

March 12th, 2023

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

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 – (Nancy Thompson)

II. Welcome and Announcements (Kathy Moran)

- Today – Fellowship following service
- Tuesday – 9:30 a.m. Koinonia Krafters, Fireside. 11:30 a.m. Music jam in Room 4.
- Wednesday – 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, K-Hall, and Fireside. 6:00 p.m. Ecumenical Lenten Soup Supper, and Service, Faith Lutheran
- Thursday – 8:30 a.m. Worship team meeting at Cozy Diner; 4:30 p.m. String Ensemble practice in the Chapel, 7:00 p.m. Lenten Bible Study in Room 6 and on Zoom.
- Saturday – 2:00 p.m. Journeys of the Heart Bereavement Group in Spiritual Care Center.
- Sunday – 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds; 10:00 a.m. Worship in sanctuary, Zoom and FaceBook Live; Fellowship in Fireside following the service.
- Offerings may be put in the collection plate which is near the bulletins near the entrance of the sanctuary

III. Opening Hymn – CH #16 “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” (Nancy Thompson)

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise to thee an altar;
hither by thy help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, how I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

IV. Call to Worship – (Kathy Moran)

We gather together—

**the seekers, the dreamers, the shooting-star
wishers, in hopes of seeing God.**

We gather together—

**the curious, the hungry, the loving, the lonely, in
hopes of finding peace.**

We gather together—

**those who are thirsty and those with water to
spare, in hopes of finding justice.**

So come to the well,
come to the table.

Come, let us worship God. Amen.

V. Children Fourth Grade and Under Dismissed for Sunday School

VI. Prayer of Confession and Words of Forgiveness (Kathy Moran)

Friends, with that grace in mind, let us pray:

Holy God, we have been on every side of this story. We have been the one who is thirsty and in need of compassion, and we have been the one with a bucket and a deep well. So today we wonder: how often have we missed the opportunity to share water with our neighbors? How often have we forgotten that we have a bucket and the power to bring change? How often have we simply decided that justice and compassion were not worth the work? Forgive our fragile hearts and remind us that it was you who sat at that well in Samaria in the heat of the day. It was you. It is still you. With hope we pray, amen.

Family of faith, as hard as it is to imagine: We could lose the bucket, we could hoard the water for ourselves, we could pretend we do not see all who are thirsty, and we would still belong to God.

This is the good news of the gospel: God's grace is deeper than any well. We are seen, loved, and forgiven. May this realization change and inspire us. Amen.

VII. John 4:5-42 NRSV – (Kathy Moran)

So [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no

husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said

to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

VIII. Sermon - "Will You Give Me a Drink?" (Jesse Kearns)

IX. Song of Invitation – CH #351 “Fill My Cup, Lord” (Nancy Thompson)

Like the woman at the well, I was seeking
For things that could not satisfy
And then I heard my savior speaking;
“Draw from my well that never shall run dry”

Fill my cup, Lord, I lift it up Lord
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul
Bread of heaven feed me ‘til I want no more –
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.

There are millions in this world who are craving
The pleasures earthly things afford;
But none can match the wondrous treasure
That I find in Jesus Christ my Lord.

Fill my cup, Lord, I lift it up Lord
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul
Bread of heaven feed me ‘til I want no more –
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.

So my friend if all the things this world gave you
Leave hungers that won’t pass away
My blessed Lord will come and save you,
If you kneel to him and humbly pray:

Fill my cup, Lord, I lift it up Lord
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul
Bread of heaven feed me ‘til I want no more –
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.

X. An Affirmation of Faith

We believe that a glass of water given to us by a
stranger can taste like justice.

**We believe that honest conversation has the
power to change us.**

We believe that all God’s children have a voice and
something to say.

**We believe that Jesus loves the outcast, the
ignored, the shamed, and the abandoned.**

We believe in asking questions.

We believe in curiosity.

We believe in giving people a drink.

**May we be brave enough to give people a drink.
Amen.**

XI. Prayers of the People (Jesse Kearns)

**XII. Communion Song CH #423 “Become to Us
the Living Bread” (Nancy Thompson)**

Become to us the living bread
By which the Christian life is fed
Renewed and greatly comforted
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

Become the never-failing wine
The spring of joy that shall incline
Our hearts to bear the covenant sign
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

May Christians all with one accord
Unite around the sacred board
To praise Your holy name O Lord
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

**XIII. Institution of Communion (Peggy
Davidson and Georgia Nelson, elders)**

XIV. Partaking Communion Together


XV. Blessing/Benediction

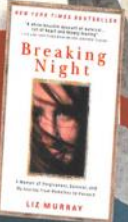
XVI. Postlude – (Nancy Thompson)

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE 2023
JESUS CENTER SPRING LUNCHEON

LIMITLESS
Possibility

Saturday, March 25TH | 11:00am
LAKESIDE PAVILLION
2565 CALIFORNIA PARK DRIVE, CHICO
(DOORS OPEN AT 10:30 AM)


 Join New York Times Bestselling author, Liz Murray as she shares her powerful journey from homelessness to Harvard.




ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE JESUS CENTER

Tickets \$50/Person
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Easter Flowers



Easter Flowers

Once again, we will be decorating the Sanctuary and chapel with seasonal flowers. Envelopes are in the pew racks.

The cost is \$12. Deadline to order flowers is Palm Sunday, April 2nd.

This Sunday—Daylight Saving Time Begins

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

Tuesday

- 9:30 a.m. Koiononia Krafters, Fireside
- 11:30 a.m. Music Jam, Room 4

Wednesday—Caller newsletter Deadline

- 6:00 p.m. Scouts, Koinonia Hall, Fireside
- 6:00 p.m. Ecumenical Lenten Soup Supper, and Service, Faith Lutheran

Thursday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Team Breakfast at Cozy Diner
- 4:30 p.m. String Ensemble Rehearsals, Chapel
- 7:00 p.m. Lenten Bible Study, 6/Zoom

Next Sunday

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

Upcoming Dates:

- Palm Sunday, April 2nd
- Maundy Thursday, April 6th, 7 pm service in Fireside
- Easter Sunday, April 9th, Sunrise Service at 7 am, and 10 am service



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Upcoming Events

- Wednesdays, March 1st-29th, Ecumenical Lenten Soup Suppers and Service, 6 pm
 - We will be serving Soup on March 8th so bring soups around 5:45 pm to Faith Lutheran
- Palm Sunday, April 2nd
- Maundy Thursday, April 6th, 7 pm service in Fireside
- Easter Sunday, April 9th, Sunrise Service at 7 am, and 10 am service
- Pentecost in the Park, May 21st, Wildwood Park

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
- **Masks:** Masks are recommended but not required. Adult and child size masks are available in the Sanctuary as well as hand sanitizer.