

May 28th, 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

[f fccchico](https://www.facebook.com/fccchico) [i fccchico](https://www.instagram.com/fccchico) [t ChicoFCC](https://www.twitter.com/ChicoFCC) [You Tube FCCChico](https://www.youtube.com/FCCChico)

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 (Connie Wakefield)

- Today – Fellowship following service
- Monday – **Memorial Day; Church Office closed.**
- Tuesday – 11:30 a.m. Music Jam, Room 4; 4:30 p.m. String Ensemble Practice in the Chapel.
- Wednesday – 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, K-Hall and Fireside.
- Thursday – 8:30 a.m. Worship team breakfast at Cozy Diner; 7:00 p.m. Bible Study in Room 6 and on Zoom.
- Saturday – 2:00 p.m. Journeys of the Heart Bereavement Support Group in the Spiritual Care Center.
- Sunday – 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds; 10:00 a.m. Worship in sanctuary, Zoom and FaceBook Live; Fellowship in K-Hall following the service
- Offerings may be put in the collection plate which is near the bulletins near the entrance of the sanctuary

IV. Opening Hymn – CH #70 “God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale” (Nancy Thompson)

God of the sparrow, God of the whale

God of the swirling stars

How does the creature say Awe

How does the creature say Praise

God of the earthquake, God of the storm

God of the trumpet blast

How does the creature cry Woe

How does the creature say Save

God of the rainbow, God of the cross

God of the empty grave

How does the creature say Grace

How does the creature say Thanks

God of the hungry, God of the sick

God of the prodigal

How does the creature say Care

How does the creature say Life

God of the neighbor, God of the foe

God of the pruning hook

How does the creature say Love

How does the creature say Peace

God of the ages, God near at hand

God of the loving heart

How do your children say Joy

How do your children say Home

V. Call to Worship – (Connie Wakefield)

Spirit of God, we have gathered together in this place, to pray, and to make ourselves ready for your coming.

Give us faith

That when you come like the wind, though we do not see you, yet we may hear what you are saying to us and discern your movement.

Give us courage, that we may not fear the tongues of flame:

**Let all that is unworthy and impure be burned
from our lives. May we know that it is love that
burns so brightly and love that strips away our
sins.**

Give us an open mind, Lord, that the truth you bring
may make its home with us:

Truth to set us free

Truth to guide us and inform us

Truth to lead us in the way of your will.

Give us an open heart, Lord

**That we may seek all people from your realm,
and set no limits to the proclaiming of your
word.**

Holy Spirit, with the whole church we wait for you in
every place and in every generation.

Come, wind.

Come, fire.

Come, rivers.

Come, truth.

Come, love.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

VI. Psalm 104:24-35 Laughing Bird Version (Connie Wakefield)

O LORD, what a wildly fabulous world!
Working hand in hand with wisdom
you have made
an earth full of wonderful creatures.

Just look at the deep wide sea,
swarming with life beyond our imagining,
from coral to crayfish, from mussels to marlin.

Ships plow the waves,
while mythical monsters cavort in the depths.

Like seagulls at a picnic,
every creature looks to you for food.

They gather around in eager expectation,
and gorge themselves when you open your hand.

If you turned your back, they'd be panic stricken;
if you withdrew your Spirit
they would have nothing to breathe,
their bodies would quickly crumble.

But when you breathe your spirit into them,
life sprouts up fresh and fragrant again
and the earth itself is revived.

Glorious is all you do, LORD,
may you be honoured forever.
May everything created be a joy to the LORD.

One look from the LORD makes even the earth
quiver;
one touch and even the mountains erupt.

With every breath I will sing to the LORD;
as long as there is life in me,
I will give honour to my God in song.

Even my unspoken thoughts I offer to the LORD,
for the LORD is a delight to me.

May wickedness be wiped from the earth,
may enemies of life no longer be found.

O bless the LORD, everything within me.
Praise the LORD!

