





March 17th, 2024—Fifth Sunday in Lent
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
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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. Ringing of the Bell

III. Welcome and Announcements – (Gary Cantwell)

- Today – Fellowship following service in Koinonia Hall.
- Please see the back of your bulletins for the calendar.
- Offerings may be put in the offering plate which is near the bulletins near the entrance of the sanctuary.

IV. Call to Worship – (Gary Cantwell)

Why are you here?

**I am seeking God with my whole heart,
with my entire mind,
with a fire burning in my bones.**

I see it! You're in the right place!

This is God's house. The door is open to you.

Why are *you* here?

I am seeking God with my whole heart,
with my entire mind,
with a fire burning in my bones.

**We see that in you! You're in the right place.
This is God's house. The door is open to you.**

Let us worship God.

Let us learn from the Spirit. Amen!

V. Opening Hymn – CH #284 “Gather Us In” (Joshua Hegg)

Here in this place, new light is streaming,
Shadows of doubt are vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
Brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
Gather us in; our spirits inflame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken;
We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery;
We are the old, who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history.
Called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
Gather us in, the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly;
Give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we receive new life in the waters;
Here we receive the bread of new birth;
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
Call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not just in buildings, small and confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away,
Here in this place the new light is shining;
Now is God present, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever;
Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in, all peoples together,
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones.

VI. Call to Confession

Friends, when you study Peter’s story in scripture it’s almost impossible to ignore how much he loved to ask questions. He asks Jesus:

“What does the parable mean?”

“Where are you going?”

“How many times should we forgive?”

Like a tenacious toddler, Peter was *full* of questions, because Peter was eager to learn. I wish I was more like that. I still have so much to learn.

So friends, let’s be like Peter. Let’s return to Christ with the humility of a student as we pray together

the prayer of confession. Let this be a moment of learning. Let us pray:

VII. Prayer of Confession

Holy God,

We long to be lifelong learners.

We long to approach you with curiosity and an open mind.

Instead, we often live as if we know best.

We forget that the disciples called you “Rabbi, Teacher.”

Forgive us for the times when we fail to be curious.

Forgive us for the times when we assume we know best.

Forgive us for the moments when we imagine that our learning is done and that we have all the answers.

Like Peter—who was brave enough to ask, “How many times should we forgive?”—make us brave. Spark a desire in us to learn, and may our curiosity carry our faith into deeper waters.

With hope and humility we pray, amen.

VIII. Words of Forgiveness

Family of faith,

When Peter asked Jesus, “How many times should I forgive?” Jesus responded with abundance.

That abundance exists for you as well.

No matter what you have done or left undone, no matter what lessons you have learned or are still learning,

God’s abundant grace exists for you. God’s love will never run out.

So hear and rest in this good news:

You are forgiven.

You are loved.

You are invited to serve.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

IX. Affirmation of Faith

We believe that questions are a building block of faith.

“How many times should I forgive?”

“Jesus, where are you going?”

“What must I do to inherit eternal life?”

We believe that humble curiosity can open our eyes.

“Where does it hurt?”

“What do you need?”

“How can I help?”

We believe that God is a teacher.

“Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.”

“Here I am.”

“Send me.”

We believe that faith invites our whole being to
engage,

with all our heart,

with all our mind,

with all our strength.

We believe. Help our unbelief.

In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

X. Children Fourth Grade and Under Dismissed for Sunday School

XI. Scripture Reading Matthew 18:15-22 (NRSV) (Gary Cantwell)

“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell

you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

XII. Sermon – “Teach Me” (Rev. Jesse Kearns)

XIII. Hymn of Invitation – CH #602 “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” (Joshua Hegg)

O Master, let me walk with thee
in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.

Teach me thy patience; still with thee
in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong.

In hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broadening way,
in peace that only thou canst give,
with thee, O Master, let me live.

XIV. Moments for Mission

XV. Prayers of the People

XVI. Communion Song – CH #408 “Come, Share the Lord”

(Joshua Hegg)

We gather here in Jesus' name
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame;
For through the loving Son the Father makes us one:
Come, take the bread, come, drink the wine,
Come, share the Lord.

No one is a stranger here,
Everyone belongs;
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 bread.

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.

XVII. Institution of Communion (Bill Peterson and Barbara Poetker, elder)

XVIII. Partaking Communion Together

XIX. Blessing/Benediction

XX. Postlude (Joshua Hegg)



Easter Flowers

Easter Flowers Once again, we will be decorating the Sanctuary with seasonal flowers. Envelopes are in the pew racks. The cost is \$12. The deadline to order flowers is Palm Sunday, March 24th.

Attendance for March 10th, 2024

Sanctuary: 48

Online: 12

Total: 60

Credits

- “Seventy-seven Times” by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org
- “Gather Us In” Words and Music: Marty Haugen, 1981 © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc.
- “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” Words: Washington Gladden, 1879. Public Domain. Music: Henry Percy Smith, 1874. Public Domain. CCLI# 158243
- “Come, Share the Lord” Words and Music: Bryan Jeffery Leech, 1984. © 1984 Fred Bock Music Company. CCLI# 106408
- Prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.
- Hymns Used by Permission. For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com. CCLI Copyright License #37151

March 17th-24th, 2024

CALENDAR

This Sunday—Fifth Sunday in Lent

- 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

- 7:00 p.m. Faith in Films, Room 6

Tuesday

- 1:00 p.m. String Ensemble, Chapel
- 2:00 p.m. WICS, Bethany
- 7:00 p.m. Elders meeting, Zoom

Wednesday

- 6:00 p.m. Ecumenical Lenten Soup Supper, Faith Lutheran Church
- 6:00 p.m. BSA Scouts, Koinonia Hall and Fireside
- 7:00 p.m. Faith in Films, Room 6

Thursday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Breakfast, Cozy Diner
- 11:30 a.m. Music Practice, Room 4
- 6:30 p.m. Bible Study, Room 6 and [Zoom](#)

Friday

- 3:00 p.m. Crafting Companions, Room 6

Saturday

- 2:00 p.m. Celebration of Life Service for Dolores Reid, Sanctuary and Zoom, with reception to follow in Koinonia Hall
- 2:00 p.m. Journeys of the Heart Bereavement Group, Spiritual Care Center

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