



# We Carry the Fire



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH CHICO  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

May 16th, 2021

Guest Preacher Rev. Georgeanne Bennett

Rev. Jesse Kearns, Pastor

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

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Credits at end of bulletin*

**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)

## II. Welcome and Announcements

- Zoom Check in on Tuesday at 1:00
- WICS lunch at Olive Garden on Tuesday at 1:00
- Elders meeting on Zoom on Tuesday at 7:00
- No Zoom or FaceBook Live next Sunday
- Next Sunday Pentecost in the Park, 10 am in Wildwood Park, bring your own lunch!

## III. Opening Hymn – CH #255 “She Is the Spirit”

She sits like a bird, brooding on the waters  
hov’ring on the chaos of the world’s first day;  
she sighs and she sings, mothering creation,  
waiting to give birth to all the Word will say.

She wings over earth, resting where she wishes,  
Lighting close at hand or soaring through the skies;  
She nests in the womb, welcoming each wonder,  
Nourishing potential hidden to our eyes.

She dances in fire, startling those who see her,  
Waking tongues of ecstasy where dullness reigned;  
She weans and inspires all whose hearts are open.  
Nor can she be captured, silenced or restrained.

For she is the Spirit, one with God in essence,  
Gifted by the Savior in eternal love;  
She is the key opening the scriptures,  
Enemy of apathy and heav'nly dove.

#### **IV. Call to Worship (Mary)**

We come to seek the ways of wisdom.

**We come as one Body in Christ**

We come to find peace and sing songs of love.

**We come to be renewed by the Spirit.**

Come, let us worship.

#### **V. Acts 1:1-11 (Mary)**

#### **VI. John 17:6-19 NRSV (Georgeanne)**

#### **VII. Sermon "We Carry the Fire" (Rev. Georgeanne)**

#### **VIII. Song of Reflection (Nancy) – CH # 10 "Bring Many Names"**

Bring many names, beautiful and good,  
Celebrate, in parable and story,  
Holiness in glory, living, loving God.  
Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names!

Strong mother God, working night and day,  
Planning all the wonders of creation,  
Setting each equation, genius at play:  
Hail and Hosanna, Strong mother God!

Warm father God, hugging every child,  
Feeling all the strains of human living,  
Caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:  
Hail and Hosanna, Warm father God!

Old, aching God, grey with endless care,  
Calmly piercing evil's new disguises,  
Glad of good surprises, wiser than despair:  
Hail and Hosanna, Old, aching God!

Young, growing God, eager, on the move,  
Saying no to falsehood and unkindness,  
Crying out for justice, giving all you have:  
Hail and Hosanna, young growing God!

Great, living God, never fully known,  
Joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,  
Closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:  
Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!

#### **IX. Moment for Mission (surprise!)**

#### **X. Prayers of the People (Mary)**

**XI. Communion Song (Nancy) – CH # 393 “One Bread, One Body”**

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
One cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many, throughout the earth,  
We are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,  
Woman or man, no more.

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
One cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many, throughout the earth,  
We are one body in this one Lord.

Many the gifts, many the works,  
One in the Lord of all.

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
One cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many, throughout the earth,  
We are one body in this one Lord.

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,  
Gathered to one, for all.

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
One cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many, throughout the earth,  
We are one body in this one Lord.

**XII. Institution of Communion (Barbara Poetker and Bill Peterson)**

**XIII. Postlude (Nancy)**

**IX. Blessing/Benediction (Rev. Georgeanne)**

# CALENDAR

**May 16th-23rd, 2021**

## **This Sunday—Pentecost Special Offering**

9:00 a.m.-Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation  
Christian Education, on [Zoom](#)

10:00 a.m.-Socially distanced Indoor Worship in  
Sanctuary (masks required) and Worship  
Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)

## **Tuesday**

1:00 p.m.-Weekly Check-in on [Zoom](#)

1:00 p.m.-Women In Christian Service (WICS),  
lunch at Olive Garden

7:00 p.m.-Elders meeting, [Zoom](#)

## **Next Sunday—Pentecost in the Park; Pentecost Special Offering**

10:00 a.m.-Pentecost in the Park, Wildwood Park,  
bring your own lunch. No livestream on zoom  
or FaceBook live.