VII. Children Dismissed for Sunday School

VIII. John 7:37-52 – (Connie Wakefield)

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, ‘Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, “Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.” Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

When they heard these words, some in the crowd said, ‘This is really the prophet.’ Others said, ‘This is the Messiah.’ But some asked, ‘Surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee, does he? Has not the scripture said that the Messiah is descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?’ So there was a division in the crowd because of him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

Then the temple police went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, ‘Why did you not arrest him?’ The police answered, ‘Never has anyone

spoken like this!’ Then the Pharisees replied, ‘Surely you have not been deceived too, have you? Has any one of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, which does not know the law—they are accursed.’ Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus before, and who was one of them, asked, ‘Our law does not judge people without first giving them a hearing to find out what they are doing, does it?’ They replied, ‘Surely you are not also from Galilee, are you? Search and you will see that no prophet is to arise from Galilee.’ Then each of them went home.

IX. Sermon - “Out of the Believer’s Heart” (Jesse Kearns)

X. Song of Invitation – CH #249 “Spirit” (Nancy Thompson)

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness
calling and free
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness
Stir me from placidness;
wind, wind on the sea

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep
Then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of
sleep
And over the eons you called to each thing
Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness
calling and free
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness
Stir me from placidness;
wind, wind on the sea

You swept through the desert you stung with the sand
And you gifted your people with a law and a land
When they were confounded with idols and lies
Then you spoke through your prophets to open their
eyes

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness
calling and free
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness
Stir me from placidness;
wind, wind on the sea

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill
Then you whispered in silence when the whole world
was still
And down in the city you called once again
When you blew through your people on the rush of
the wind

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness
calling and free
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness
Stir me from placidness;
wind, wind on the sea

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes
From the bondage of sorrow the captives dream
dreams
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes
With bold new decisions, your people arise

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness
calling and free
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness

Stir me from placidness;
wind, wind on the sea

XI. Moments for Mission: Pentecost Special Offering

XII. Prayers of the People

XIII. Communion Song CH #254 “Breathe on Me Breath of God” (Nancy Thompson)

Breathe on me breath of God
fill me with life anew
That I may love what thou dost love
And do what thou wouldst do

Breathe on me Breath of God
Until my heart is pure
Until with thee I will one will
to do and to endure

Breathe on me Breath of God
Till I am wholly thine
Until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine

Breathe on me Breath of God
So shall I never die
But live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

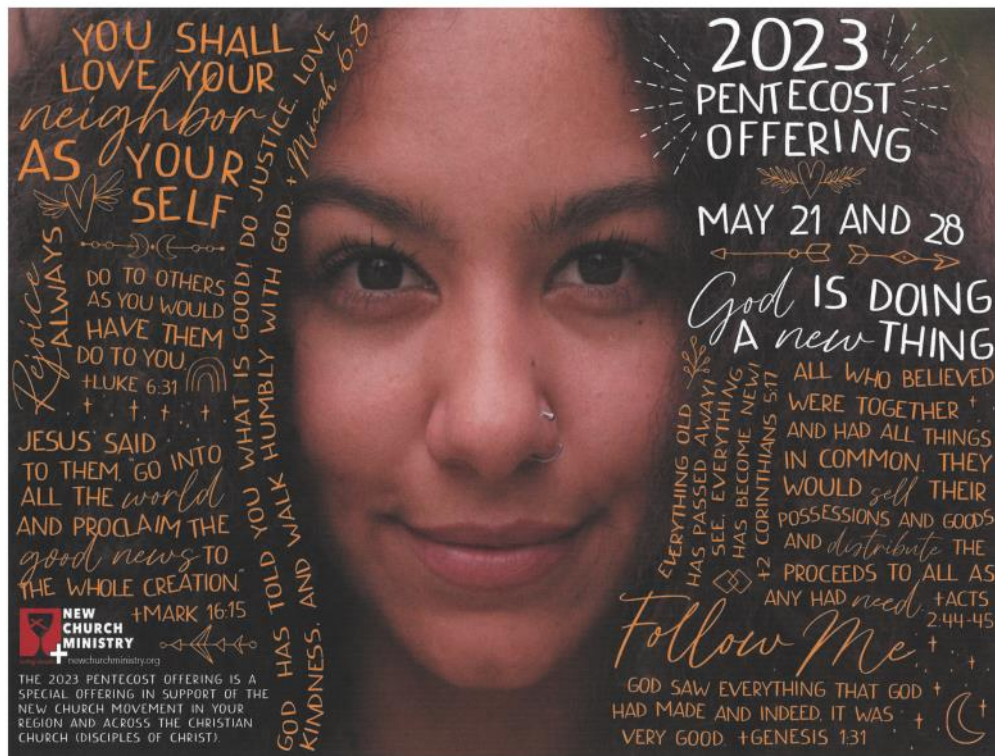
XIV. Institution of Communion (Georgeanne Bennett; Bobbi Robinson, elders)

