up to Jesus, it is well!
It is well (it is well)

With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul

IX. Moment for Mission – (Surprise)

X. Prayers of the People – (Mary Kearns)

XI. Communion Song CH #392 “Draw Us In the Spirit’s Tether”

Draw us in the Spirit’s tether
For when humbly in your name
Two or three are met together
You are in the midst of them
Alleluia, alleluia alleluia
Touch we now your garment’s hem.

As disciples used to gather
In the name Christ to sup
Then with thanks to God the giver
Break the bread and bless the cup
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
So now bind our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living
Make as sacraments of you
That by caring, helping, giving
We may be disciples true
Alleluia, alleluia alleluia
We will serve with faith anew.

**XII. Institution of Communion (Peggy
Davidson, Barbara Poetker Elders)**

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

January 31st-February 7th, 2021

This Sunday

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](#)

Thursday

7:00 p.m.-Bible Study, [Zoom](#)
[Study Questions on website](#)

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

- February 12th, 1-3 pm-CCNC-N Women's Ministry Conversations Conversations for 2021 via zoom [Click here to register ...](#)
- February 24th, 6-8 pm-CCNC-N Women's Ministry Conversations Conversations for 2021 via zoom [Click here to register ...](#)
- 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.](#)

Credits

- Bulletin Graphic: [David Hawkes](#) on [Unsplash](#).
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