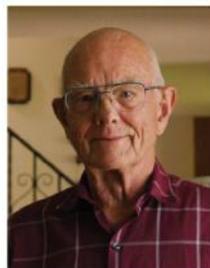
Church Office Administrative Assistant Briony works  
remotely from home on Fridays.

## Looking Ahead

- **POSTPONED UNTIL JUNE**, via FCC Zoom room, Chico Area Interfaith Council (**CAIC**)  
**Annual Event**
- **May 23rd—Pentecost Picnic In the Park!** Yes! We will be celebrating Pentecost at Wildwood park at **10:00 a.m.** This will be a picnic where everyone can socially distance and **bring their own food.**
- **Summer Camp Registrations due by May 25th**
- **May 28th, 1-3 pm, Healing Circle, Room 6 or Prayer Garden**
- **June 3rd Bible Study starts up again, 7 pm.** This Bible Study will be continuing Israel's monarchy with the Book of 2 Samuel. This will be over zoom and *maybe* in person. More information forthcoming! Sign up with Pastor Jesse or Briony in the church office.

# 2021 PENTECOST OFFERING

## BE THE NEW CHURCH



The 2021 Pentecost Offering is a special offering in support of the new church movement in your Region and across the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

## Be the New Church

For the past thirteen months, many Disciples living across the United States and Canada have been struggling with social isolation. They've stayed away from their various places of worship to protect the health and safety of themselves and others. It has been hard.

How have new church leaders responded? By launching communities of faith in creative and innovative ways.

It's looked like spreading the word about the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) through Door Dash food deliveries, meeting with folks every week on Zoom to discuss anxiety, and making sure that the spiritual needs of transitioning out of correctional facilities are met.

From hospital and prison chaplains to tri-vocational pastors, courageous new church leaders have answered the call to **be the new church**.

To support them and their efforts to continue the new church movement, please contribute to the 2021 Pentecost Offering, collected in most congregations on Sundays, May 16 and May 23. Each year, half of the gifts made go to your own Region to support local new church development. The other half goes to New Church Ministry, which trains, equips, assists, and multiplies new church leaders. Through programs such as Leadership Academy, New Church Hacks, and Water the Plants, your gifts make a difference across the life of the Church. By participating in this Special Day Offering, you ensure the viability, vitality and sustainability of unique new church plants in your area and in states, provinces, and territories far away.

Please give generously. Let's all **be the new church**, together.

To access additional Pentecost Offering resources, including images, videos, and stories to share, you can visit: <http://disciplesmissionfund.org/special-offerings/pentecost>.

## SUNDAYS MAY 16 AND MAY 23

BE BOLD + BE COURAGEOUS + BE GENEROUS + BE THE NEW CHURCH

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## 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)

## Changes to In Person Worship

- We are continuing to have live-streaming options via Zoom, and FaceBook Live. **Jesse will only be able to interact with Zoom and FaceBook live people during Prayers of the People.**
- We are meeting in the Sanctuary with every other pew roped off. **As of April 1st, 2021, we are now in the orange tier!** This means we are at 50% of capacity or around 100 people. Services will be socially distanced, masks are required.
- We will take temperatures upon entry and names and contact information will be collected to aid in any contact tracing.
- Communion will be single-serve, pre-packaged sealed cups of juice with wafers sealed on top. Think Lunchables. The wafers are NOT gluten free. You may bring your own communion if you prefer.
- There will be no corporate singing
- **There will be no hymnals or paper bulletins available.** Songs will be on the monitors and the bulletin will be emailed out on Fridays and again on Sunday mornings. **We encourage you to either print your own copy to use during the service, or download it before coming.** There will be no public wifi available as we need ALL the bandwidth to livestream.
- Offering plates will not be passed. You may place your offerings in the plate as directed at the beginning or end of the service.
- Please do NOT attend the in person services if you are unwell, or think you may have been exposed to COVID-19.
- After every service, the sanctuary will be disinfected.
- Visit our website to donate online, subscribe to our mailing lists, and learn more about us!  
[www.fccchico.com](http://www.fccchico.com)