XV. Partaking Communion Together

XVI. Blessing/Benediction

XVII. Postlude – (Nancy Thompson)

Pentecost Special Offering: This special offering supports Disciples new church development. Planning, nurturing and sustaining new congregation is part of the Disciples' vision. This offering supports the specialized ministry of new church development through both regional and general programs. Gifts for this offering are divided equally between the region in which they're given and the [New Church Ministry](#). Offering envelopes will be in Sunday bulletins May 14th and May 28th.



WE ARE A MOVEMENT FOR *wholeness* IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD.

In the beginning, every church was new! It's right there in the Book of Acts. Early disciples came together, sharing all things in common, breaking bread with glad and generous hearts. **God was doing a new thing: creating a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.**

In the beginning, Jesus sent out disciples, two by two, not to "plant" churches, but to proclaim good news, to experience the hospitality and wisdom of neighbors all around. **God was doing a new thing: creating a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.**

At New Church Ministry, we believe God is calling the whole Church back to becoming new, back to becoming who we already are: a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.

Your gifts to the 2023 Pentecost Offering, received this year in most congregations on Sundays, May 21 and 28, help ensure our movement continues to embody the Disciples of Christ vision:

To be and to share the good news, witnessing, loving, and serving from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth.



Half of your gift supports the local new church movement through your region's ministry. The other half supports New Church Ministry efforts across the United States and Canada to equip, train, and empower new leaders.

Thank you for participating in the new thing God is STILL doing yesterday, today, and tomorrow!

Find more Pentecost Offering resources, including images, videos, and stories to share here: <https://disciplesmissionfund.org/special-offerings/pentecost>



P.E.O. CHAPTER NS

YARD SALE

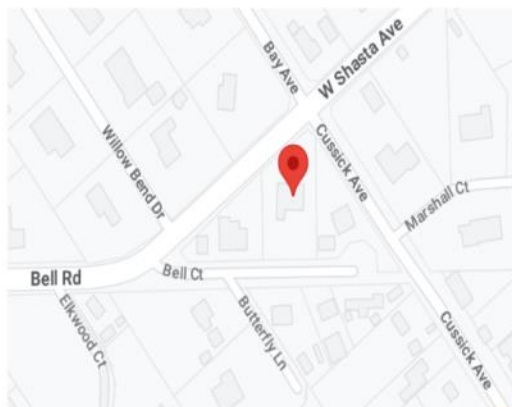
Supporting Women's Education

Saturday, June 3

8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

3033 Bell Road, Chico

Corner of Cussick, Bell, Bay & W Shasta



Cash only



Attendance

Attendance for May 14th, 2023:

Online: 15 Sanctuary: 42 Total: 57

Attendance for May 21st, 2023: Pentecost in the Park, attendance not taken

Credits

- Bulletin graphic: Water Falling from the Rocks. Photo by Tobi Dami from goodfreephotos.com
- “God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale” Words: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983. Music: Carl F. Schalk, 1983. Words © 1983 Jaroslav J. Vajda; music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc.
- “Spirit” Words and Music: James K. Manley, 1975. © 1978 James K. Manley. CCLI# 101393
- “Breathe on Me, Breath of God” Words: Edwin Hatch, 1878, alt. Music: Robert Jackson, 1888 CCLI# 99481
- Hymns Used by Permission CCLI Copyright License #37151

This 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

Monday—Memorial Day; Church Office closed**Tuesday**

- 11:30 a.m. Music Jam, Room 4
- 4:30 p.m. String Ensemble practice, Chapel

Wednesday

- 6:00 p.m. Scouts, Koinonia Hall, Fireside

Thursday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Team Breakfast at Cozy Diner
- 7:00 p.m. Bible Study, Room 6 and on [Zoom](#)

Saturday

- 2:00 p.m. Journeys of the Heart Grief 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. Indoor Worship in Sanctuary and Worship Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)
- Fellowship, Koinonia Hall

- **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.